**Governor Announces $163M in Capital Improvement Projects**

Governor David Ige recently announced the release of $163,600,290 for Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) that will be administered by various state departments. These funds were released in May and June 2022.

“In order to have a healthy and resilient community, it is vital that we continue to invest in new infrastructure for our schools, roadways, and hospitals,” said Governor Ige in a news release. “Whether the funds are used to build the Kea‘au Mountain View Public Library, advancing O‘ahu’s public transportation system, renovating Hanapēpē Health Center, or making improvements to highways statewide, I’m committed to getting resources to our communities to improve their quality of life.”

**Navy’s Red Hill Defueling Plan Rejected**

The state department of health is rejecting the Navy’s plan to defuel the Red Hill underground fuel storage tanks, which spilled last year and threaten the public water supply, due to a lack of crucial details.

The health department has asked for an updated plan incorporating all relevant supplemental information and providing details about milestones and overall timelines, according to *Hawaii News Now*. One detail in particular that they requested is how much fuel is in the pipelines from Red Hill to Pearl Harbor, and how crews take fuel out of the pipelines and the tanks themselves.

The Navy says it plans to safely remove 104 million gallons from the Red Hill tanks by the end of 2024. But the Navy has also admitted a series of catastrophic failures at Red Hill caused the crisis.
Regulators Plan Ahead for Closing of Last Coal Plant

In the face of the upcoming closing of Hawaii’s last coal-fired power plant and delays to planned solar projects, state regulators are planning to ensure grid reliability in the near future, *Utility Dive* reports.

Hawaii was the first state to set the goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2045, and reached 30% in 2020. Oahu’s AES plant is set to be retired by September. It serves about 16% of the island’s peak electricity demand. To make up for the looming shortfall, Hawaiian Electric and state officials will use demand response, distributed energy resources, and other measures.

One solution is that Hawaiian Electric will avoid having any planned regulatory maintenance outages in September and October, when demand is high due to hot temperatures. Also, officials will encourage residents to be more mindful about their energy use. Read more.

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

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**Missouri PE Takes the Lead of NSPE**

Britt Smith P.E., F.NSPE, has started his term as NSPE’s 2022–23 president. A formal installation ceremony will take place during the Professional Engineers Conference in Philadelphia on August 2.

“I can say honestly that I could not be more humbled to be the next president of NSPE,” Smith stated during the recent House of Delegates General Assembly. “I never dreamed that I would be in this position but knew that I wanted to just give back to the profession that has provided so much for me and my family.”

Smith is currently the operations division director for the City of Jefferson, where he manages all aspects of operations related to streets, parking, central maintenance, city facilities, and the airport, and leverages all available resources to accomplish the varying missions of each division. He also has experience as an engineering consultant and served in the US Army. Smith graduated from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly the University of Missouri – Rolla) with a bachelor’s degree in aerospace engineering.

Since becoming a member of NSPE and the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers in 1997, Smith has held many volunteer leadership positions with the Society including serving on the Committee on Policy and Advocacy, the Honors...
and Awards Committee, the Delivery System, Communication, and Technology Task Force, and as Missouri’s representative to the House of Delegates. Smith was named an NSPE Fellow in 2016. In Missouri, he served in a variety of chapter and state-level leadership positions, including as the 2011-2012 state president and president of the Jefferson City Chapter in 2001.

A strong dedication to volunteering also extends into Smith’s local community where he is involved with the United Way of Central Missouri and as a counselor for the Jefferson City Marriage Encounter. He has previously dedicated many years to the local Boy Scouts troop and as a volunteer baseball/softball coach.

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**Reconnect at NSPECon 2022**

Attendance at NSPECon 2022 in Philadelphia, August 1-3, is the best opportunity to engage and learn with your colleagues. The conference features multiple education tracks in leadership, trends in the industry, and career development. Registration is open until July 28.

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**Featured Keynote Speaker**

Commander Mary Kelly, US Navy (Ret.), Ph.D., CSP, CPAE, will present “6-5-7: The 6 Stages of Any Crisis, Challenge, or Change, the 5 Steps to P.I.V.O.T. for Success, and 7 Leadership Reminders To Lead Through It.” Registered attendees will receive exclusive access to an online vault full of bonus resources from Commander Kelly.

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**Conference Session Highlights**

- **You Want Me to Lead WHO to do WHAT? Lessons from the Frontlines of Engineering Leadership**
- **Reliability and Resilience of Energy Systems under Extreme Weather Events**
- **Generation Next: Engaging Multi-Generational Engineers**
- **Defending the License**
- **Career Development in Practice, Not Theory**
- **PE Day Luncheon & Panel Discussion: Engineering Challenges of the 21st**
Access the full NSPECon program.

PE Day is Coming!

Celebrate licensure and the profession with PEs around the world on Wednesday, August 3, during the seventh annual Professional Engineers Day! Whether you plan to celebrate PE Day at home, in the office, or with your peers at the NSPECon 2022 in Philadelphia, you can show off your PE pride by sporting some PE Day logo wear for this year’s event.

NSPE’s apparel shop features the PE Day logo on a variety of items including many styles of t-shirts and other apparel for men, women, and kids, as well as accessories like mugs, notebooks, tote bags, wall prints, and even phone cases.

Shop now to celebrate in style!

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