

## State News for NSPE Members

### New Solar Project to Add Power, Jobs on Hawaii Island

Construction of a 30 MW solar-and-storage system, the Waikoloa Solar + Storage Project, has begun on Hawaii Island by renewable energy company BayWa r.e., the company [announced recently](#). The project is owned and operated by the AES Corporation. BayWa r.e. will build the system on 300 acres of leased land near Waikoloa Village in the South Kohala district of the island.

The power generated and stored will be purchased by Hawaiian Electric Company Inc. The project will produce enough electricity to power 13,600 households, contributing more than 7% of the island's annual energy needs and eliminating the fuel consumption of more than 511,000 barrels of oil.

Permits have been secured and site preparation and construction on the project have begun, with substantial completion expected in the fourth quarter of 2022. Over the course of the project, 200 jobs will be created, and the project is expected to contribute an estimated \$47 million toward Hawaii's economy.

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### High Concrete Prices Expected to Limit Construction

The rising cost of concrete is going to have a major impact on construction projects in Hawaii, [KITV-4 reports](#). According to industry experts, concrete prices will increase by 30-60% by the end of the year, continuing into 2023.

While improvements to Hawaii's highways and bridges will be immune from the effects thanks to \$2.5 billion from the federal infrastructure bill, other local development projects are likely to be delayed or cancelled. This includes resort construction work. One expert was quoted as advocating for the use of more local, sustainable materials, to reduce dependence on imported materials.

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NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

### Featured Job

[Engineer \(Construction Management\)](#)

Pearl Harbor, HI

*Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).*

*Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).*

## Honoring Excellence in the Profession

NSPE members were honored for their outstanding contributions to the profession during NSPECon22 in Philadelphia.

### NSPE Award

**Howard (Skip) Harclerode II, P.E., F.NSPE, F.AIChE**, received the Society's most prestigious award presented to a professional engineer who has been committed to the profession, public welfare, and humankind. Harclerode, the founder and president of KBD Engineering Company Inc., based in Phoenix, Maryland, has been an active member of NSPE and the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers since 1980. He is also a past chair of the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers.



### Engineering Education Excellence Award

**Mohamed El-Sayed, Ph.D., P.E.**, a professor of mechanical engineering at Eastern Michigan University, received this award for licensed engineering faculty who have demonstrated the ability to link engineering education with professional practice. El-Sayed has vast technical and



industrial expertise in the areas of vehicle realization, quality, reliability, durability, and optimization. He has also worked in various positions in the automotive industry. He has several granted patents, one authored book, and over a hundred technical and educational publications.

### **New Professional of the Year Award**

This award recognizes a young NSPE member who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession and the community during the early years of one's career.

**Holly Ahumada, P.E., CFM**, is employed with Freese and Nichols in the firm's stormwater group. Throughout her career, Ahumada has specialized in stormwater and floodplain management, as well as supporting public entities with long-term planning, and the analysis and mitigation of flooding issues. She is an active member of the Fort Worth Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers and serves as the chapter's president.



**Dylan Ward, P.E., MPA**, is a project manager for the City of Henderson in Kentucky and oversees the Engineering, Mass Transit, and Safety/Training divisions. For the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers, he serves as vice president for the Western Region and is president of the Green River Chapter.



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## **Fact Check: The Myths of Anti-Licensing**

Time and again, calls for anti-licensing return to a handful of myths and purported problems that can only be solved by drastically weakening or outright eliminating licensing. The NSPE-led [Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing](#) takes a closer look at those myths and sets the record straight.

***Myth #1: Education requirements to obtain licenses are too onerous and arbitrary.***

**Fact:** Some occupations are rightly calling for a careful review and recalibration of the education requirements to become licensed. This is what should be done. It is

not, however, what anti-licensors are calling for. What anti-licensing seeks to do is broadly and arbitrarily lower education standards for all professions. Some proposals go so far as to disallow minimum education requirements for highly complex, technical professions that impact public safety and welfare.

***Myth #2: Licensing creates an undue burden for spouses of military personnel who have to contend with red tape and new costs every time they move.***

**Fact:** Well-designed professional licensing systems already include interstate practice and mobility and provisions for military spouses. The real threat comes from “universal licensing” proposals that would dilute existing mobility systems that have been working well for military personnel and the public for decades. What’s more, some of these proposals impose arbitrary residency requirements that create new barriers to practicing that would otherwise not exist. Most importantly, “universal licensing” will create a race to the bottom, hurt the public’s welfare, and create business insurance and liability implications.

***Myth #3: Licensing creates barriers to employment for women, minorities, and the socio-economically disadvantaged.***

**Fact:** Licensing helps level the playing field for women and minorities. A 2021 study by Oxford Economics finds that licensing narrows the gender-driven wage gap by about a third and the race-driven wage gap by about half. In any industry, responsible licensing systems create well-defined career paths for workers—regardless of gender or ethnicity—and opportunities to achieve higher earnings.

***Myth #4: Licensing is anti-competitive.***

**Fact:** Licensing is pro-consumer and pro-competition because it enables consumers to choose from a pool of qualified licensed professionals. These qualifications are verified upfront by independent licensing boards composed of experts in a given professional field. Licensing also helps level the playing field for women and minorities, increasing fairness, competition, and merit-based career opportunities.

[Read more on the truth about professional licensing.](#)

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## **EJCDC Documents: 2022 Construction Manager as Advisor Series**

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee has released the [2022 Construction Manager as Advisor Series](#). This series is completely new to EJCDC and is intended for projects in which the owner’s primary representative during construction will be the Construction Manager as

CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGER  
AS ADVISOR

EJCDC

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Advisor (CM).

The CM as Advisor Series is an alternative to the use of the EJCDC Construction Series, in which the engineer that prepared the design subsequently serves as the owner's construction contract administrator. The CM as Advisor Series is comprised of contract documents, administrative forms, bonds, bidding, and procurement documents.

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