DC Commission Encourages Utilities to Pursue Federal Infrastructure Funding

The DC Public Service Commission opened a proceeding (Formal Case No. 1172) to identify available funding sources for Pepco and the Washington Gas Light Company (WGL) under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law), according to a news release.

Congress passed the law to invest billions of dollars in federal funds for local initiatives that support grid resiliency and reliability, electric generation and transmission, access to clean water, improved cybersecurity, and strategic deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

To ensure transparency as Pepco and WGL pursue federal grant funds, the commission has directed the utilities to file monthly reports with the commission beginning August 31 on applications submitted for funds and establish a Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Regulatory Asset to track related costs. These actions will help the District achieve its clean energy commitments.

Interested persons can file written comments in Formal Case No. 1172 identifying programs funded under the law that Pepco and WGL can pursue.

DC Area Now Home to Nation’s Top 5 Defense, Aerospace Companies

Recently, Raytheon Technologies Corp. announced it was moving its headquarters to Arlington, Virginia, less than a month after Boeing relocated to the DC suburb. This makes the DMV home to the nation’s top five aerospace and defense contractors, according to The Business Journals.

The other industry giants in the area include Lockheed Martin in Bethesda, General Dynamics in Reston, and Northrup Grumman in Falls Church. Available tech and engineering talent in the region is a major draw for the companies.
Raytheon’s announcement about its move from outside of Boston to the DC metro area stated, “The location increases agility in supporting US government and commercial aerospace customers and serves to reinforce partnerships that will progress innovative technologies to advance the industry. Washington, DC, serves as a convenient travel hub for the company’s global customers and employees.”

**Metro’s Blue and Yellow Line Will Be Affected by Coming Upgrades**

This fall, two Metro lines will be impacted as WMATA works to open a new station and repair a bridge between the Pentagon and L’Enfant Plaza stations, the *Washington Post* reports.

The work to be done includes connecting the new Potomac Yard station to the system, as well as yellow line tunnel and bridge repairs. The construction will take eight months and will cause line closures within the transportation system. Metro says it will offer alternative methods of transport, including free shuttle buses.

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

**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.

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.

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.

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
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!