

State News for NSPE Members

West Virginia PEs Named Top FEYA Finalists

NSPE recently announced the top 10 finalists for the [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#). The award winner will be announced during a ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 23. Sponsored by the Professional Engineers in Government, this award honors engineers employed by a federal agency that employs at least 50 engineers worldwide.



Capt. Stephen Martin Jr., Ph.D., P.E.

US Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Morgantown, West Virginia



Dana Moses, P.E.

US Department of the Army
US Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington, West Virginia

[Learn more about the FEYA finalists.](#)

WV Secures \$3M Research Funding to Reduce Industry Energy Use

[West Virginia University has announced](#) that engineers at the school have secured \$3 million in US Department of Energy funding to research a new chemical reactor system that uses microwaves to reduce industrial heat and carbon emissions.

The first-of-its-kind technology would allow industrial facilities to simultaneously produce ethylene and ammonia, two chemicals that contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, within a single microwave reactor. That device uses heat from microwave electromagnetic radiation to carry out chemical reactions. The carbon-negative process would reduce energy consumption by 85%.

Lead researcher John Hu is the Statler Chair in Engineering for Natural Gas Utilization at the WVU Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, a professor of chemical engineering and director of the WVU Center for Innovation in Gas Research and Utilization. Hu emphasized that, while the study focuses on ethylene and ammonia production, the technology can be broadly applied to many other industrial processes that need heat to work. Various industries need heat to do everything from removing moisture and creating steam to melting plastics and treating metals. [Read more.](#)

WV Gets \$9.3M to Improve Access to Clean Water and Reliable Sewer Systems

[Lootpress reports](#) that US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development

West Virginia State Director Ryan Thorn has announced that Rural Development is investing \$9.3 million to improve water and wastewater infrastructure for five West Virginia communities. “Having adequate, safe, and reliable basic infrastructure is the foundation for community and economic development,” said Thorn.

“Strengthening public water and sewer services is at the heart of what we do at Rural Development. The investments announced today will have a lasting economic impact that allows for new opportunities and future generations to make a good life in rural communities across the Mountain State.”

In total, Rural Development is investing \$9,253,000 in the five projects across West Virginia. The investments are made available through the Rural Development’s Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program. The Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program helps fund clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage and solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses. Funding for these programs is made possible, in part, by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. [Read more.](#)

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

NCEES Seeks PE Expertise to Update Exams

NCEES is currently seeking licensed professional engineers to participate in a professional activities and knowledge study, or PAKS, to update specifications for the PE Architectural Engineering Exam and the PE Environmental Exam.

Architectural Engineering

NCEES requires a cross section of PEs practicing architectural engineering (including those working in industry, consulting, the public sector, and academia) to complete an online survey about the tasks and knowledge required of a licensed architectural engineer with four to six years of experience to practice in a manner that safeguards the public. Access the survey [here](#) and participate by April 24.

Environmental Engineering

NCEES requires a cross section of PEs practicing environmental engineering (including those working in industry, consulting, the public sector, and academia) to complete an online survey about the tasks and knowledge required of a licensed environmental engineer with four to six years of experience to practice in a manner that safeguards the public. Access the survey [here](#) and participate by May 5.

The 2024 Scholarship Season Opens

The NSPE Education Foundation is [now accepting applications](#) for the 2024 scholarship season through an online submission platform. The application

deadline is April 1.

High School

The [Maureen L. and Howard N. Blitman, P.E., Scholarship to Promote Diversity in Engineering](#) is awarded annually to a high school senior from an ethnic minority who has been accepted into an ABET-accredited engineering program at a four-year college or university. The award is for \$5,000.

Undergraduate

The [Steinman Scholarship](#) is awarded annually to undergraduates entering or continuing their junior year in a four-year ABET-accredited engineering program. The award is for \$5,000.

The [William R. Kimel, P.E., Engineering Scholarship](#) is awarded to an undergraduate student who is a resident of either Kansas or Missouri, enrolled as a junior in an ABET-accredited engineering program in a college or university in either Kansas or Missouri. The award is for \$2,500.

Graduate

The [George B. Hightower, P.E. Fellowship](#) is awarded annually to a current engineering undergraduate or graduate student who is enrolled in, or graduated from, an ABET-accredited engineering program. The award is for \$3,000.

PE Institute – 15 Free Webinar Package

NSPE has moved 15 on-demand webinars out from behind the paywall for viewing by members from the comfort of home or the office. Members can [add the webinar package to their account now](#). Once added, the webinars can be viewed through January 15, 2025.

Since 2022, NSPE has offered all PE Institute webinars free of charge to members. Past webinars are also available for viewing in the [On-Demand Webinars](#) section of the PE Institute website.

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