

State News for NSPE Members

\$12 Billion Aims to Boost Puerto Rico's Clean Energy Shift

The US Congress Joint Economic Committee Democrats has released a report outlining the potential for economic growth in Puerto Rico through investment in clean energy infrastructure, [News is My Business reports](#).

The report emphasizes the importance of modernizing the island's energy grid with the \$12 billion appropriated by Congress, but notes that the relief funding "has not yet resulted in comprehensive changes to the system."

"By unlocking this funding and ensuring that it is directed toward a new system based on renewable energy, the federal government can help Puerto Rico become a leader in the clean energy transition," the report says of the investment, which aligns with the island government's goal of achieving 100% renewable energy dependence by 2050.

According to the report, "A more resilient energy system that uses cleaner, domestically produced sources will protect communities' health and wellbeing, and provide a strong foundation on which Puerto Rico can further build a future of strong and more equitable economic growth."

The report concludes with optimism for Puerto Rico's clean energy transition, supported by studies from the US Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office. [Read more](#).

DEPCOM Power Launches Puerto Rico's Largest Solar BESS Project

DEPCOM Power, an integrated engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) company that also provides operations and maintenance (O&M) services for utility-scale solar and energy storage markets, has inaugurated Ciro One. This is Puerto Rico's largest solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) at Salinas, [ETN News reports](#).

The 90 MW photovoltaic (PV) and 51.5 MW BESS facilities were set up by a group consisting DEPCOM, which conceptualized the project and managed the installation, alongside developer partner Ciro Energy Group and local subcontractor Lord Construction Inc. Ciro One will generate enough energy to power 60,000 typical Puerto Rican homes, and marks a major step toward meeting Puerto Rico's aim to generate 100% of its electricity needs through renewable sources by 2050. The system is expected to begin operation end of 2024. DEPCOM will also operate and maintain the system for a five-year period.

In a statement, Johnnie Taul, CEO of DEPCOM, said: "Ciro One illustrates DEPCOM's strengths in merging large-scale solar deployment, advanced BESS expertise, and integrated EPC and O&M services - building critical infrastructure for the community's energy future." [Read more.](#)

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Share Your Expertise: NSPECon24 Presentations



NSPE seeks speakers willing to elevate the profession by providing interesting, relevant, and timely education to colleagues attending the [2024 Professional Engineers Conference \(NSPECon24\)](#) August 7-9 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Proposals may address a number of topics in three key conference tracks that include leadership, issues and trends, and career assistance. Please consider sharing your expertise and insights by **submitting a presentation proposal by midnight, January 10.**

To learn more about potential topic areas, how to prepare a submission, and the benefits of being selected to present, click on the button below.

[Submit Your Presentation](#)

NSPE Member Benefit: On-Demand Webinars

The WORKability Wednesdays fall series wrapped up in November. Recordings of the presentations are available in the [PE Institute](#). Past webinars are also available for viewing in the [On-Demand Webinars](#) section of the website.

NSPE is always seeking great content and speakers. Those interested in presenting can submit ideas using the online [Call for Webinars form](#).

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Is your organization looking to bring together a team of engineers, each committed to professional growth and staying up to date with the ever-evolving field of engineering? [Consider launching your NSPE Enterprise Membership!](#)

In today's rapidly changing engineering landscape, having a group of experts with diverse skills is essential. To rise to the challenges of this environment, engineers must commit to continuous upskilling and lifelong learning. The skills demanded by the profession in 2024 include critical thinking, problem-solving, active learning, resilience, stress tolerance, and flexibility.

"NSPE Enterprise Membership has proven to be a valuable program for our engineering team at Huitt-Zollars. It streamlines our membership process; the ability to make a single payment for multiple employees simplifies our administrative tasks and reduces time. Our engineers appreciate the continuous learning/professional development and networking opportunities provided by NSPE throughout the year." — John Ho, P.E., F.NSPE, Vice President, Huitt-Zollars

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- **Unite Your Engineering Team:** NSPE Enterprise Membership brings together five or more individuals from your organization into one cohesive group.
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