

ACEC Pennsylvania: *Federal Advocacy Update*

Jim Hoffman

2 June 2025



My Role as Your Regional Vice-Chair



Jim Hoffman, Senior Vice Chair 2024-2026
supporting the Mid-Atlantic: DE, MD, Metro
Washington, NC, PA, VA, and WV

My Responsibilities:

- Ensure Member Organizations (MOs) understand, appreciate, and support the direction of ACEC. Advocate for ACEC National with MOs.
- Facilitate ACEC support and assistance to MOs.
- Keep ACEC National informed of pertinent MO issues.

State of Play

- First six months of 2025 the "shock and awe" phase
- ACEC's approach:
 - **Take advantage of the opportunities** – expanded energy agenda, regulatory reform, tax policy, workforce (more H-1B visas)
 - **Push back where necessary** – work with stakeholder allies and Congress to protect project funding, international programs, a broad energy agenda that includes renewables
 - **Build relationships with the new team**
- Courts still trying to define the limits of executive power.
- ACEC working with lawmakers to push back where possible

Guidance to Firms

- Stop Work Order on federally funded project
 - Share project details with ACEC staff
 - Contact local Member of Congress and Senators to ask for assistance
 - Stay in communication with contract officer
 - Document company response actions, impacts
- Firm DEI programs and initiatives
 - Review public statements, website, internal policies
 - Consult with legal counsel

2025 Legislative Agenda

- Appropriations bill(s) for FY 2025
 - Congress passed "continuing resolution" funding federal agencies and programs to the end of the fiscal year
 - Largely maintains FY 2024 levels, with some adjustments
- Tax policy
 - Parts of 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act expire this year

Infrastructure Outlook

- Congress focused on reauthorization of federal surface transportation programs; committee hearings underway
- That effort could become a driver for something bigger, could include water infrastructure
- ACEC coordinating now with industry stakeholders on common goals, messages for the new Congress
- 2025 tax package passed by the House adds new user fees for electric vehicles and hybrids for revenue to support the Highway Trust Fund

ACEC Reauthorization Priorities

- **Funding:** At least maintain current levels of investment and increase, if possible; extend deadlines for IIJA if necessary (i.e. no rescissions or lapses)
- **Procurement/Contracting**
 - **Clarify QBS requirements** for all funding recipients, particularly local governments.
 - **Promote more lump sum contracts** with State DOTs
 - **Promote better alternatives to D/B:** Progressive Design-Build, Integrated Project Delivery (IPD)

Key Strategic Priorities & Projects

- Advocacy – ACEC's primary function is to advocate for the industry at the national level.
- Influence – ACEC Residence events, industry convener, White House collaboration, Awards and Recognition
- Education – leadership development and market intelligence
- New focus on Workforce Development and Technology
- The Engineering and Public Works Roadshow
- New Tools From Institute: Design Build/QBS/Economic Data/Lump Sum
- Strengthening Federation of MOs



Get Engaged with ACEC

- Join one of the **National Committees** – nearly 30 committees focused on key issues
- Join a **Coalition** – Communities organized by practice area or firm size
- Join **ACEC's Forums** – organized by job function or demographic (Business Development and Marketing, Finance, HR, Legal, IT, Women's Leadership and YP)

Questions?

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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES



ACEC Coalitions

Beyond Infrastructure

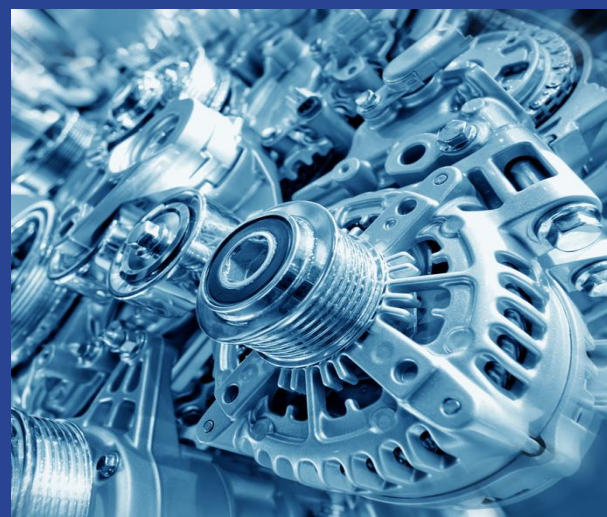
James P. Hoffman

President, Summer Consultants, Inc.

ACEC Senior Vice Chair

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WHAT WE DO



- Tools and Resources tailored to specific disciplines and firm sizes.
- **Specialized Education** to tackle real-world challenges.
- **Advocating** for your discipline's priorities on the national stage.
- **Member-Driven Leadership** from across ACEC's firms.
- **Connections** that foster engagement throughout the year.

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WHO WE ARE



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
CASE Coalition



PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
COPS Coalition



GEOPROFESSIONALS
GEO Coalition

The Design Professional Coalition is
managed separately.

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WHO WE ARE



LAND DEVELOPERS

LDC Coalition



MEP PROFESSIONALS

MEP Coalition



SMALL FIRMS

SFC Coalition

The Design Professional Coalition is managed separately.

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STRATEGIC GOALS



- **LEADERS IN BUSINESS PRACTICES**
Be recognized as the leader in business practices within each Coalition's practice areas or firm size.
- **ADVOCACY**
Assure Coalitions issues are at the forefront of ACEC advocacy efforts.
- **ENGAGEMENT**
To have an engaged and diverse membership participating in each Coalition.

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MEMBER BENEFITS



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THE MEMBERSHIP EXPERIENCE



- **Exclusive Online Community** to connect with peers nationwide
- **ACEC Business Insurance Trust Benefits**
- **Nationwide Networking**
- **Practice-specific Roundtables** to share insights
- Tailored tools and education, built by and for peers
- **Amplified Advocacy** – More voices, greater impact

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COALITIONS IN ACTION

Snapshot of 2024-2025



- Delivered 12 coalition-specific online education sessions.
- Delivered 2 sold out Project Management sessions.
- Hosted 6 membership meetings to keep members informed and engaged.
- Connected peers at 4 in-person events, for education, roundtables and committee meetings.
- Led 7 live education sessions with our Coalitions partners (NCSEA, SEI, NSPS, USIBD and ASHRAE).

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MILESTONES THAT MATTER

Key Coalition Successes

FUN FACT: Coalition firms consistently contribute 40%+ of PAC donations — a legacy of advocacy leadership.



- Fund scholarships annually — investing year after year in the next generation of leaders.
- Circulated 170 publications — amplifying expertise and insights across the field.
- Rebranded the MEP Coalition — a refreshed identity for greater recognition.
- Launched the Coalition & Engagement Task Force — strengthening member engagement and collaboration.

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JOINING COALITIONS

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ACEC
COALITIONS



ACEC Members

Members can join anytime

ACEC Coalition membership is open to all
ACEC member firms, starting at \$250.



- Join a coalition for targeted resources, peer support, and industry insights.
- Stay updated with free or discounted learning opportunities.
- Advocacy protecting your business—a strong voice at federal level.
- Business tools and best practices – Boost your firm's efficiency and competitiveness.
- Networking at every level – Connect nationally with fellow professionals.
- ACEC Business Insurance Trust members receive a \$250 annual contribution toward membership fees from the trustees.

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New ACEC Members

New ACEC Members have a one-year free option to join.

- **One-year Free coalition membership** for all new ACEC members
- **Access to coalition communities** for networking and peer-to-peer engagement
- **Complimentary publications and educational resources** for new firm members
- **Opportunities to connect** through ACEC and Coalition events

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ACEC BIT & Coalitions Partnership

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ACEC BUSINESS INSURANCE TRUST

- Member firms in the ACEC Business Insurance Trust Program get a discount on the Coalition membership fee each year, courtesy of the ACEC BIT Trustees.
- The Trustees will reimburse one attendee's registration fees for a future ACEC Fall Conference.





QUESTIONS

We'd love to talk about all things Coalitions.

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