

State News for NSPE Members

Tennessee DOT Hosts Virtual Event on the Downtown Nashville Interstate Corridors Study

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is hosting a virtual public engagement event through April 30 to introduce a Planning and Environmental Linkages Study on the Downtown Nashville Interstate Corridors.

During the [virtual event](#), residents will learn about the study's objectives, see existing conditions within the study corridor, provide feedback, and help the study team understand concerns and priorities.

The purpose of the study is to determine urban congestion relief improvement strategies for the 45 miles of interstate leading into and surrounding downtown Nashville. The information will inform the environmental review process and help meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Downtown Nashville Interstate Corridor was selected for the study based on previous traffic congestion studies and Congestion Action Plans TDOT conducted. Solutions being considered include Choice Lanes, new lanes added to an interstate to manage traffic through dynamic pricing. [Read more in Transportation Today](#).

'State-of-the-Art' Energy Complex to Replace Kingston Fossil Plant

After several years of discussion and debate, the Tennessee Valley Authority has decided to retire the Kingston Fossil Plant and replace it with a state-of-the-art energy complex, [wate.com reports](#).

The complex will include natural gas, battery storage, and solar generation. It is expected to hold at least 1,500 megawatts of combined cycle and dual-fuel aero-derivative natural gas combustion turbines with 100 megawatts of battery storage and up to four megawatts of solar generation. The nine coal-fired units at Kingston will be retired by the end of 2027.

“This is the evolution of our energy system,” said Allen Clare, TVA senior vice president for Power Operations. “This energy complex is the most cost-effective option that offers the flexibility and reliability within the timeline to bring replacement generation online.”

The plant in Roane County currently produces a total of 1,398 megawatts of electricity, powering approximately 818,000 homes. TVA said that to maintain reliable, uninterrupted power, the natural gas generation will be in operation before Kingston Fossil Plant’s retirement. [Read more.](#)

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

Connect and Learn at NSPECon24



Registration is open for NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9), the

prime national event for professional engineers to engage and connect with their peers and to advance their careers. The early-bird discount rates are available until June 27. Access registration information and rates [here](#) . Access the [preliminary conference program](#) for details on keynote speakers and session topics.

The deadline for [reserving a hotel room](#) at the Raleigh Marriott Crabtree Valley for the NSPECon24 rate is July 15. We encourage you to make your reservation early since there are a limited number of conference rate hotels rooms available.

NSPECon24 also offers a variety of [sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities](#) to put your company or organization in front of senior executives and other decision-makers from across the industry. A special exhibitor discount is being offered to Research Triangle-based businesses.

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New Program: Leadership Institute for Women PEs



NSPE's Women Leadership Program is sponsoring the [Leadership Institute for Women Professional Engineers](#) , a three-day program designed to support mid-career women PEs in confidently navigating their career path and leveraging their

leadership skills.

The institute agenda is interwoven into the NSPECon24 program with participants attending pre-conference opening sessions on Wednesday, August 7, and sessions the mornings of Thursday, August 8 and Friday, August 9, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Attendees must register for NSPECon24 to attend the institute.

[Access more information and register.](#)

QBS Awards Program Accepting Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominations for the 2024 QBS Awards. The QBS Awards program promotes and recognizes the exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process in three categories: federal government sector, state governor sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector. The deadline for nominations is June 7 (close of business). [Access the awards information and nomination form](#) .

[Read a *PE* magazine article about a longtime champion of QBS.](#)

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