



**National Society of
Professional Engineers®**

March 7, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

The National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) is an organization with over 35,000 members employed in government, private practice, construction, education, and industry located in all states and territories of the United States. NSPE members are dedicated to practicing engineering in an ethical manner that holds paramount the health, safety, and welfare of the American public.

NSPE is deeply concerned over the impact the current federal budget sequester will have on the ability of professional engineers in both the public and private sectors to fulfill their ethical obligation to protect the public health and safety. The efforts of tens of thousands of America's professional engineers working to improve our nation's infrastructure, to identify new energy sources, to protect our environment, and to support our national security are being jeopardized because of the federal government's inability to resolve the current budget impasse. NSPE believes that this continuing failure to reach agreement has the potential to place our nation's citizens at risk. The critically important work performed by U.S. engineers in the public and private sectors goes on; however, the federal budget sequester remains a major impediment to their efforts to protect the public health and safety.

Just a few weeks ago, on February 21, 2013, the Honorable Regina M. Benjamin, M.D., Surgeon General of the United States, honored 22 outstanding engineering professionals representing 13 federal government agencies and the U.S. Armed Services for their superb service. These are just a few examples of the vital work being performed within the federal workforce by professional engineers in cooperation with their private-sector counterparts that is being placed at risk by the ongoing budgetary stalemate.

To minimize the possibility that these and other important engineering efforts are put at risk, NSPE urges all parties in these budget discussions to vigorously pursue expeditious resolution of their differences for the benefit of the health, safety, and welfare of the American people.

Sincerely,

Dan J. Wittliff, P.E., F.NSPE
President

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