

# THE Core SAMPLE

Internal Newsletter of the School of Energy Resources

October | 2024

## CERPA RELEASES WHITE PAPER ON NEPA REFORM

The Center for Energy Regulation and Policy Analysis (CERPA) at the School of Energy Resources (SER) has released a new white paper exploring the evolution of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

Entitled “Navigating the New NEPA Landscape: An Overview of the 2024 Phase 2 Regulations and Recent Statutory Changes,” the paper explores the significant changes to NEPA in recent years, and considers some of the potential implications of these changes for federal agency decision making and environmental outcomes.

The paper was co-written by **Temple Stoellinger**, Associate Dean and Wyoming Excellence Chair at the in the UW Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources and College of Law, and SER adjunct professor, along with **Dessa Reimer** an attorney at Holland and Hart LLP who specializes in federal permitting issues.



TEMPLE STOELLINGER



DESSA REIMER

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## WYOMING GOVERNOR MARK GORDON FEATURED ON ENERGY FRONTIER PODCAST

The School of Energy Resources (SER) welcomed Governor **Mark Gordon** as the most recent guest on its podcast, “Energy Frontier: The Wyoming Landscape.”

Hosted by SER Executive Director **Holly Krutka**, the podcast brings together diverse energy professionals to explore energy topics, including SER’s research efforts and developing Wyoming projects.

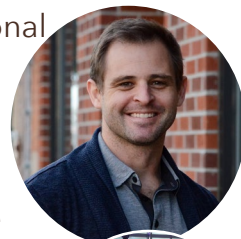


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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Research Centers of Excellence

- The *Center for Economic Geology Research (CEGR)* hosted a workshop on the Mowry project to provide updates on all faculty-funded research.
- Senior Research Professional **Dan Eakin** in *CEGR* presented “HERO CarbonSAFE Phase 2 Project in the Columbia River Basalt Group” at the Greenhouse Gas Control Technologies (GHGT-17) conference. Other UW representatives at the conference included Project Specialist **David Lucke** and Professor **Haibo Zhai**.
- Associate Research Professionals **Autumn Eakin** and **Lily Jackson** in *CEGR* led a week-long field course for SER staff and faculty in Moab, Utah. The team looked at geologic outcrops to explore concepts of saline storage and reservoir modeling.



To submit news and updates  
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## UW RESEARCHERS EXPLORE PRODUCING LOW-CARBON HYDROGEN FROM WYOMING NATURAL GAS

A new study from University of Wyoming researchers features Wyoming's potential to take a lead role in the advancement of low-carbon hydrogen production from natural gas.

**Haibo Zhai**, the Roy and Caryl Cline Distinguished Chair in Engineering and a UW College of Engineering and Physical Sciences professor, led the study that was published in *Environmental Science & Technology*, an impactful journal for a multidisciplinary and diverse audience of scientists, policymakers and the broad environmental community. Zhai's postdoctoral researcher, **Zitao Wu**, was the lead author.

The study, titled "Unlocking Potential for Low-Carbon Hydrogen Production from U.S. Natural Gas Resources," examines the resource availability — and environmental, economic, policy and societal impacts — of pairing low-carbon hydrogen production by steam methane reforming with carbon capture and storage in Wyoming and other natural gas-rich states.

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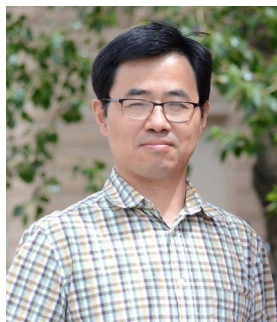
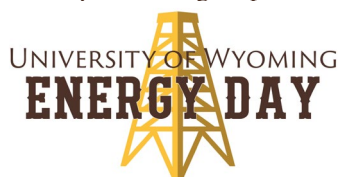
## UW'S SER AND COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING CELEBRATE ENERGY DAY OCT. 11-12

The University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources (SER) and the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences celebrated the 11th annual Energy Day — in partnership with Wyoming Sports Properties when the Cowboys took on San Diego State University at War Memorial Stadium.

To recognize Wyoming's energy sector and to share some of the accomplishments in energy research and development at UW, SER and CEPS hosted engagement opportunities and events beginning Friday, Oct. 11.

Kicking off the weekend's festivities, **Todd Allen**, the Glenn F. and Gladys H. Knoll Department Chair of Nuclear Engineering and Radiological Sciences at the University of Michigan, provided a lunchtime presentation Friday as part of the SER Distinguished Speakers Series.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Research Cont.

- Co-Director **Jonathan Naughton** in the *Wind Energy Research Center* was awarded the Castagne Endowed Professorship for continued research excellence over his long career. Naughton plans to use



the funds that come with the professorship to upgrade instrumentation in the wind tunnel laboratory, to supplement support of graduate and undergraduate students, and

to provide additional travel for him and his students to further publicize the work they do at the University to the broader aerodynamics community.

- Assistant Research Professional

**James Amato** in the *3D Visualization Center (3D Viz)* gave a talk about incorporating remote sensing into research at the Fall 2024 Geospatial Forum.



- Assistant Research Professional **Rachel Toner** joined the *3D Viz* on the GIS team! Full profile coming soon.



- The Research team hosted two research writing workshops in collaboration with the UW Writing Center.
- The *Jurisprudence of Underground Law and Energy (JOULE)* Research Group released an updated version of the resources guide, "*What Every Wyoming Landowner should know about Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)*"

[DOWNLOAD NOW >](#)



## UW SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES ROADSHOW IN CASPER OCT. 15

The University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources (SER) hosted an Energy Roadshow presentation in Casper Tuesday, Oct. 15.

The meeting was held at the Natrona County UW Extension Office and Agriculture Resource Learning Center.



The Casper presentation focused on carbon management fluency to better understand carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) storage in geologic formations, and to enhance the connection between the technology and how it can positively impact a community.

The roadshow was part of the CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Excellence Fund efforts led by **Autumn Eakin**, a UW SER associate research professional.

Supporting SER staff included:

SER Senior Director of Research **Scott Quillinan**

Marketing Outreach Coordinator **Sabrina Kaufman**, Outreach

Assistant Research Professional **Maryam Lakjaa**, CEGR

Assistant Research Professional **Pallavi Pokharel**, Energy ELC

Assistant Research Professional **Madison Mankin**, Energy ELC

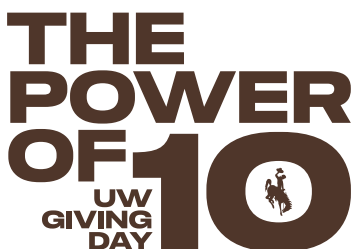
Assistant Research Professional **Cole James**, 3D Viz

Senior Research Professional and Project Manager **Charles Nye**, CEGR/H<sub>2</sub>ERC

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## UW SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES PARTICIPATES IN TENTH ANNUAL UW GIVING DAY

The School of Energy Resources participated in the 10th Annual UW Giving Day on October 23. In the 24-hour period, 93 donors supported SER with a total of \$25,430 in support of the PLM program the Executive Director's discretionary fund. The day included a dollar-for-dollar match from SER Executive Director **Holly Krutka** and SER Senior Director of Research **Scott Quillinan** for the first \$2,500 raised!



## HIGHLIGHTS

### Academics

- Energy Resource Management and Development student **Addie Potts** was named a Tomé Scholar, a UW scholarship program. She is one of 4 students in the first cohort of Tomé Scholars set to graduate in the spring of 2025.
- SER Academic Director **Kami Danaei** and PLM Co-Director **Kritsten Pritchett** hosted the semi-annual Industry Advisory Board meeting as a requirement for the PLM accreditation through AAPL.
- SER received a \$10,000 gift from Enbridge to amplify student learning opportunities in energy. Read more to learn about the inspiration behind this impactful gift. [READ MORE >](#)



### Outreach

- The Annual Report for Fiscal Year 24 was completed and submitted to the appropriate legislative committees on Oct. 1. [DOWNLOAD REPORT >](#)
- Assistant Research Professionals **Pallavi Pokharel** and **Madison Mankin** in the *Energy Engagement, Leadership and Careers (Energy ELC) Program* provided presentations to K-6 students in Cody, Wyo. and Farson/Eden, Wyo. respectively, as part of the STEM Initiative Roadshow.
- SER Program Manager **Tim Fischer** presented at an Energy Roadshow in Cody, Wyo.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### Tim Fischer

*Program Manager, Oil & Gas  
Center for Economic Geology  
Research*



**Tim Fischer** in the Center for Economic Geology Research braved adverse weather conditions and closed roads to travel to Cody, Wyo. for the Energy Roadshow in collaboration with the UW Extension office. This roadshow was specifically requested by citizens in Park County to learn more about Oil & Gas development in their area.

Additionally, Tim brought together faculty members across campus funded under the Mowry Project to provide updates on their research and find more opportunities to collaborate.

Farewell to Assistant Research Professional **Ying Yu** in the Center for Economic Geology Research. Best of luck in the next chapter of your career! We will miss you!



## IMPORTANT DATES

- **ERC Directors Reports Due**  
November 8, 2024
- **Presenting Directors ERC Slides Due**  
October 11-12, 2024
- **Workforce Development Workshop:  
Hydrogen Industry - LCCC**  
November 13, 2024
- **Energy Roadshow - Rock Springs**  
November 13, 2024
- **Roads to Removal Symposium**  
October 14, 2024
- **Workforce Development Workshop:  
Hydrogen Industry - Casper College**  
November 15, 2024

## SER BIRTHDAYS!

### OCTOBER

Kristi Russow, October 1  
Erin Phillips, October 8  
James Amato, October 8  
Matt Johnson, October 23  
Stefan Holberg, October 29

*Reminder: If you want your birthday recognized, please update your information with Kristi Russow at [krussow@uwyo.edu](mailto:krussow@uwyo.edu).*

## ENERGY JOKE

**WHAT DO VAMPIRES USE TO POWER THEIR FLASHLIGHTS?**



**BAT-TERIES**

- **Energy Resources Council Joint Meeting with UW Board of Trustees**  
November 21-22, 2024
- **Thanksgiving Break - Office Closed**  
November 28-29, 2024
- **SER Holiday Gathering**  
December 12, 2024
- **Fall Commencement Ceremony**  
December 14, 2024
- **SER All Staff Meeting**  
December 16, 2024
- **UW Winter Break/Holiday Closure**  
December 24, 2024 - January 1, 2025

