

State News for NSPE Members

Governor Ron DeSantis Announces Major Infrastructure Investments for Tampa Bay

Governor Ron DeSantis recently announced the completion of the Howard Frankland Bridge Replacement Project and the groundbreaking of the I-275 Express Expansion Moving Florida Forward Project. Together, these projects represent more than \$1.3 billion in investments to reduce congestion, strengthen hurricane evacuation routes, and improve mobility for families and businesses across the Tampa Bay region.

"I was proud to announce significant progress on two critical infrastructure projects in the Tampa Bay area: the new Howard Frankland Bridge and the I-275 Moving Florida Forward project in Pinellas County," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "Our Moving Florida Forward Initiative is delivering major improvements years ahead of schedule, reducing delays for families and businesses, and making long-term investments that will support Florida's growth for generations to come."

The Howard Frankland Bridge replacement, the largest transportation project ever delivered in FDOT's District 7, opened to traffic earlier this summer and as built has increased capacity by 50%. The new modernized bridge has been fortified to withstand hurricanes and ties directly into the recently completed Gateway Expressway and I-275 Express project.

"Governor DeSantis's Moving Florida Forward Initiative is transforming Tampa Bay's transportation system and connecting communities," said Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared W. Perdue, P.E. "I'm proud of the work of our FDOT team who is making quick work of the demolition of the old Howard Frankland Bridge and beginning construction of the much needed expansion of I-275 in Pinellas County." [Read more.](#)

Duke Energy is Looking into Building Data Centers in

Florida

Data centers are one of the biggest issues in the utility industry nationally, as power companies look for ways to meet the demands of data centers that play a key role in such things as artificial intelligence and cloud computing.

With artificial intelligence and other technology driving massive increases in demand for electricity, Duke Energy Florida filed a proposal aimed at preparing for the possibility of data centers being built in the state.

The proposal, filed at the Florida Public Service Commission, came as the issue is also part of a broad Florida Power & Light rate case.

Duke said in its filing that Florida can plan for data centers' increased electricity demand and learn from other areas of the country to "carefully balance attracting new business and economic development opportunities while adequately protecting existing retail customers."

"DEF (Duke Energy Florida) must be proactive and prepared with the rates and contract structures in place when and if data centers seek to locate in Florida and in DEF's territory," the proposal said. "Creating a protective framework on the front-end sets DEF up for success and protects customers from day one."

Data centers are one of the biggest issues in the utility industry nationally, as power companies look for ways to meet the demands of data centers that play a key role in such things as artificial intelligence and cloud computing. As an example, NextEra Energy, the parent company of Florida Power & Light, is working on plans to restart a nuclear-power plant in Iowa that could produce electricity for data centers. [Read more on wsuf.org](https://www.wsuf.org).

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

New Board of Ethical Review Cases Available

One of NSPE's key resources includes the Board of Ethical Review case studies. The five new cases (24-01 – 24-05) address the topics of balancing client directives and the public welfare, use of artificial intelligence in engineering practice, public contracting practices, community engagement for infrastructure projects, and sustainable development and resilient infrastructure. [Access the BER cases](#).

Enhance your understanding of the new BER cases by attending the upcoming WORKability Wednesdays webinar [Board of Ethical Review: Fall 2025 Case](#)

Level Up Your Career: 2025 Fall WORKability Webinars

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members —“WORKability Wednesdays”— to support members with their professional development goals through NSPE’s PE Institute. The new season of webinars launched on September 10 with [Decarbonizing Concrete: Overcoming Challenges, Unlocking Opportunities](#) and on September 24 with [The Case for AI in Forensic Engineering: Enhancing Expert Testimony and Avoiding Obsolescence](#) (Recordings are available). Registration is open for these upcoming webinars.



- October 8: [Marketing & Sales Best Practices for Engineering Firms](#)
- October 22: [Board of Ethical Review – Discussion of New Ethics Cases](#)
- November 5: **TBD**
- November 12: [Ethical Dimensions of Engineering in the 21st Century](#)

Missed the 2025 Spring WORKability Series? [Register for the package to get all 6 webinars](#) – free to members!

**Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.*

Nominations Open: Federal Engineer of the Year Award

Federal engineers are at the forefront of our nation’s most vital priorities from infrastructure and innovation to defense, public health, and safety. Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the Federal Engineer of the Year Award (FEYA). Nominations for the 2026 award are open until October 31, 2025. [Visit the online portal for full guidelines and submission details](#) .



Why Does FEYA Matter?

Lt. Col. Brigham Moore, Ph.D., P.E., PMP, was named the 2025 Federal Engineer of the Year. Here's what Lt. Col. Moore had to say about the impact this award has had on his career: *"Being selected as Top Ten Finalist and ultimately as the Federal Engineer of the Year this past year has been an incredible highlight of my career. Within the Air Force, it has provided me opportunities to mentor and give back to the engineering community that I love. Professionally, it has reconnected me with previous advisors and engineering faculty, opening up doors and networking me with some people that I did not previously know. Finally, and personally, it served as a huge bolster to my confidence and commitment to continue making meaningful change with each project and major decision as I move forward."*

[Learn about Moore's government service and contributions to the profession.](#)



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