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## President's Report

Vahan Margaryan CPD, GPD President

Hello Fellow ASPE-LA Members,

I hope this message finds you well and that you enjoyed a restful and meaningful holiday season surrounded by family and friends. As we begin the new year, I would like to extend my best wishes to all of you for continued health, happiness, and professional success in 2026.

Looking ahead, the ASPE-LA Chapter Board

encourages everyone to become more actively involved in our upcoming meetings and events. Your participation is vital to the strength of our organization and plays a key role in fostering a connected and engaged professional community. We truly hope to see more of you join us as we continue to grow together.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to our  
**Continued on page 3**

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLUMBING ENGINEERS LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

**January 14, 2026, Meeting**

**LEED Updates for v5:**

**“Introduction and Important Changes for Plumbing Engineers”**

**Presenter: Mr. Frank Schwamborn,  
Senior Engineer, Arup**

**Author: Mr. Jake Zickerman, Engineer, ARUP**

**WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:**

The presentation will cover the following topics, with time for questions:

- What is LEED and how it’s changing.
- Overview of LEEDv5 water requirements and credits
- Approaches on how to deliver maximum water savings.

**MEETING LOCATION:**

In Person:

*COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT BURBANK  
2100 W EMPIRE AVE, BURBANK, CALIFORNIA 91504*

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

5:30 pm – Check in

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm – Presentation

**COST: Pay at door only**

Meeting Fee:

RSVP - \$55 and Retired BOD: \$30

Without RSVP - \$60

**RSVP Online:**

**RSVP**

**By: January 13, 2026**

**THE SPEAKER:**



Frank regularly speaks to a wide range of audiences, sharing straightforward information about building performance, carbon emissions, and climate issues. He believes that clear communication and education are key for advancing climate solutions. By blending solid analysis with plain language, Frank helps people understand the facts and identify practical steps forward to advance equitable climate policies and practices.

If you have additional questions or needed information on his presentation, you can reach him at: [Frank.Schwamborn@arup.com](mailto:Frank.Schwamborn@arup.com) & [Jake.Zickerman@arup.com](mailto:Jake.Zickerman@arup.com)

For more information, visit our website [@www.aspela.com](http://www.aspela.com).



## Upcoming Events

### 2026 ASPE LA Golf Tournament

Friday, April 17th, 2026

#### Continued from page 1

recent Holiday Party. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect, celebrate, and enjoy the season together. A special highlight of the evening was the karaoke session, which brought plenty of laughter and energy—thanks in particular to the enthusiastic and memorable performances by Noelle and Thura. Their contributions truly made the night unforgettable.

Additionally, we would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to the band Single Trak for keeping the evening lively and entertaining. Their performance played a significant role in creating such an enjoyable atmosphere for all in attendance.

We also extend our gratitude to Bellezza Banquet Hall for their flexibility, dedication, and commitment to excellent service. Their efforts were instrumental in ensuring the success of the event.

Thank you again for being an important part of ASPE-LA. We look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming meetings and events throughout the year.

#### CPD Exam Reminder

If you are planning to earn your Certified in Plumbing Design (CPD) credential in 2026, please note that the exam will be administered via remote proctoring from April 13–24, 2026 by the American Society of Plumbing Engineers. The CPD program is the only international credential for engineers and designers of plumbing systems, setting the standard for leadership in our industry and recognizing professionals with advanced expertise in plumbing system design and specification.

Be well, and stay well.

Continued on page 15



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## WASHINGTON WEEKLY



### House Approves Legislation to Expedite Natural Gas Pipeline Approvals

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to accelerate federal permitting for interstate natural gas pipelines by designating the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as the lead agency. The legislation, called the Improving Interagency Coordination for Pipeline Reviews Act, allows FERC to include water quality assessments in its environmental reviews, reducing delays caused by separate state certifications under the Clean Water Act. This bill is part of a broader congressional effort to streamline permitting processes for energy infrastructure, alongside another bipartisan measure, the Promoting Efficient Review for Modern Infrastructure Today Act. Meanwhile, the Senate is working on a more comprehensive reform targeting the National Environmental Policy Act to speed up projects like electric transmission upgrades.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

### PERMIT Act Clears House with Strong Support from Homebuilding Industry

The House passed the PERMIT Act, a legislative package backed by NAHB to streamline Clean Water Act permitting while maintaining environmental protections. The act addresses challenges under Sections 404 and 402 by reducing regulatory burdens, cutting red tape, and improving predictability for builders. Key provisions include extending permit durations, clarifying WOTUS exclusions, tying NPDES conditions to site-specific impacts, and setting timelines for judicial reviews. Additional measures aim to reduce backlogs, support state permitting authority, and lower mitigation costs to help advance housing projects efficiently.

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Continued on page 9

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**SCHOTT**

## Technical Report

BY Thura Zin CPD, GPD

Happy New Year!

Wishing all our Chapter members and their families a year filled with success, new opportunities, and continued growth. May your projects flourish, your professional connections strengthen, and your endeavors be met with great accomplishments. Cheers to an exciting year ahead!

### December 2025 Meeting Recap – December 10, 2025 | Courtyard by Marriott, Burbank

The ASPE-LA monthly meeting was held on December 10, 2025, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Burbank. On behalf of the ASPE-LA Board of Directors, we extend our sincere thanks to Mr. John Bird, Western Regional Manager at Equipment Controls Company, for his excellent presentation titled “Introduction to Gas Regulators.”

Mr. Bird also shared plans to return for a future presentation focused on gas regulator sizing and specification.

If you would like a copy of the presentation, please contact us.

We had a great turnout, with 40 ASPE members and design professionals in attendance. Thank you to everyone who joined us!

### Upcoming Meeting – January 14, 2026 | Courtyard by Marriott, Burbank

We will kick off the New Year with Mr. Frank Schwamborn, Senior Engineer at ARUP, presenting “LEED v5 Updates – Introduction and Important Changes for Plumbing Engineers.”

This presentation is authored by Mr. Jake Zickerman,

**Continued on page 11**



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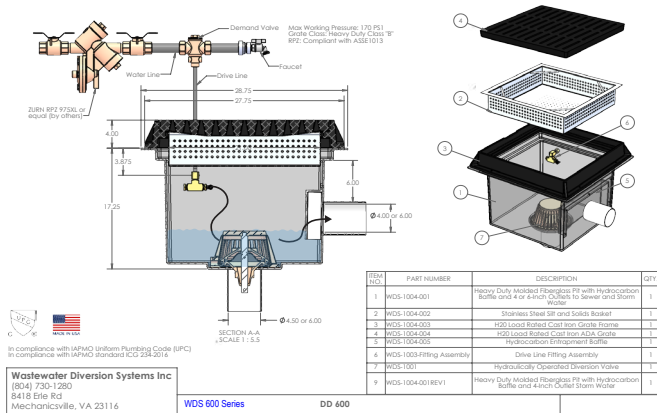
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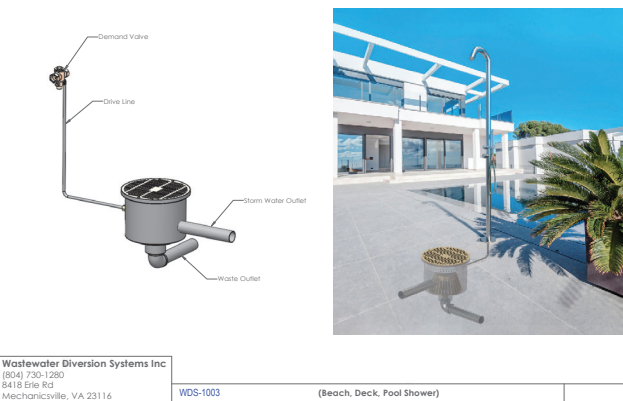
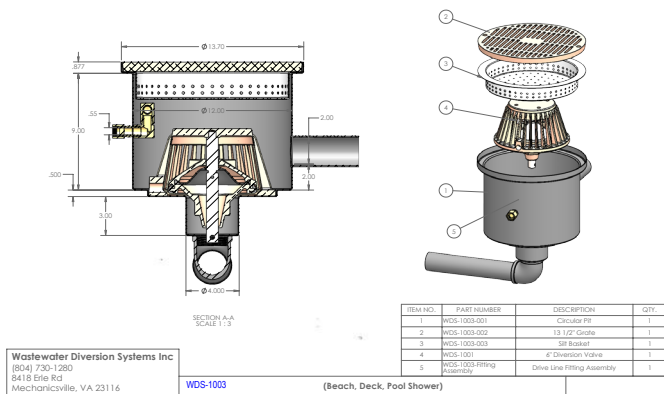
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### Federal Judge Orders FEMA to Restore Billions in Disaster Mitigation Funding

A federal judge ruled that the Trump administration unlawfully terminated FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, which funds pre-disaster mitigation projects. Judge Richard Stearns found the administration lacked authority to cancel the program and divert more than \$4 billion in funds, calling the move an unconstitutional encroachment on Congress's power. The court ordered FEMA to reinstate BRIC immediately, emphasizing its critical role in protecting communities from natural disasters. The lawsuit, led by 20 states, argued that ending BRIC forced delays or cancellations of hundreds of infrastructure projects nationwide.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



### Federal Regulators Order LADWP to Inspect Drinking Water Reservoirs and Tanks

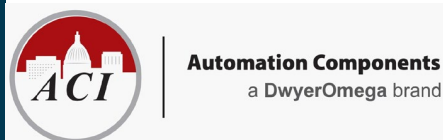
LADWP has agreed to inspect nearly 100 drinking water reservoirs and tanks and clean more than 50 of them under a consent order with the EPA to address Safe Drinking Water Act violations. The move follows a 2024 EPA inspection that found maintenance issues, such as unprotected openings and inconsistent cleaning schedules, which could pose contamination risks. LADWP, which serves 3.8 million customers, must complete inspections by Dec. 31, 2031, and take corrective actions to improve system reliability and protect public health.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



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**Continued from page 7**

Plumbing Engineer, ARUP San Francisco Office.

Topics will include:

What LEED is and how it is evolving

An overview of LEED v5 water requirements and credits

Strategies to achieve maximum water savings

...and more!

**ASPE Los Angeles Chapter Holiday Party – Saturday, December 13, 2025**

Our annual ASPE-LA Holiday Party was a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended, as well as those who wished to join but were unable due to prior commitments.

**ASPE Los Angeles 2026 Golf Tournament – Friday, April 17, 2026**

Our annual ASPE-LA 62nd Anniversary Donald F. Dickerson Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, April 17, 2026, at Brookside Golf & Country Club.

Please save the date and plan to join us. Sponsorship opportunities at all levels are available.

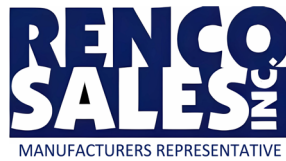
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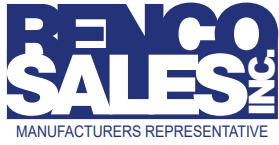
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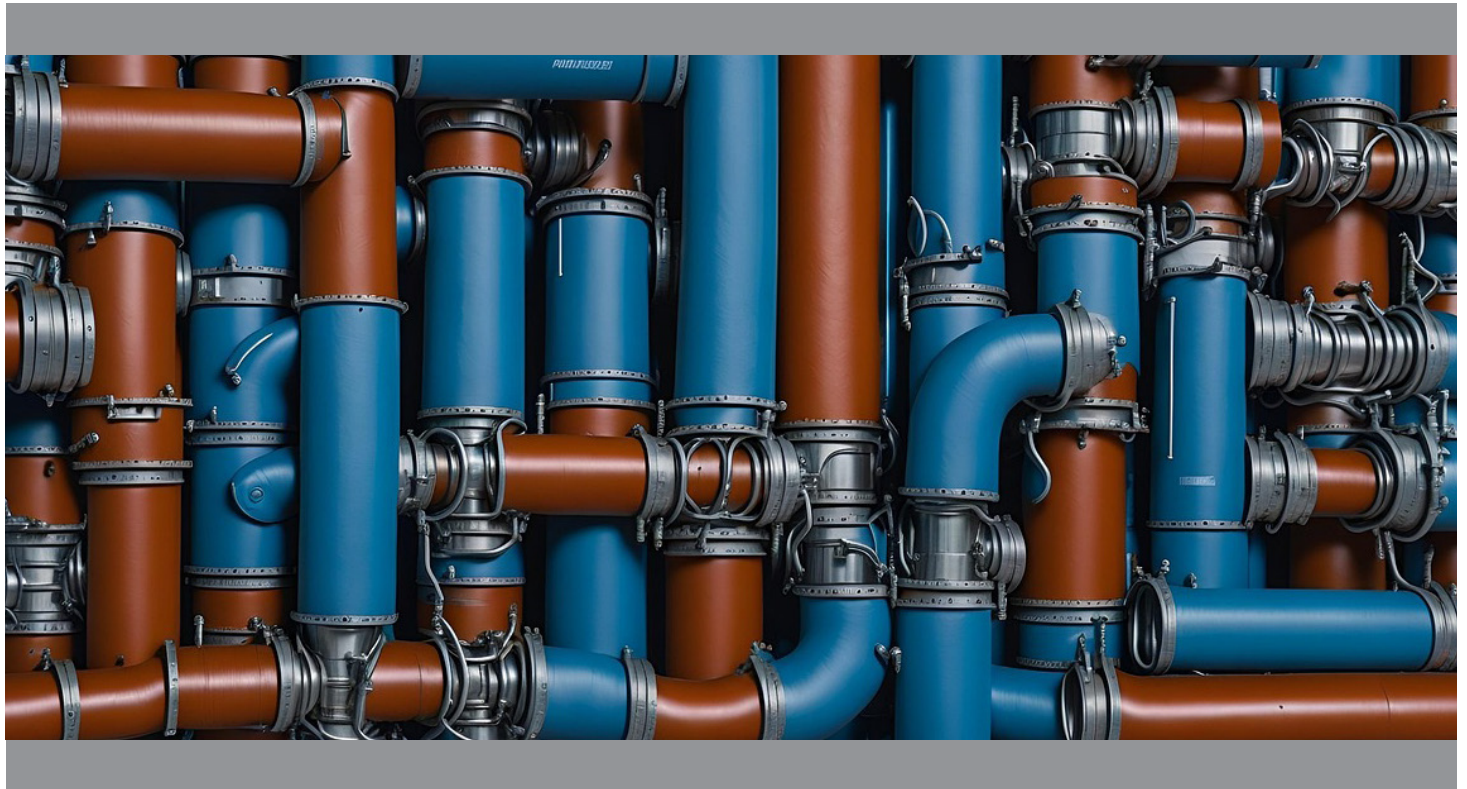
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2026 is an election year for the ASPE Los Angeles Chapter. If you are interested in running for a position on the Board of Directors, please let us know. The election will be held during the April 2026 monthly meeting.

We encourage all qualified members to participate. Current Board members welcome anyone who wishes to contribute their time, experience, and ideas.

If you have suggestions for future technical program topics, we would love to hear from you. Please contact any Board member with your ideas.

Stay connected by checking your inbox for announcements and by visiting the Technical Calendar on our website for upcoming events.

Thank you for your continued participation and support. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings.

Stay safe and take care.





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**Ashland Pump**

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## Electric Heat Pump Water Heater

### Technology and Comfort Combined

Rinnai now offers one of the most efficient and sustainable residential water heating solutions available, the Rinnai Electric Heat Pump Water Heater (REHP). The REHP delivers consistent hot water by extracting heat from the surrounding air and converting it to hot water while producing zero emissions.

When you install the REHP in your home, you are assured of meeting the highest efficiency standards and reduced energy usage and costs.

### Product Highlights

#### Efficiency

- Energy Star® 5.0
- UEF of 3.75/50 GL and 4.0/80 GL
- Meets the highest level of Builder efficiency standards
  - Only Builder model with CTA-2045
  - Title 24 Compliant
- Meets the highest level of federal and state rebate requirements
  - IRA (45L) tax credit eligible
- NEEA Tier 4
- High Cool Climate Efficiency (CCE)

#### Performance

- Designed with variable speed fan for whisper quiet operation
- Wide Operating Range as low as 37°F - 109°F
- Designed with a Micro Channel Heat Exchanger Condenser to optimize the heat transfer and enhance energy savings for best in class recovery rate
- 4.5 KW back up elements for extra comfort
- Demand-Response Enabled- Save money by reducing energy usage during peak demand






#### Installation and Serviceability

- Zero Clearance- Gain back net living space with less install footprint for flexible installation
- Installs as easily as an electric water heater
- Easy troubleshooting and serviceability
- Duct ready to install in tight spaces



5 Operating Modes to meet any hot water demand



Part #	Included Accessories	
107000677	T&P Valve	
107000674	Drainage Pipe	
107000678	Drain Valve	
Part #	Optional Accessories	
103000120	EHPWH Ducting Kit	
103000119	EHPWH Leak Sensor Valve	

Rinnai. Learn more at [rinnai.us](http://rinnai.us)

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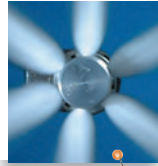
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- Air Sampling
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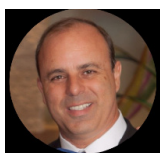
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