Rhode Island to Get $54.7M for Transportation Upgrades, Climate Resiliency Projects

US Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse and Congressmen Seth Magaziner and Gabe Amo recently announced four grants totaling $54,750,800 from the US Department of Transportation’s Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grant program.

The grants were awarded to help fund the installation of a dehumidification system on the cables and anchors of the Mount Hope Bridge; the restoration of the Newport Cliff Walk; the development of a coastal management plan for the Town of Warren’s Market to Metacom project; and nature-based, climate resiliency stormwater projects at 96 locations across Rhode Island. Read more.

Project Developers Submit Offshore Wind Proposals to Rhode Island Energy

Rhode Island Energy recently announced that it will evaluate offshore wind (OSW) proposals from four project developers in response to a request for proposals (RFP) for approximately 1,200 MW of clean and affordable energy – the largest procurement in state history, according to WUN.

Proposals were received from: Avangrid Renewables LLC, Orsted, SouthCoast Wind Energy LLC, and Vineyard Offshore. The evaluation process is expected to take several months.

“Our company is committed to helping Rhode Island meet its nation-leading clean energy goals and will carefully review these proposals,” said Greg Cornett, president of Rhode Island Energy. “Our objective is to advance the clean energy transition while keeping energy affordable and reliable for our customers. This is the lens through which we will evaluate these proposals.”
Rhode Island Energy requested proposals this past October as part of a coordinated solicitation with state agencies and utilities in neighboring Massachusetts and Connecticut. Adding to the nation’s first offshore wind farm that sits in waters off Block Island and the Revolution Wind project now under development, this additional procurement could help meet more than 80% of the state’s estimated 2030 electricity demand with carbon-free energy. 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.

**Welcome to Our 2024 Sponsors!**

![Bolton & Menk](image)

**Real People. Real Solutions.**

**New Program: Leadership Institute for Women PEs**

![NSPE-WLP](image)

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.