



Chapter Calendar

February 3

February 5

February 10

February 11

February 14

February 16

February 19

Anchorage JATC

10 things I wish I'd asked my Alaska Employment Lawyer

Safety Committee

Board of Directors/Membership Meeting

Valentine's Day

President's Day

Apprentice Graduation @ 5pm

Tool Box Talks

February 02, 2009

February 09, 2009

February 16, 2009

February 23, 2009

Ceiling and Overhead Work

Circuit Breaker Panelboards

Cold Weather Safety

Commercial Vehicles

FREE Safety Webinar on PPE

On February 24, 11AM EST, Jerry Rivera, NECA's Director of Safety, will be presenting a **FREE** webinar on Personal Protective Equipment: Regulatory Changes and the Impact on the Electrical Contractors. This webinar will address new OSHA and NFPA 70E requirements and some of the challenges that electrical contractor face with compliance. OSHA has announced a May 15, 2008 deadline for compliance with PPE requirements, so don't miss this opportunity and register fast!

Registration is required for the online event, to register visit:

<https://necaevents.webex.com/necaevents/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=666119759>

For help please contact the NECA help desk, www.necanet.org.

NECA Joins Americans United for Change to Urge Passage of Economic Stimulus Legislation, New Energy Economy

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Director of Legislative Affairs, Terry Hatch, represented the electrical construction industry today at a press event hosted by Americans United for Change. Hatch and key national business leaders gathered at the U.S. Capitol to urge passage of the House of Representatives' economic stimulus legislation.

The proposed legislation includes building construction projects, incentives for investing in renewable and efficient energy solutions, and repeal of the three percent withholding tax, all endorsed by NECA.

"No other industry has suffered the job losses that construction has during this economic decline," said NECA CEO John M. Grau. "However, no other industry has more potential to restore and rebuild America like construction. Tax incentives like those included in this legislation have allowed NECA contractors to make renewable energies an integral part of their business strategy. In turn, this has facilitated job creation, contributed to the construction of more energy efficient buildings, and moved our nation towards energy independence."

At NECA's urging, a coalition of construction trade associations also met in December 2008 to discuss the role the construction industry as a whole will have in spurring economic growth through the proposed

economic stimulus legislation.

After several meetings with Congressional leaders and officials with the Obama administration, NECA testified on Jan. 14 before the House Small Business Committee regarding the draft stimulus bill and measures that would promote a new energy economy and spur small business growth. NECA member Tim Ehmann, an electrical contractor who specializes in solar and wind energy, spoke on the need for greater investment in renewable energy technologies and specific incentives that will help America's small businesses.

Hatch met directly with President Obama during the first days of his presidency. The President reiterated his commitment to strengthening the U.S.'s investment in renewable energy and the creation of more jobs in the green building market.

"The electrical construction industry is where renewable energy, energy conservation and job creation all come together," Hatch said in his remarks at the event today. "NECA, in partnership with IBEW, has invested millions of dollars annually for well over 70 years to recruit and train the next generation of skilled electricians. Today, these workers are ready to work with new green technologies. The business demand is clear and our work force is hardwired. What we need now is leadership from Congress to make energy efficient projects a reality in communities across the U.S."

While the House's proposed legislation includes measures that would encourage the construction and retrofitting of energy-efficient buildings, it also includes important tax provisions that would enable businesses to move forward during the difficult economy.

"Repeal of the three percent withholding tax on all contractors who do business with any government agency is probably one of the more significant items in the legislation for NECA members," Hatch said.

"The current law hurts taxpaying businesses by constricting firms' working capital, dollars that are used for operating budgets including costs, supplies, day-to-day activity, and job retention, at a time when they need it most. In order for the construction industry to provide the most value for taxpayer dollars in these upcoming government projects, it is critical for the repeal of the three percent withholding tax to be included in this package."

NECA is the voice of the \$130 billion electrical construction industry that brings power, light, and communication technology to buildings and communities across the U.S. NECA's national office and 119 local chapters advance the industry through advocacy, education, research and standards development. For more information, visit www.necanet.org.

Americans United For Change is a powerful movement bringing together independent voices for new policy priorities and real leadership - to focus our elected officials on the issues that really matter to the lives of everyday Americans and get America moving in the right direction again. Learn more at www.americansunitedforchange.org.

FUTURE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.....

September 12-15, 2009	NECA Convention/Seattle, WA
October 2-5	NECA Convention/Boston, MA
October 22-25	NECA Convention/San Diego, CA
September 30-October 3	NECA Convention/Las Vegas, NV
October 12-15	NECA Convention/Washington, DC