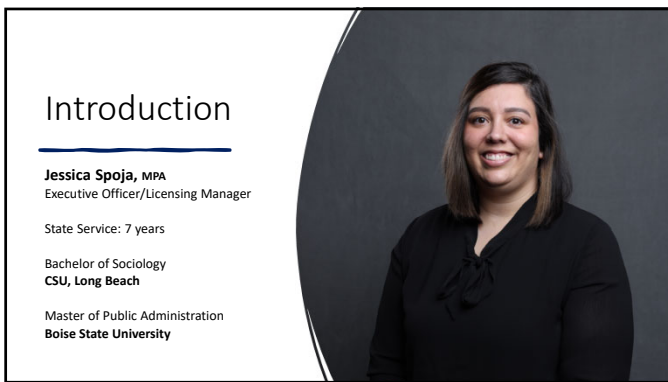




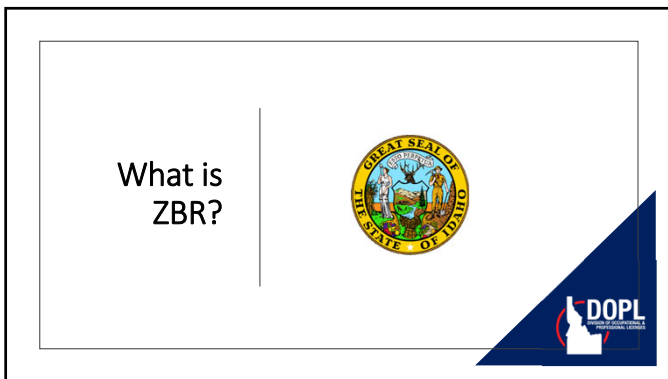
ACEC of Idaho
2023
Annual Committee Reports
FINAL



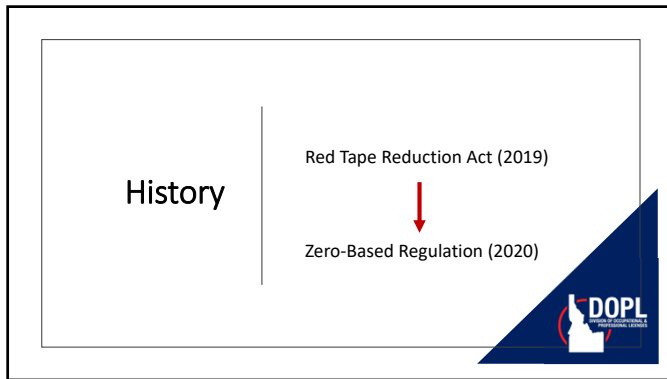
1



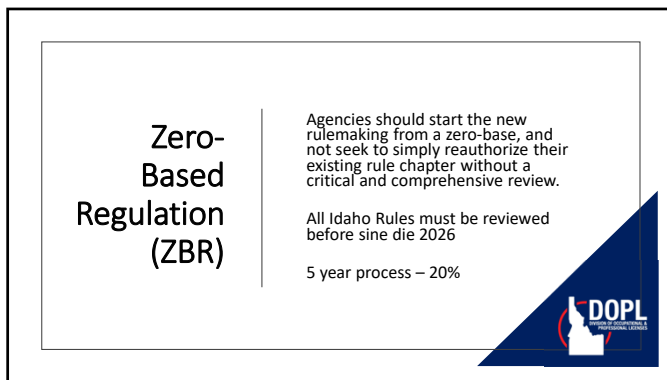
2



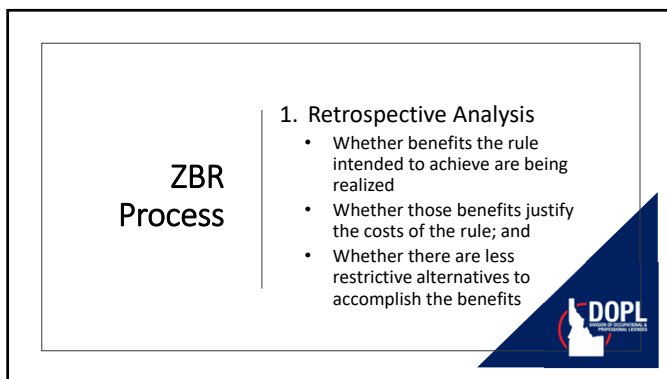
3



4



5



6

ZBR Process

2. Notice to the Public

- Agency must publish a notice of intent to promulgate rules
- Hold a minimum of two public hearings
- Board votes to go proposed



7

ZBR Process

3. Proposed

- Comment period

4. Pending

- Pending rule adopted and prints in the bulletin

5. Sent to Legislature



8

Questions

Jessica Spoja
jessica.spoja@dopl.idaho.gov
(208) 332-7148



9

ACEC Idaho Annual Conference

Qualification Based Selection Facilitation Council Report

October 6th, 2023

As a reminder, the QBS Council is made up of design profession associations and others who are party to the QBS Law. Here is the current list:

- American Council of Engineering Companies of Idaho (ACEC)
- American Institute of Architect, Idaho (AIA)
- Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors
- Idaho Society of Professional Engineers (ISPE)
- Structural Engineers Association of Idaho (SEAI)
- American Public Works Association/Association of Idaho Cities Public Works Association
- Idaho Montana Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)
- Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC)
- Association of General Contractors - Construction Managers

The QBS Council saw fewer inquiries this year with only 7 entities contacting the Council for assistance. Of these requests:

- 6 of these were suspected violations of the law. 3 corrected their violations, 2 had legal representation that disagreed with the QBS Council's recommendation, 1 was determined not a violation.
- 1 question was regarding how to do a new roster of firms for engineering services.
- 1 was regarding if a new RFQ needed to be done for a City Planner. It was determined the entity did not need to issue a new RFQ.

Other items addressed by the Council this last year included:

NEW: Educational and Outreach Efforts:

The QBS Facilitator Council provided assistance to the City of McCall by training new staff on Idaho's QBS law as well as the development of RFQ's.

In March, a QBS overview presentation was made to the Structural Engineers Association of Idaho (SEAI). Additional presentations to other related professional associations will be made in April and June of 2023.

A welcome letter with QBS information was emailed to all 44 Idaho's county clerks. This is the beginning of the QBS Council's effort at wider outreach about Idaho's QBS law.

In June, member Keith Watts and Facilitator Liz Conner presented to approximately 30 people at the annual Association of Idaho Cities conference in Boise.

In September, a QBS overview presentation was made to the American Institute of Architects in Idaho (AIA).

ACEC of Idaho
Annual Membership Meeting
October 6, 2023
Shore Lodge – McCall, Idaho
Government Affairs Committee Annual Report

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Paul Wasser, PE – Schnabel Engineering (Chair)
Dave Butzier, PE – AECOM
John Ringert, PE – Kittelson & Associates
Paul Ashton, PE – Parametrix
Tim Haener, PE – J-U-B Engineers
Cameron Waite, PE – HDR Engineering
John Barker, PE - Jacobs
Jim Mullen, PE – Keller Associates (Board Liaison)

PARTNERING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS:

Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry (IACI)
Idaho Board of Professional Engineers & Professional Land Surveyors (IBPEPLS/IDOPL)
Idaho Liability Reform Coalition (ILRC)
Idaho Associated General Contractors (AGC)

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: The First Regular Session of the 67th Idaho Legislature began on January 9, 2023. The session concluded on April 6, 2023. The Legislative Session Status Report (Sine Die Report) can be found at: [sinedie.pdf \(idaho.gov\)](#). The State of Idaho ended FY2022 with a significant budget surplus, again, and a projected budget surplus for FY2023. This translated into more funding for transportation infrastructure including:

- \$35 million for airports.
- \$200 million for local bridge program (LHTAC LILB).
- \$10 million for the Port of Lewiston.
- \$10 million for pedestrian safety.
- \$138 million for local transportation projects.
- \$700 million in new funds for transportation projects.

A total of \$269 million in new money was allocated for water infrastructure including:

- \$92 million for water, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure grants.
- \$23 million for ARPA drinking water grants.
- \$150 million wastewater management fund for large projects.

In addition, increased education funding included:

- \$410 million (part of 2022 Extraordinary Session) - \$330 million for public schools, \$80 million for Higher Education and Career Technology.
- Passage of the Governor's "Idaho Launch" program providing \$8000 to Idaho high school graduates to attend two-year, technical programs.
- Additional workforce grants were funded.

There was also a focus on tax reduction legislation:

- The income tax brackets were consolidated, and the rate was reduced from 7.4% to 5.8%.
- An estimated \$115 million in savings should be seen with the creation of school and bond relief by the passage of House Bill 292 and House Bill 376.
 - H 292 – creates School District Facilities Fund and Homeowner Property Tax Relief Account.
 - H 376 – revised the distribution of sales taxes for transportation projects in H 292.
- An estimated \$190 million in property tax relief for homeowners (with FY2023 final revenue results, this increased to about \$300 million).
- Increased circuit breaker for low- and fixed-income individuals

ITEMS OF NOTE FROM THE 2023 SESSION:

- More than 50% of the 67th Legislature were new members and resulted in a steep learning curve during the session.
- ACEC of ID member firms engaged in a letter campaign to support Governor Little's funding initiatives. We delivered 40 letters from member firms all over the state to the leadership of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC) and to the Governor's Office.
- The Idaho Launch grant program does not apply to four-year degrees such as engineering. ACEC of ID is evaluating if we should work during the next legislative session to amend the law to include four-year degrees.

ISSUES FOR 2023-2024

- **Reclaim Idaho** - ranked choice voting initiative:
 - Open, non-partisan primary, top four candidates advance to general election.
 - General election voters rank all four candidates, first candidate to 50% wins.
 - If no winner, a runoff counting process begins.
 - Signatures are currently being gathered for this ballot initiative.
 - Supported by "Republicans for Open Primaries" including former Governor Otter.
- **Lift Local Idaho**
 - Forming to provide support for local tax option legislation.
 - Kate Simonds, coordinator.
- ITD request for 53 FTEs for FY2025 – supported by ACEC of ID Board.
- Governor Little's initiative to increase state employee salaries for Engineers and Computer IT classifications.
- Meetings with JFAC members to discuss and express support for ITD and Governor Little's requests, followed by testimony in germane committees.

PARTNERSHIPS:

Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry (IACI) – Representation on IACI's Legislative Committee allows ACEC to efficiently track bills during the legislative session that may have an impact on our member firms and to hear the concerns of other members of the business community regarding proposed legislation. The interests of our members often align with IACI's perspective and chosen direction, and this partnership gives ACEC the ability to inform our Board and membership on issues pertinent to our industry with time to act, when necessary.

IACI's Legislative Reception was held on January 9, 2023, and is open to all ACEC of ID members. IACI Public Policy Conference was held in Twin Falls on June 4-5, 2023.

IACI Business Friendly Legislative Scorecard – <https://www.iaci.org/scorecard/>

UPCOMING EVENTS: IACI 2023 Regional Legislative Meet & Greet – Simplot Headquarters, Boise, ID

Idaho Association of General Contractor (Idaho AGC) – Legislative Event on February 28, 2023

ACEC again partnered with AGC and others to host a Legislative Event for all members of the Idaho Legislature at the Crystal Ballroom in the Hoff Building in downtown Boise. This event provides an opportunity to meet and mingle with legislators during the session and was attended by representatives from several ACEC member firms.

Idaho Liability Reform Coalition (ILRC) – no action this past year.

Idaho Board of Professional Engineering and Professional Land Surveyors (IBPEPLS) – no action this past year. However, as of our September membership meeting Michael Hyde is no longer with IDOPL. IDOPL has not advised ACEC of his replacement. ACEC likely needs to request a follow up meeting to our meeting on February 4, 2022, with IDOPL leadership.

OTHER POSSIBLE COLLABORATIONS:

Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) – AK, ID, MT, OR, and WA, (Alberta, British Columbia, NW Territories, Saskatchewan, and Yukon)

- ACEC of ID supported the PNWER 2023 Summit in Boise – July 16-19, 2023.
- Senator Chuck Winder, Idaho Senate Pro Temp, is PNWER President for 2022-2023.
- Regional Infrastructure Accelerator – established in 2021 by U.S. DOT funding grant.
- Build NW Center of Excellence – pending additional grant funding to establish with the following goals:
 - Establish resource center for PNWER states and communities to understand/promote regionally significant infrastructure projects.
 - Identify opportunities to coordinate and bundle projects and leverage private sector resources to enhance public infrastructure.
 - Explore ways to accelerate technology that connects clean energy, smart mobility, and expand digital access for communities.
 - Offer a roster of experts to provide advisory services to officials and project sponsors.
 - Seeking to model this with PNWER Idaho Council (established by Governor Little via Executive Order No. 2023-01)



2023 Annual Report

ACEC ITD Committee | by Justin Walker



- **ACEC-ITD Committee Members**

- Justin Walker, Keller Associates (Chair)
- Paul Ashton, Parametrix
- Tim Blair, JUB
- David Butzier, AECOM
- Heather Carroll, Jacobs
- Bryan Foote, Horrocks
- Ryan Olsen, Terracon
- Bill Russell, Ardurra
- Paul Wasser, Schnabel
- ITD Spec Subcommittee: Nathan Cleaver (Keller), Bruce Harral (Ardurra)
- Contract Admin Manual Update Subcommittee: Davey Jensen (Horrocks), Arthur Thomas (Jacobs)

- **Held quarterly meetings with ITD executive team members including one meeting with the Highways Leadership Team (HILT)**



2023 Annual Report

ACEC ITD Committee | by Justin Walker



- **Key Issues Addressed Since Last Annual Meeting**

- Monitored and reported on ITD roll-out plans for IIJA/BIL funding
- Monitored and reported on Leading Idaho funding programs
 - \$35 million in airports
 - \$10 million for pedestrian safety
 - \$100 million in Local Strategic Initiative Grants (\$50M-urban; \$50M-rural)
 - \$200 million in other bridge funding
- Participated virtually and remotely in ITDs Program Delivery Conference
- Submitted letter to ITD explaining how removing wage adjustment limitation of once per year is mutually beneficial to ITD and Consultants. No action by ITD yet.
- Advocating that ITD increase Consultant contract limits (ITD leadership verbally agreeable but waiting for the right time to present to ITD board
 - ITD relabeling “direct select” to “modified RFI”; ITD will need to shortlist 3 firms from ITD Term Agreement as part of internal selection process.
- Finalized and disseminated standard scope of work outline
- Worked with ITD to establish reasonable DBE requirements (including longer response times for solicitations with DBE requirements; no DBE requirements for CE&I projects at this time)
- Advocate for ITD to continually update quarterly RFP forecast
- ITD and ACEC members serving on subcommittee tasked to update the Contract Administration Manual
- Worked to advance lump sum contracting with little success; ITD waiting for LHTAC to pilot lump sum projects; LILB projects proving to be successful.
- Encouraged ITD to use the 771 and 2359 forms to improve consultant project performance feedback.

- **Key Issues to be Addressed this Coming Year**

- Continue to advocate for ITD to remove wage adjustment limitations
- Continue to advocate to increase Consultant contract limits (Term Agreement, RFPs, RFIs, and Modified RFIs)

6 ACHD Committee Report

Cameron Waite, Chair

We had two meetings in 2023 – one in June 2023 as part of ACHD's consultant outreach, and one in September 2023.

ACHD asked that we wait until after the ACHD Consultant Outreach meeting on June 22, 2023, to schedule our first committee meeting in 2023 as several of the items for discussion may be addressed there. We followed up with ACHD after the meeting and set up a meeting in September 2023.

ACHD's Consultant Outreach meeting on June 22, 2023, was to inform the consultant community about changes to their project teams. ACHD is streamlining their teams to be more efficient and focused on delivery. This will require more responsibility and leadership from consultants to support the ACHD PM's and teams in developing scopes that require fewer supplementals, making and documenting decisions, and delivering quality and safety focused projects. The ACHD PM will reach out to the other departments for reviews and help in their area of expertise, including design, traffic, stormwater, environmental, communications, and construction.

At our September 2023 meeting, Dyan updated us on their updates to the project teams described at the June 2023 meeting. They are monitoring and plan to do an internal review at 6 months or the beginning of 2024.

Dale and the Construction group will be moving under the Planning, Programs & Capital Project Management. ACHD has four RFP's coming out in the fall/winter of 2023-24:

- Access to Opportunity RAISE Grant project – Federal-aid, ACHD is working with ITD to get RFP out soon.
- Fairview Ave. Bridge – Federal-aid, being added to the TIP, so needs to go to COMPASS, ITD, then FHWA, RFP Likely out in January 2024
- Swan Falls Roadway – ACHD and Western Federal Lands (WFL) have finalized a memorandum of understanding (MOU). This is the first ACHD project that will be procured and administered by WFL, still waiting to hear when it will be put out.
- The Eckert Road bridges concept study will be coming out soon. The RFP is approved and should be advertised this fall.

Both ACHD and the consultants brought up the idea of a project charter, diary, or decision log to document decisions, property owner and stakeholder contacts, and review direction. We discussed different methods used by consultants, including Excel files, Teams, OneNote, and the ITD charter. The ACHD team will discuss it internally and come back to us with a template for consistency among projects. They will distribute this information through their PM's.

Minutes of meetings often document these decisions, but often no one responds to minutes when sent out, so there may be a question if the decisions documented in the minutes are correct. ACHD let us know their policy is silence equals acceptance. We will move forward with this policy on minutes.

ACHD has an updated scope template that includes updated text from design, communications, and environmental. It will be used for federal-aid projects as well, and will require additional tasks, etc., to meet the federal-aid process requirements.

We agreed that there will never be a perfect scope, so we need to make good assumptions, document them, and move forward, knowing that if those assumptions change the design a supplemental will be needed. A contingency task should be included in each project scope and budget to streamline the change process and keep projects on track. There is no formula or set amount for this, it should be determined for each project.

The PM's are empowered to make decisions for a project even if a team member may not agree.

We discussed flexible contracting, including lump sum contracting, to accelerate projects, similar to some ITD and LHTAC projects. ACHD is not as schedule driven as ITD or LHTAC but more focused on doing projects correctly the first time and maximizing safety. Flexible contracting may be acceptable for smaller projects and unique circumstances but will not be a typical approach for ACHD.

ACHD is looking to fit projects within existing ROW to reduce the time needed to get not just new acquisitions but also permanent easements, temporary construction easements, and even property use agreements. This is slowing project development down, so we as consultants should work with ACHD to identify potential improvements to reduce the width and impacts of projects. This includes lane widths, sidewalk widths, bulb outs, and buffer spaces. As we listen to ACHD Commission meetings we will hear the consistent message of safety first.

ACHD is open to suggestions to reduce width while improving safety, so we should look at these options during 30% design to adjust early and keep the projects moving forward. ACHD has adopted the Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG), so we should lean toward improvements that improve safety.

ACHD has updates to the Policy Manual, specifically to Section 7200, to strengthen access management and multi-use pathway standards. These are especially needed for development to provide consistency with capital projects. These updates should be available in the next two weeks.

We discussed inviting representatives from other groups to discuss delivery, coordination, etc. Some groups mentioned include stormwater design, ROW, environmental, and communications. Everyone liked the idea, and the consultant group will identify the group to invite to our next meeting and work with ACHD to set it up. We agreed to hold our next meeting in the first quarter of 2024. Cameron will work with the ACHD representatives and ACEC committee members to schedule that meeting.

Committee Members:

- Jim Mullen, Keller Associates (Chair)
- Jeff Hodson, Jacobs
- Jon Munkers, Alta
- Roland Rocha, Bowen Collins
- Tyler Allen, HDR
- Andrew Kimmel, Great West Engineering
- Jerri Henry, DEQ, Drinking Water Protection & Finance Division Lead
- Mary Anne Nelson, DEQ, Surface & Wastewater Division Lead
- Michael McCurdy, DEQ, Waste Management & Remediation Division Lead
- Whitney Ciani, Landau Inc. (ACEC Representative)

Meeting Schedule:

- Quarterly via MS Teams
- Next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2023, 11:00 AM MST

Summary:

- Great representation and participation from DEQ
- Need questions and concerns from engineering community. Please pass issues along to one of the committee members.
- Current hot topics
 - Funding, funding, funding! Funding amounts through SRF programs are expected to be reduced significantly.
 - Rule changes that directly influence engineering and our clients. Seeking comments from engineering community.
 - Hiring within DEQ is continuing to be a challenge
 - DEQ is here to help communities and projects be successful. Open and frequent communication with the engineering community is essential, encouraged, and appreciated.

Charter Statement:

Why: The ACEC/DEQ Liaison Committee's purpose is to facilitate dialogue between ACEC members and IDEQ on issues impacting the A&E industry, Idaho DEQ, and related stakeholders to foster understanding that leads to efficient and better project outcomes for the people of Idaho.

Who: The ACEC/DEQ Liaison Committee is made up of ACEC members and IDEQ staff.

What: Focusing on engineering related issues facing ACEC firms, clients, DEQ, the State of Idaho, and related stakeholders.

When: The committee will meet once a quarter. Information and outcomes from the meeting will be shared by the committee chair with the ACEC community at the monthly membership meeting.

How: A formal agenda will provide DEQ departments an opportunity to bring forth updates and challenges facing the agency as well as feedback on the A&E industry. ACEC will provide updates on the status of the industry, issues facing our clients/stakeholders, and feedback on policies and regulations impacting ACEC and their clients.

Key Objectives:

- Facilitate collaboration and open communication
- Sharing new/modified policy and regulations related to the A&E industry
- Identify available funding (grant programs) for communities
- Feedback on industry performance/compliance
- Feedback on regulation process and implementation
- Sharing information about DEQ programs to stakeholders
- Sharing of new technologies/approaches within our industry

LHTAC ACEC Committee Report

Prepared by Angela Comstock

Meetings and Attendance - The Committee met 4 times in 2023, in February, April, June and September. At each meeting, LHTAC was represented by 3-5 staff with Environmental Staff Engineer Karissa Nelson, and Federal Aid Safety Engineer Kevin Kuther attending each meeting. Deputy Director Ken Kanownik and/or Director Laila Kral also attended each meeting. Approximately 8-10 committee members participated in each meeting. The February and April meetings required in-person attendance; June and September offered Teams participation and in person attendance in September reduced compared to previous meetings.

Topics Discussed – Over the course of our meetings, the following topics were discussed:

- Environmental updates – presented at each meeting by Karissa Nelson and/or JoEllen Ross-Hauer. These presentations and topics were valuable and the content was made available for committee members to share with new/younger staff. All members are encouraged to reach out to LHAC for environmental consultation and questions.
- Construction updates – presented at each meeting by Matt Koster. Updates on new BABA requirements and notification at the September meeting that FHWA and ITD are working on a de minimis cost waiver for projects bid after 8/16/23. More information forthcoming.
- LILB Program updates – this was discussed at all meetings and LHTAC kept the committee updated on the program progress including reporting the number and status of design rounds and bridges in construction. LHTAC is hopeful continued funding toward this program is considered in the Governor’s budget and has been working hard to share the program’s success.
- Consultant performance and capacity and RFP/RFI distribution – While consultant work quality remains steady according to LHTAC, responsiveness reduction was noted by LHTAC staff. In FY24 approximately 40 project designs will be solicited for RFI/RPF and the committee discussed LHTAC’s concerns about capacity, noting that many regional firms have seen reduction in workload in Oregon and Washington that will provide additional capacity in the coming year. Committee requested LHTAC prepare a forecast of opportunities so Consultants can stay ahead of opportunities and be prepared for requests. Consultant committee was asked to review and update their Term Agreement contacts to ensure RFIs were distributed to the desired Consultant contact.

Overall, LHTAC is engaged and participatory and the committee appears well functioning. Consultant participation and new topics were challenging to unearth this year, possibly due to the volume of workload in our industry. Thoughts for next year include a deeper dive into LILB construction experiences and what improvements may be considered if funding is continued. Further, consultant performance is recommended as a continued topic of discussion as LHTAC releases and begins designs for the growing program of projects.

ACEC/ITD Materials Liaison Subcommittee

2023 Annual Report

Committee Members

Tyron Bardwell (HDR)	Morgan McArthur (GeoEngineers)
Gabe Burgess (DEA)	Ryan Olsen (Terracon) - Chairman
Whitney Ciani (Landau) – Board Liaison	Scott Parker (Horrocks)
Dustin Commons (Jacobs)	Maria Tangarife (Strata)
Stan Crawford (Shannon & Wilson)	David Waite (Geotek)
Deven Elison (Atlas)	Paul Wasser (Schnabel)

AASHTOWare Pavement ME Design

ITD Contracted with ARA to develop a multi-year plan for the implementation of PMED. A working group of representatives of ACEC member firms was organized and has met and collaborated with ITD throughout this process, including during development of the scope of services for the implementation plan. ARA presented the draft plan to ITD and the working group in July of 2023. ITD and the working group reviewed the draft document and provided comments. The final version of the document is expected later this year. Members of this working group included Stan Crawford (Shannon and Wilson), Braydan DuRee (GeoEngineers), Greg Fischer (Jacobs), Zach Lootens (Strata), and Ryan Olsen (Terracon).

In the fall of 2021, an error in one of ITD's local calibration factors was discovered (AC Cracking - Bottom Up). Discussions ensued, and it was agreed to use the global calibration factors for this model until the local factor could be revisited by researchers. ITD drafted a memorandum providing guidance, and the committee reviewed and provided comment on the memorandum. In December 2022, the final version of the memorandum was distributed by ITD.

IR-142: Source Investigation of Aggregate in Gravel Deposits or Rock Quarries and Borrow

ITD has proposed changes to IR-142. In July 2023 the proposed changes were provided to the committee. Committee members reviewed the document and were provided to ITD.

Traffic Speed Deflectometer

April 18, 2023, ITD held a meeting and AARB delivered and discussed TSD data collected in 2022. Committee members were invited to the meeting. The meeting also discussed the Hawkeye data viewer. Kontur 3D GPR is now being collected with the TSD data.

Buy America Requirements for Construction Materials.

In December 2022 and March 2023 ITD provided presentations to the committee regarding newly adopted additions to Buy America requirements. The newly adopted additions include non-ferrous metals, plastics and polymers, glass, lumber, and dry wall. There is a waiver for manufactured products. The US Office of Management and Budget has issued a document that discusses potentially including additional materials/products in Buy America. ITD is currently following the guidelines that were previously provided and not including these potential additional items. Engineers need to consider these materials in their designs, as these requirements apply to EPS blocks, geogrid used in MSE walls, etc.

Idaho ACEC Bridge Liaison Sub-committee

2023 Annual Report

The committee met for a little over 2 hours (during each meeting), at ITD Bridge Headquarters in June and in September. The meetings were well attended with 18 participants at each meeting.

The traditional items of discussion were related to personnel changes at ITD Bridge, changes in specifications; drawings and design manuals relating to structure. General issues related to construction issues were discussed as well as sharing ITD's observations of performance of certain components of bridges and what ITD is considering improving upon for future designs. An example of this is the use of Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) at the joint between the approach slab and abutment. Upcoming ITD design projects were also shared.

A notable topic that came about during both meetings involved communication. ITD Bridge and participating consultants discussed ways to better communicate ideas, changes, corrections, and preferences related to bridge design and construction. The result was ITD developing a spreadsheet on ProjectWise to keep consultants aware of changes in design standards, and standard drawings. Additionally, with ITD changing of standard drawings there is invariably errors and omissions that arise. ITD encouraged consultants to inform Mike Ebright via phone or email any errors and omissions they observe so that ITD can make any necessary corrections. ITD Bridge has also solicited and encouraged consultants to share their experiences and expertise in bridge practices they have in other state dot projects. ITD Bridge has the desire to improve the bridge technology and design process (within the requirements of FHWA).

Detailed highlights:

Standard girder details have been updated for local producers of precast concrete girders; Integral Abutment design philosophy is changing and is being worked on by ITD; consultant detailing practices should follow ITD practice very closely to help younger developing inspectors perform more effectively; ITD is focusing on training younger staff who are in the field performing inspections;

for State bridges the inventory rating for HL-93 needs to be equal to or greater than 1.1. If this is not the case (but must be greater than 1.0) talk to ITD Bridge; bridges in stage construction (for maintenance of traffic during construction) must be load rated and inspected (for existing bridges that are modified, and for new bridges in temporary condition) i.e. incomplete stages while providing for public traffic); construction bridges not for public use are exempt, bridge decks built between the 1950's and 1970's are deteriorating and in need of replacement/rehabilitation/repair, Those engineers who are contracted to design any bridge deck repair and other bridge rehabilitation/repair must include in the scope of work site visits for the purpose of determining extent of and quantity of repair to avoid change orders and cost.

This sub-committee has provided a means to facilitate effective collaboration between ITD Bridge and consulting engineers resulting in better service for the public transportation system in Idaho.

LHTAC has participated in collaboration with ITD Bridge and the bridge consulting community. This is important as the projects for the LILB program incorporates ITD Bridge Standards and practices to great degree.

This annual report is respectfully submitted by Alan Cukurs (J-U-B Engineers Inc.) sub-committee chairman.



TO: John Barker, Past President and Membership Chairman
FROM: Liz Conner, Executive Director
DATE: October 1, 2023
SUBJECT: ACEC of Idaho Membership for 2022-2023

The 2022-2023 ACEC of Idaho has been an exceptionally good year. We have grown by six new members, four members either did not renew or moved out of state. The net result is ACEC of Idaho to date has a total of 50 firms as members. We have two Associate members.

While we continue to look forward to increasing our membership, our primary focus is on providing value to the current members. I believe there are more growth opportunities in the Associate membership area as there are more businesses that are supporting engineering firms around Idaho. I look forward to speaking with our membership and gaining insight into which businesses they would like to see participate in ACEC of Idaho.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

ACEC Fundraising Committee 2023 Annual Report

2023 Committee Members

Jon Gellings, Consor – Chair	Jonathan.Gellings@consoreng.com
Travis Thomsen, Shannon & Wilson	Travis.Thomsen@shanwil.com
Cody Luper, Jacobs	cody.luper@jacobs.com
Molly Louchs, Burgess & Niple	molly.loucks@burgessniple.com
Bob Beckman, Kimley Horn	Robert.Beckman@kimley-horn.com
Will Rice, Horrocks	will.rice@horrocks.com
Robert Garcia, Parametrix	rgarcia@parametrix.com
Dave Sherman, WSP	Dave.sherman@wsp.com
Deven Elison, Atlas	Deven.elison@oneatlas.com
Board Liaison – John Ringert, Kittelson and Associates	jringert@kittelson.com

Year Summary

Fundraising Events-

2023 was another successful year for our fundraising events thanks to the fantastic support from our membership. Once again, Liz did a great job getting out ahead of booking locations for our events, so we had plenty of time to plan and get the word out to our members. As usual, the Trap and Skeet Shoot was our largest fundraising event and it went off without a hitch thanks to the efforts by many who volunteered their time to plan, coordinate, and facilitate this event. We had great attendance at our annual golf scramble and were able to once again offer PSMJ PM Bootcamp training, which has been a great benefit to our membership.

Our flagship event, the Trap and Skeet Shoot made an estimated **net income of \$9,860**. This was slightly less than the net income of last year's event. One factor in the reduced profit, which has impacted more than just our Trap and Skeet Shoot event, is an estimated **40% increase in food costs** compared to several years ago. A total of 34 teams registered for this event – just one fewer than 2022. **Figure 1** shows a comparison of the estimated net income over the last three years.

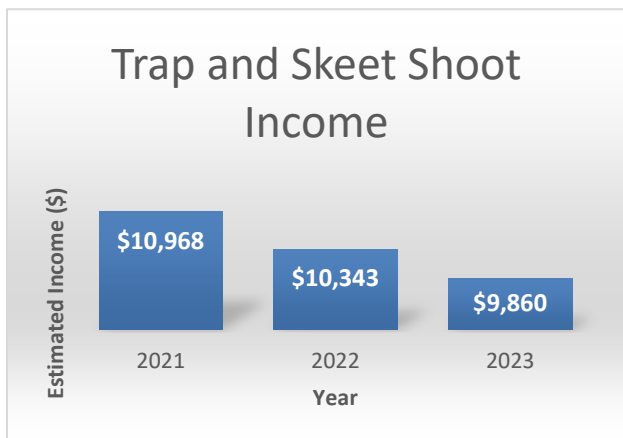


Figure 1. Trap and Skeet Shoot Net Income

After discussions with this committee and several members, we collectively decided to continue implementing a few modifications to the format of this event that were originally implemented to increase safety in response to COVID-19. This included extending the duration of the event to add a morning session. The thought was this would allow attendees more space by spreading out the teams. Also, the BBQ dinner was replaced by individual boxed lunches from Goodwood BBQ and tables and tents were set up outside. Finally, the awards announcement and raffle drawing were moved to a virtual setting after the event. Feedback from

attendees has again been positive regarding the modification in format. Attendees from outside the valley commented they really liked the option to attend the morning session, grab lunch and socialize, then still be able to make it back home in the early afternoon versus late at night in previous years. With not hearing much if any negative feedback, the committee decided to maintain the revised format moving forward and we will continue to look for opportunities for further refinements.



Figure 2. Golf Tournament Net Income

would be an opportunity to make some additional income for ACEC Idaho while providing our members a valuable service. This event turned out to be a success and was well attended by members. The training generated over \$3,500 and proceeds were allocated to the government affairs account. For 2022, we decided to offer another round of training and settled on the Project Management Bootcamp course based on feedback from membership. We had good attendance that ultimately resulted in a **net income of \$3,453**, compared to \$3,156 last year. The committee has another round of PSMJ PM Bootcamp training scheduled on 11/30 – 12/1, so additional income is projected through the end of this year. For 2024, the committee will discuss the merits of offering another PSMJ training course. The concern is that after hosting an event one year, will there be enough interest to make it worthwhile to host another training the following year? Similar to previous years, the committee will discuss whether we should provide a poll to members with different options for PSMJ training to hone in on the specific training that will be offered.

Finally, we did have an event that resulted in a negative profit. The Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) event resulted in a loss of -\$855. Although we experienced a loss, this is a great event enjoyed by many of our members and provides an overall benefit to ACEC Idaho.

PAC Contributions-

A primary goal of our fundraising is to fund the ACEC PAC by providing a way for our members to contribute to the PAC through their participation in events, rather than writing a check directly to the PAC. A sizeable amount of the PAC contributions come from personal (non-company card/check) payments associated with the events. The 2023 PAC goal of \$7,096 is the same as the goal for the past several years. For 2023 to date, ACEC Idaho contributed a total of \$7,017 to the PAC, with additional funds pending from the Trap and Skeet shoot event payments. Once those payments have been collected, we are confident the 2022 PAC goal of \$7,096 will be reached once again due to the generous support of our membership.

Opportunities for 2024

Following a survey of members in 2015 that indicated little interest in adding fundraising events, the focus since has been maximizing the participation and sponsorship for the existing events. The committee remains mindful that there is some concern that having too many events may reduce sponsorship and participation in our most profitable existing events. Although it appears profits were down a bit compared to previous year, the 2023 fundraising efforts were a

success that provided a major benefit to our members and ACEC of Idaho as a whole. The committee will continue to focus on how we can increase attendance, sponsorships, and make the existing events even better for 2024. Certain changes to the Trap and Skeet Shoot, for example, will likely be implemented permanently moving forward.

With that said, the great thing about having new members join our committee is we get some fresh ideas to either further enhance existing events, or new events we could provide to our membership. For example, some discussions have been had about offering an “New Employee Draft Signing Day” event, where firms could introduce their new hires and provide some professional development training, such as dining etiquette. Participating firms would sponsor a table, which would generate the fundraising profits. These types of fresh ideas are always appreciated, and we will continue to discuss opportunities like this both at the committee and board levels.

Beyond the traditional fundraising events, the committee will consider whether we continue to host educational classes, such as the PSMJ in-depth management training. The PSMJ training events continue to produce a profit if we can generate enough interest and attendance. The committee will need to determine if we continue to offer the training or if interest from member firms will wane due to firms running out of individuals to send to the training. Likely a similar survey will be sent out in Q2 of 2024 to solicit interest from member firms and a decision will be made based on the feedback from that survey.

Therefore, the following opportunities are being considered for 2024:

- Look to lock in the date for the golf tournament in June due to more favorable weather. We’ve learned over the years that booking this event beyond the end of June can result in some really hot weather!
- Maintain or increase the income from the Trap and Skeet Shoot. Implement several changes made over the past couple of years moving forward based on input from the membership.
- Determine whether ACEC Hosts another PSMJ training class, or similar continuing education course, to increase income through member participation.
- Given the inflationary economy we are in currently, look for opportunities to trim expenses to increase profits. The last resort is increasing registration fees and sponsorship prices.

Summary

In summary, the Fundraising Committee completed another successful year of raising funds for the PAC as well as other expenses. Through the fundraising efforts described above, in addition to the voluntary contributions made by committee chairs and members, it is anticipated that ACEC Idaho will once again meet the PAC contribution goal. We will continue to learn and grow as a group and look to streamline efforts and expenses while providing multiple opportunities for our members to socialize, network, and overall have a fun time while contributing to ACEC Idaho!

Engineering Excellence Awards Committee Report

Chris Melander, Chair

ACEC of Idaho recognized 8 firms for 11 well-deserved award-winning projects in Idaho at our Annual Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) Luncheon. This year the award ceremony was held on April 10, 2022, at the Riverside Hotel in Boise. EEA committee chairman, Chris Melander, conducted the luncheon and presented the awards.

The EEA committee met virtually on December 19, 2022, to score the project entries after judging them individually prior to the meeting. This year the committee consisted of the following members:

- Braydan Duree, GeoEngineers
- Dan Jones, HDR
- Gabe Burgess, DEA
- Paul Ashton, Parametrix (Committee Chair 2022-2015)
- Perrin Robinson, Jacobs
- Ryan Van Leuven, Shannon & Wilson (American Geotechnics at the time)
- Chris Melander, Horrocks (New Committee Chair starting 2023)

At the luncheon, we recognized our two ACEC of Idaho scholarship winners, Nuha Akhtar and Sarah Cole, only Sarah was able to attend the luncheon in person, but both are students at Boise State University.

Once again, Liz Conner put in countless hours coordinating the entries, the judging, and the awards luncheon. Chris recognized Liz at the luncheon, but most of her work goes unheralded. A special thanks was also given to Paul Ashton for his dedicated service on the EEA Committee.

The 11 entries from 8 different firms covered 6 of the 12 available categories. At the EEA luncheon, the 1st place award recipients for each category were given an opportunity to take two or three minutes to share with the audience any unique, interesting, or challenging aspects of their project and to recognize supporting consultants and the sponsoring agency. Despite the small number of entries, the awards luncheon was well-attended, including individuals from member firms not receiving an award and members of the executive board.

This year's 1st place awards and recipients are described in the following award summary.

CATEGORY A - STUDIES

1st Place - Shannon and Wilson - Corrosion of Buried Steel Reinforcements-Glenns Ferry MSE System

American Geotechnics, now Shannon & Wilson, completed the geotechnical engineering and materials testing study for a large mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) wall system replacement on I-84 near Glenns Ferry, Idaho in 2020. This study report documents observations and findings related to the 2020 examination of buried reinforcement and compares the findings to the original construction and the 2011 ITD field study. Additionally, this report discusses the evolution of the rate-of-corrosion design criteria and suggests several operations and design specification policy considerations.

Stan Crawford accepted the award for Shannon and Wilson

CATEGORY C - STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS

1st Place - KPFF - University of Idaho ICCU Arena

The new Idaho Central Credit Union (ICCU) Arena at the University of Idaho was approved for inception in 2017 and celebrated its grand opening on October 8, 2021. The building is the first venue of its kind, implementing engineered wood products to create the organically-shaped roofline and highlight Idaho timber. Walking inside the concourse gives you an immersive, 360-degree experience with views of the 4,200 spectator seats and the curved roof over a state-of-the-art playing surface.

Not only does the ICCU Arena include new and improved sports facilities to draw premier student-athletes and excite athletics fans, but the space has the capacity and flexibility to host academic events, concerts, lectures, and more. The building provides a permanent home for the Vandal basketball teams for the first time in university history, complete with coaching offices, locker rooms, athletic training facilities, and a practice gym. The new practice gym allows players uninterrupted access to a first-class training facility. Players and coaches are confident that this will help the teams improve their performance in future seasons. The arena solidifies the University of Idaho athletics district, drawing in spectators for a one-of-a-kind fan experience that is both intimate and exhilarating. The upstairs includes the Idaho Alumni Club, a welcoming hub for visitors and private events.

Ultimately, this building is a home for past, present, and future Vandals. It is a place for students to gather and for spectators to experience what it's like to be part of the brave and the bold.

Jordan Terry accepted the award for KPFF

CATEGORY G - WATER RESOURCES

1st Place - Keller Associates - Athol: Elevating Pressure at Low Maintenance

One of the primary goals of the planning effort was to raise water system pressure throughout the city. Rather than expending funds on a new booster pumping facility—resulting in more mechanical components that would increase maintenance and cost—the City elected to raise the entire hydraulic grade of the system approximately 53 feet, resulting in a system-wide pressure increase of 23-psi. To accomplish this, the existing elevated tank was heightened with new leg extensions and the cemetery tanks were replaced with a taller standpipe style tank. Keller guided the city through the planning and funding stages to improve existing deficiencies. The Keller team assisted the city in obtaining approximately \$4.4 million in project funding, including \$1.9 million in grant funding. The City now has a water system with higher pressure, sufficient fire flow, and adequate water supply that they can easily monitor, operate, and maintain, meeting both their current needs and the next 20 years of growth and beyond.

Sillman Norton accepted the award for Keller Associates

CATEGORY H - TRANSPORTATION

1st Place - HDR - US-95 Granite North

Over the last 15 years, this community growth and increase in commercial goods transportation has caused traffic congestion. The stretch of highway also maintained a high crash rate – 51 between 2012 and 2017 with several serious injuries and three fatalities, severely skewed intersections, and poor sight distances. The US-95 Granite North project, expanded approximately 2 miles of highway, redesigned more than a dozen intersections and approaches, and consolidated access points. By separating low-speed local and residential traffic from the 75-mph highway design speed, the redesigned highway seeks to quell a high crash rate. The project features a new at-grade intersection at Trails End Road with acceleration and deceleration lanes and illumination. The intersection is forward compatible for the future Trails End diamond interchange with BNSF overpass, which will eliminate the at-grade rail crossing.

Tyron Bardwell accepted the award for Keller Associates

CATEGORY I - SOCIAL PROJECTS

1st Place - Welch-Comer - Atlas Waterfront Park

After the city of Coeur d'Alene and Ignite CDA purchased the former Stimson Lumber Mill site, they consulted with Welch Comer to develop a Master Plan for the property which included areas for residential and mixed-use development and a premier riverfront park. Welch Comer led the effort for the Master Plan, which included coordination with both the city and Ignite CDA and a significant, intentional public outreach effort. The coordination with community leaders and the public led to development of the project and park master plan. Once the plan was approved by the City Council, Welch Comer Engineers led the design, bidding and construction administration effort.

A representative from Welch-Comer was not present to accept the award.

CATEGORY L - SMALL PROJECTS

1st Place - Horrocks - Interim Ramp Modification

The US-20, I-15 Interim Ramp Modifications project included reconstructing the northbound I-15 off-ramp to US-20 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, to improve safety and mobility for motorists and pedestrians. The existing off-ramp had two lanes, a shared through-turn and left-turn lane, and a dedicated right-turn lane. This configuration, coupled with heavy traffic volumes, caused traffic to back up beyond the ramp and onto the I-15 driving lanes, creating potential hazards. The limited sight distance obscured the queued traffic from approaching drivers, increasing the potential for high-speed, rear-end crashes. Initially, signal timing at the intersection of the off-ramp and US-20 was adjusted to prioritize the traffic volume, however, this sacrificed the mobility of motorists on US-20 by causing longer delays.

Since completion, traffic queue lengths have significantly reduced, and motorists rarely wait to proceed through the intersection. Proper signage and pavement markings have led to fewer last-minute lane changes, reducing the probability of sideswipe collisions. Pedestrian improvements also provide a safer route for bicycle and pedestrian traffic, bypassing the intersection entirely by traveling underneath. The City of Idaho Falls provided the xeriscape landscaping design, which improved the context sensitivity and aesthetics of this area.

Ben Burke accepted the award for Horrocks

ACEC of Idaho - Scholarship Committee Report

ACEC of Idaho awarded two scholarships in February of this year for \$1500 and \$1000. We had 11 applicants vying for the two scholarships.

The \$1500 scholarship was awarded to Sarah Cole, a Junior at Boise State University working towards her B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering while maintaining a 4.00 GPA. She had some excellent work experience including working as an Undergraduate Research Assistant researching nuclear fuels and instrumentation for Advanced Materials. A well-rounded applicant volunteering several summers as a camp counselor for the YMCA and Kid Zone.

The \$1000 scholarship was awarded to Nuha Akhtar, a Senior at Boise State working towards her B.S. in Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering while maintaining a 4.00 GPA. Nuha was elected and is currently serving on the Student Advisory Board for the program. She is the EIS Student Shop Supervisor, Microgravity Team Lead, Principal Alto Saxophone in BSU Symphonic Winds, participates on the BSU Tennis Club, and is part of the Honors College.

Thanks to committee members Pat Colwell, Angela Comstock, Ryan Van Leuven, Will Rice, James Bledsoe, and Jim Mullen and of course Liz (for doing most of the work)!

Dave Waite, Chair

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Sam Matthews, Chair (POWER Engineers)

Committee Members:

Committee Member	Company Affiliation	Email Address
Bryan Cook	HDR	bryan.S.Cook1@hdrinc.com
Darin Youngstrom	Bowen Collins & Associates	dyoungstrom@bowencollins.com
Joe Samer	AECOM	joe.samer@aecom.com
Kurt Wald	Horrocks	kurtw@horrocks.com

Committee Status/Schedule:

- The status is currently a non-reporting Committee.
- Anticipated meeting: One
- Committee's primary focus has been monitoring the Energy Industry

Industry Summary:

The 2022-2023 year has been a punching bag full of perils and promise for the energy industry. US electrical revenue continued to rise, increasing approximately 3.6% in the first eight months compared to prior years. But the costs also spiked, largely due to natural gas prices more than doubled on global shortages exacerbated by Russian's continued invasion of Ukraine. Coal prices also rose as demand surged for alternatives to gas, while renewable energy prices followed suit due to supply chain disruption, inflation, and rising interest rates. As a result, US retail energy (electricity) prices reached record highs in 2023, averaging 12.3 cents per kilowatt hour (cts/kWh) across all segments (commercial, industrial, residential) in the first eight months, up 11% year over year. And they're expected to remain elevated into 2024. Extreme climate events-from droughts to hurricanes, heat waves and wildfires-continue to test regional grid resilience. In response, the energy industry and policymakers are working to bolster reserves, deploy energy storage and microgrids, harden infrastructure, and strengthen flexible load options. The power (distribution) sector also boosted efforts to thwart increasingly sophisticated cybersecurity threats as well as domestic terrorism. At the same time, 2023 brought several promising developments that will likely carry forward into 2024.

- The developments include a rise in US renewable generation and capacity, accounting for over 23% of energy (electricity) generated through August 2023, up from about 21% in the same period a year ago.
- Solar and wind power accounted for 69% of new utility-scale capacity additions from January to August 2023.
- The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) extended and expanded tax credits for renewables, electric vehicles, stand-alone storage, green hydrogen, clean energy manufactured components and more.
- Funds began and continued to flow from the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, to support much needed grid modernization and clean energy research and development.
- US electric vehicles may approach a tipping point with continuing rise of approximately 7%.

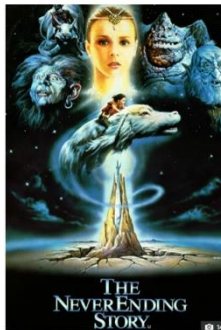
In 2024, these promising development will likely continue to evolve. But providing secure, reliable, affordable, and clean energy could become even more challenging. However, supply chain challenges may keep energy costs prices elevated, while extreme weather, cybersecurity threats, and the growth of variable renewables may continue to require innovative management.

Some energy facts and statistics in this year's outlook despite what you are being told by CNN, Fox News and your conspiracy theorist newsletters include:

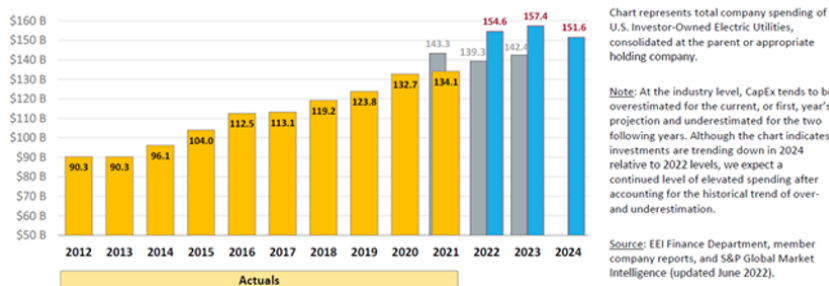
● We Serve a Bull Market



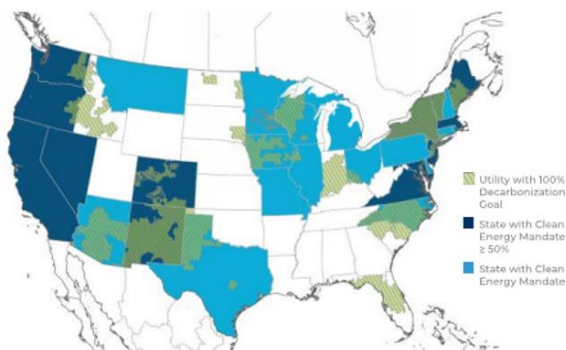
● The Energy Industry is a Never-Ending Story



● Industry Capital Expenditures



● U.S. States with Clean Energy (electricity) Mandates & Utilities with Decarbonization Goals



In 2024, supply chain snags, rising costs, and extreme weather are likely to continue plaguing the power sector. But promising trends in innovation and investment, buoyed by recent legislation, can help the sector fulfill its mission to provide increasingly secure, reliable, clean, and affordable electricity. Power and utility companies will likely lean further into evolving technologies and new business models. Integrating technologies such as AMI 2.0, battery storage, clean hydrogen, and EVs can boost system flexibility and agility to help offset rising costs and increase resilience to extreme weather events.

In the upcoming new year, power and utility companies will likely continue to seek guidance from federal and state governments on how to access the considerable clean energy support and incentives provided by the IRA and IIJA legislation. Utility decarbonization plans often contain caveats stating that government research, development, and deployment support, funding, and incentives for new technologies will be needed to reach net-zero goals.

In addition, power and utility companies will likely continue to seek guidance from federal and state governments on how to access the considerable clean energy support and incentives provided by the IRA and IIJA legislation. Utility decarbonization plans often contain caveats stating that government research, development, and deployment support, funding, and incentives for new technologies will be needed to reach net-zero goals.

Some promising trends for the Energy Industry include:

- > Grid Modernization: Utilities increasingly plan to roll out the next wave of advanced infrastructure and continue with grid hardening.
- > ESG Reporting: Environmental, Social, and Governance reporting continue to gain momentum.
- > Grid Flexibility: Battery storage deployments set to accelerate despite supply chain challenges.
- > Decarbonized Fuels: Power and utility companies see positive financial opportunities from clean hydrogen.
- > Transportation Electrification: Utilities are likely to sharpen their focus on preparing for and aggressive electric vehicle growth.