State News for NSPE Members

Frustrated Residents Go for Clean Energy

A grassroots solar energy movement is spreading in Puerto Rico, *Grist* reports. A growing number of residents are utilizing solar panels and batteries on their homes and businesses due to their discontent with the island's unreliable electric grid. Many are also tired of high electric bills and the state-owned electric utility's reliance on fuels, the article said.

More than 42,000 residents (eight times as many as in 2016) are enrolled in the island's net metering program. Thousands more are also operating but go uncounted.

A recent report found that, by January households had installed at least 225 megawatts of combined solar capacity, equal to about 5.5% of total residential electricity demand.

Nonprofit Signs on to Create Recovery Plan for Coamo

The Institute for Building Technology and Safety announced it has signed an agreement with the Autonomous Municipality of Coamo, Puerto Rico, to develop its Municipal Recovery Plan.

The MRP Program, funded by the US Department of Housing's Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery, is administered by the Puerto Rico Department of Housing. Coamo's recovery plan will address conditions created or exacerbated by the devastating hurricanes of 2017. The goal is to improve the lives of citizens and improve the community's resilience, sustainability, and its economy.

Coamo will have a team of experts in municipal planning and long-term community recovery, including engineering firm ATCS, which specializes in transportation, traffic planning, geospatial, and other disciplines. The community will also receive aid from federal grant programs. Read more.

NSPECon 2022 Open for Registration

Engineers from all disciplines are invited to register for the 2022 Professional Engineers Conference (NSPECon 2022) in Philadelphia, August 1-3. Early-bird registration is available until June 30.

Invited speakers will address sustainability, emerging technology, the post-covid workplace and even, construction on the moon. Licensed professional engineers and those aspiring to be one are invited to join this



multi-discipline community to engage with colleagues and hear more about relevant engineering topics.

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

Prospective conference sponsors and exhibitors will see newly created opportunities to highlight their companies and organizations throughout the conference. Sponsors can welcome attendees to the "Feel the Philly Love" opening reception, support a conference education track featuring seven unique sessions, or demonstrate how their solutions help clients overcome specific challenges by exhibiting.

PE Day

On the final day of the conference, attendees can celebrate PE Day in person and raise awareness about the importance of PEs as qualified and ethical professionals. Before attending, everyone is invited to gear up with PE Day logo wear to show PE Pride at the conference.

Call for 2022-2023 Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of NSPE and essential to helping the Society carry out its vision and mission and meet the goals of the strategic plan. Volunteer positions begin in mid-August and end at the 2023 Professional Engineers Conference.

There are three types of volunteer opportunities:

Level 1 (Highest Engagement)—Standing Boards and Committees

Often includes attending at least one in-person meeting. Most meetings held via video conference. Terms may be up to three years.

Level 2 (Intermediate Engagement)
–Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces

Activities primarily include online correspondence and video conference meetings.

• Level 3 (Lowest Engagement)—Ad Hoc Volunteer Volunteer on a project-by-project basis.

Submit an application by July 15 to be considered for a 2022-2023 term.

House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly and Annual Meeting

The House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly will be live streamed on NSPE's YouTube channel for members on **June 30** (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST). Following the live stream of the General Assembly, NSPE members will have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with President-Elect Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, and CEO Monika Schulz through a Reddit style AMA (Ask Me Anything) format in the Annual Meeting online community. All members are welcome.

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