PE MATTERS STATE NEWS

NSPE-CA NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS – CALIFORNIA

>>>> JUNE 2024

State News for NSPE Members

Engage and Connect — NSPE-CA Events

Registration Coming Soon: Queen Mary Steam and Steel Tour
NSPE-CA members are invited to participated in the Queen Mary Steam and Steel Tour on **Friday, July 12**. Learn more about the tour.

Save the Date for NSPE-CA Events and Meetings

Saturday, August 3
Custom engineer-focused tour of the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing project
Learn more about the project.

Wednesday, August 14
Long Beach Harbor Engineering Tour

Thursday, August 22 (Noon-2 p.m.)
Ethics Webinar with Rebecca Bowman, Esq., P.E., D.F.E.
Rebecca Bowman's last ethics session for NSPE-CA was well received, we're bringing her back, with extra time for Q&A!

Thursday, September 26 (Noon-2 p.m.)
Webinar: How Industry Can Shape the Education of Future Engineers

Friday, October 18
High Speed Rail Tour
(Projects in Fresno and Hanford)

Events Task Force Meetings

All NSPE-CA members are invited to participate in events planning sessions as their schedules allow. The next session will take place from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on **July 2** and **July 30**. Email Executive Director Jeanne Marie Tokunaga, CAE, at admin@nspe-ca.org to receive the Zoom login information.

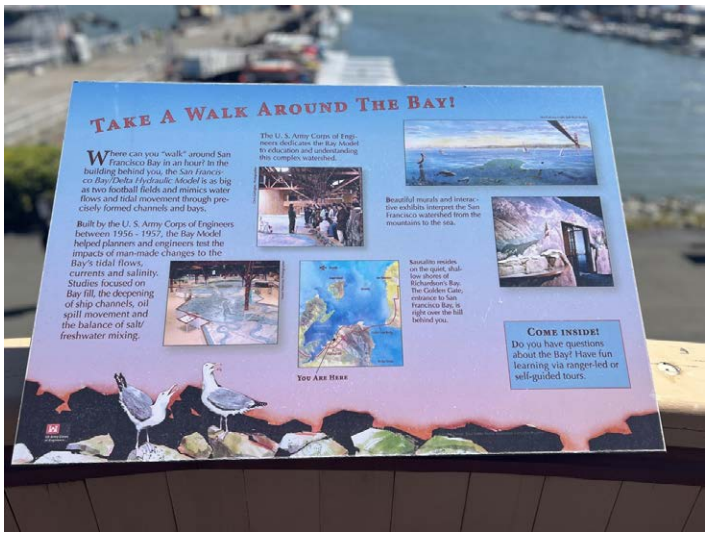
Board of Directors Meeting

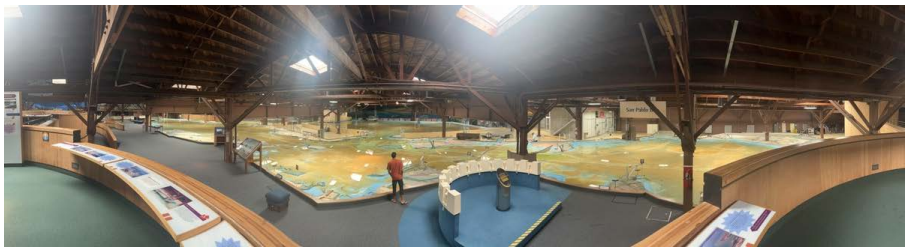
All NSPE-CA members are invited to attend the next board of directors meeting on **July 13** (2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) via Zoom. Email admin@nspe-ca.org to receive

login information.

Tour of the US Army Corps of Engineers Bay Model

NSPE-CA hosted a Tour of the US Army Corps of Engineers Bay Model on May 9 in Sausalito, California. The model provides scientists, educators and visitors interested in San Francisco Bay a unique opportunity to view the complete bay-delta system at a glance. While the bay model is still operational, it is no longer used for scientific research but is instead open to the public alongside educational exhibits about bay hydrology. Access the photo album.





State Licensing Board Meeting

The California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists will hold a meeting on **June 27-28** in San Diego. Access meeting information info here.

NCEES Seeks Fire Protection Engineering Expertise

NCEES is seeking licensed fire protection engineers to participate in a professional

activities and knowledge study (PAKS), for the PE Fire Protection exam. The results of this online survey will be used to update the content of the PE exam, which occurs every six to eight years. Click here for access to the online survey.

The survey will be open until July 22, 2024. For more information, contact NCEES Exam Services Operations Manager Lehmon Dekle, P.E., at ldekle@ncees.org.

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42 California Dams Need Repairs, But Lawmakers Cut Funding

Several dozen dams throughout California could store up to 107 billion more gallons of water if they underwent repairs to fix safety problems. But facing a staggering state deficit, the state legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom have slashed funding for dam repair grants in half this year, *Cal Matters* reports.

California has an aging network of nearly 1,540 dams — large and small, earthen and concrete — that help store vital water supplies. For 42 of these dams, state officials have restricted the amount of water that can be stored behind them because safety deficiencies would raise the risk to people downstream from earthquakes, storms or other problems.

Owned by cities, counties, utilities, water districts and others, these dams have lost nearly 330,000 acre-feet of storage capacity because of the state's safety restrictions. That water — equivalent to the amount used by 3.6 million people for a year — could be used to supply communities, farms or hydropower.

Two years ago, in the depths of the most recent drought, Newsom touted dam repairs as a key approach to shore up water supplies squeezed by climate change. In his 2022 Water Supply Strategy, he referenced plans by his administration and the Legislature to create a grant program to "help local water districts regain lost storage capacity and improve public safety" of dams.

The program, created in 2023 and allocated an initial $100 million, is still getting up and running. Legislators had hoped to keep all of the funds and had added them to their proposed budget. But in the negotiated deal between legislators and Newsom this week — and despite the benefits to flood control and water supply — $50 million was eliminated from the grant program. Read more.

NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

Featured Jobs

Principal Engineer
San Carlos, CA

Utilities General Manager
Riverside, CA

Associate Electrical Engineer
Sacramento, CA

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the NSPE Job Board.

*Stay up to date on legislative issues through the **NSPE Advocacy Center** .*

Get Enlightened and Inspired at NSPECon24

NSPECon24 (Raleigh, North Carolina, August 7-9) is the prime national event for professional engineers – **Register by June 27 for early bird discount rates, a savings of $100**.

The conference will feature keynote speakers to provide inspiration and guidance to help elevate your career in addition to putting a spotlight on emerging issues within the industry.

Richie Parker, MBA, cofounder of Optimech Solutions, chief of staff of the University of Virginia football program, and former manager of government projects at Hendrick Motorsports, will open the conference with the session **“Drive to Innovate.”** He has been profiled by ESPN and often speaks to organizations about overcoming obstacles and facing adversity.

Paul Doherty, chairman and CEO of The Digit Group, will present the session **“Unlocking the Metaverse: AI, Engineering the Future of Our Industry”** to provide insight on emerging technologies and explore real-world solutions and projects that are challenging our industry.

Dan Heath, author and senior fellow, The Center for the Advancement of Social Entrepreneurship (CASE), Duke University, will present the session **"RESET: How to Change What's Not Working"** to explore a framework for getting unstuck and making the changes that matter. Stay tuned for details on the opening keynote speaker.

Access the NSPECon24 program for more details on the keynote speakers and session topics.

Interested in supporting through sponsorship or exhibiting? 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. Learn more about these opportunities in the Sponsor and Exhibitor section of the conference website.

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NSPE's Focus on Fostering Inclusivity and Professionalism

Inaugural Leadership Institute for Women PEs
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.

DEI or 'die'—a Noteworthy Discussion
On June 12, NSPE's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Advisory Committee hosted a live webinar on the important topic of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the engineering profession. The presenters explored perspectives from engineers with diverse life experiences and discussed how including these voices can impact engineering practices and public safety. This thought-provoking webinar will challenge the notion of 'best and brightest' and underscore the importance of diverse viewpoints in engineering solutions. Members can access a recording free of charge.

New Resource to Attract and Retain Engineering Talent
A talent focused environment where the most skilled engineers succeed is crucial for driving creativity and problem-solving. NSPE has released the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Glossary of Terms, a valuable resource designed to provide a common understanding of essential workforce inclusivity terms, facilitating more effective and respectful discussions about talent acquisition, development, and collaboration across the engineering community. This glossary is the culmination of the dedicated work by the 2023-2024 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee to provide a tool for respectful communication, reinforcing NSPE's core value of "Unity." Access more information and resources here.

Spring Webinar Series On-Demand

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—"Workability Wednesdays"— to support members with their professional development goals. Did you miss any of our spring webinars? No worries! The following sessions are now available on-demand:

- NSPE's Board of Ethic Review

Presents: The Duty to Act

- Second Best Protection Against Risk
- Enhancing Building Safety: Mitigating Risks of Slips, Trips, and Falls Access
- Lidar Illuminated: Revolutionizing Engineering Design and Building Analysis
- Designing Fire Protection Systems - The Role of the Engineer and Engineering Technician
- DEI or 'die'—a Noteworthy Discussion.

Access the webinars at NSPE's PE Institute.

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