

## State News for NSPE Members

### **Ford Breaks Ground on Electric Vehicle Battery Production Complex**

Ford Motor Company has broken ground at BlueOval City, which the company calls its largest, most advanced auto production complex in Ford's 119-year history.

Structural steel was erected on the site less than one year after Ford and SK On, a global EV battery manufacturer, announced their \$5.6 billion investment to build electric batteries for future Ford and Lincoln vehicles in West Tennessee. The nearly 6-square-mile mega campus will create approximately 6,000 new jobs when production begins in 2025.

With construction underway at BlueOval City, Ford – America's No. 2 electric vehicle brand – gets closer to its target of a 2 million EV production run rate globally by late 2026. [Read more.](#)

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### **Water Infrastructure Gets Infusion of Rescue Plan Funds**

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation recently announced 12 grants totaling more than \$34.5 million from the state's American Rescue Plan fund, part of which the agency is administering in the form of water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure grants.

"These grants will address important water infrastructure needs across our state, especially in disadvantaged communities," Governor Bill Lee commented. "We commend communities who have gone through the application process, and we look forward to the substantial improvements the grants will bring."

The funds will be used, among other things, to address water loss and distribution challenges, for stormwater improvement projects, conservation and improved supply management, limiting overflows, and repairing aging water infrastructure in various communities across the state. [Find out more.](#)

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

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## Mark Your Calendar for Engineers Week 2023

Founded by NSPE in 1951, [Engineers Week](#) (February 19–25, 2023) is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce. The latest theme for Engineers Week seeks to inspire the next generation by celebrating all the way engineers are **Creating the Future!** Engineers play a vital role in innovating solutions to global challenges that impact future generations. By working together to develop new technologies, products, and opportunities, engineers create new possibilities that make the world a better place.



Engineers Week is a time for you to:

- Celebrate how engineers make a difference in our world.
- Add your voice to the conversation about the need for engineers, technicians, and technologists.
- Engage students in engineering.

[Access promotional resources.](#)

### DiscoverE Outreach Grants

Don't miss your chance to fund your events for Engineers Week and Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day.

There are \$250-\$1000 grants available:

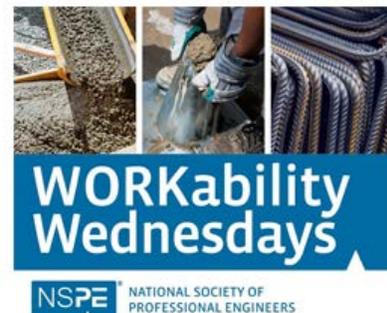
- [Bell Girl Day grants](#) for girl-centered programs
- [Engineers Week grants](#) for underserved students

The deadline to [apply for the grants](#) is November 4.



## Workability Wednesdays Webinars

The fall series of [Workability Wednesdays webinars](#) recently launched with a webinar on [What Separates Good Engineers From Great Engineers](#). The series is free for NSPE members and covers topics impacting the industry and helps to enhance your competencies in the profession.



### Upcoming Webinars

- [Ethical Case Insights: Lessons in Disclosure](#) (October 12)
- [Setting and Verifying Corporate Sustainability Goals Across Environmental, Social, and Governance Topics](#) (October 19)
- [How Blockchain Protects Public Safety: A Working Solution](#) (October 26)
- [Navigating the Ethical Dilemmas that Arise in Everyday Engineering Practice](#) (November 16)

If you missed the spring lineup of Workability Wednesdays webinars, you can still [view the recordings](#) and receive PDH credit.

## Last Call for FEYA Nominations

Nominations for the Federal Engineer of the Year Award are open until **October 31**. The award, sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, honors engineers employed by a federal agency that employs at least 50 engineers worldwide.

The FEYA ceremony is scheduled for February 24, 2023, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Tickets will be available for sale in January.

Nominations must be made by the federal agency. Access the application [here](#).



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