

[Supreme Court limits NEPA in Uinta Basin Railway decision](#)

The US Supreme Court has ruled 8-0 to limit the scope of the National Environmental Policy Act, allowing the \$1.4 billion Uinta Basin Railway project to proceed in Utah. The decision reverses a lower court's ruling that environmental reviews were insufficient, stating agencies should focus only on direct environmental effects. **Full Story:** [Engineering News-Record \(tiered subscription model\)](#)

[Column: Get ready for FHWA's Buy America rule](#)

The Federal Highway Administration recently issued a final rule under the Build America, Buy America Act that requires final assembly of manufactured products in the US for federally funded projects starting Oct. 1, 2025, and at least 55% domestic content by Oct. 1, 2026. The rule, which rescinds the Manufactured Products General Waiver, might increase project costs and affect schedules as contractors adjust to new procurement requirements, writes J.S. Held's Michael Peloso and Dan McCrave-Bessette **Full Story:** [Construction Dive](#)

[Trump exceeded authority with tariffs, trade court rules](#)

The US Court of International Trade has blocked most tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump, ruling he exceeded his authority by imposing broad duties on imports. The court said Congress has exclusive jurisdiction over the issue and that the president's emergency powers do not override that. "That use is impermissible not because it is unwise or ineffective, but because [federal law] does not allow it," the court ruled. **Full Story:** [CNBC](#) [Bloomberg](#) [Reuters](#) [The Wall Street Journal](#)

[Race, sex to no longer factor into DOT contracts](#)

The Trump administration has agreed to stop considering "race- and sex-based" factors in awarding federal highway and transit funding for disadvantaged small businesses. The decision follows a 2023 Supreme Court ruling against affirmative action. The program, which was reauthorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, has aimed to address past discrimination. **Full Story:** [USA Today/Reuters](#)

[DOT cuts 52 regulations](#)

The US Department of Transportation has announced the removal of 52 regulations deemed burdensome across the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Federal Highway Administration and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The move, driven by a push for deregulation under President Donald Trump, targets redundant and outdated rules to save taxpayer money and streamline operations, says Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy. **Full Story:** [CDLLife](#)

[Trump budget proposes major cuts at Energy Dept., EPA](#)

The Trump administration has proposed significant budget cuts for the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, with Energy Secretary Christopher Wright and EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin outlining the impacts during congressional hearings. The proposal includes a 9.4% cut to DOE's discretionary funding and a 54.5% cut to EPA's, raising concerns among lawmakers about the potential effects on energy innovation, environmental protection and infrastructure projects. **Full Story:** [Engineering News-Record \(tiered subscription model\)](#)

[Uncertainty clouds construction employment in April](#)

US construction employment showed mixed results in April, with 184 out of 360 metro areas seeing job growth, according to the Associated General Contractors. Demand for infrastructure and public facilities boosted jobs in some areas, but worker shortages and economic uncertainty hindered growth in other markets. **Full Story:** [Construction Briefing](#)

[May sees rise in engineering, construction costs](#)

Engineering and construction costs rose in May despite a slight decline in the Engineering and Construction Cost Indicator to 71.9, according to PEG and S&P Global Market Intelligence. Materials and equipment costs fell slightly, with significant drops in shell and tube heat exchangers and gas and steam turbines, although categories like carbon steel pipe saw modest increases. Subcontractor labor costs decreased notably in the US South, but six-month expectations for construction costs surged to 85.5, driven by anticipated increases in ocean freight and electrical equipment. **Full Story:** [S&P Global](#)

[Sales for top 50 construction OEMs were strong in 2024](#)

Sales for the world's 50 largest construction OEMs totaled \$237.6 billion in 2024, a 2.39% decrease from the record set in 2023, according to International Construction's Yellow Table. Asian companies led with 44.3% of sales, followed by Europe at 27.9% and North America at 27.5%.

Full Story: [Construction Briefing](#)

[Komatsu's largest excavator makes transatlantic journey](#)

Komatsu's first and largest hydraulic excavator, the PC9000, has arrived at Suncor's Fort Hills mine in Alberta, Canada, after a complex 8,700-mile journey from Germany. The nearly 2-million-pound machine was transported in 31 pieces by road, river and sea, with assembly taking six weeks.

Full Story: [Equipment World](#)

[Swedish PPE provider develops smart safety shoe](#)

Swedish PPE provider Båstadgruppen is set to launch a smart safety shoe under its Monitor brand, developed in collaboration with Quin. The shoe, which is said to be the first of its kind, can detect falls and send alerts with real-time location to emergency contacts and services. **Full Story:** [Construction Briefing](#)

[Contractors work to bridge labor gap with veterans](#)

Veterans bring leadership and adaptability to construction roles such as superintendent and safety manager, panelists said during an event by Skanska and the Society of American Military Engineers. Veterans often excel in mission-driven environments similar to the military, but they might need help transitioning to civilian careers, and companies can support them through mentorship and structured career progression. **Full Story:** [Construction Dive](#)

[Trump urged to support high-speed rail projects](#)

Former Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood has urged President Donald Trump to support high-speed rail, noting that the president has voiced support for the concept in general and for Brightline West in particular. LaHood says vocal support from Trump would attract

private and state funding, accelerating projects such as California High-Speed Rail and Texas Central. **Full Story:** [Newsweek \(tiered subscription model\)](#)

[Turner continues to capitalize on data center market](#)

Turner Construction is advancing plans to co-develop data centers, leveraging its experience to form a 50% partnership to build and lease facilities to hyperscalers such as Amazon, Microsoft and Google. Turner has invested \$568 million in the venture and reported a 62.3% year-over-year increase in pretax profit to \$199 million on \$6.6 billion in revenue in the first quarter, driven by projects in data centers, health care and education.

Full Story: [Engineering News-Record \(tiered subscription model\)](#)

[Materials cost control software launched](#)

Trimble's newest software can help contractors manage material costs through enhanced budgeting and inventory tracking. Trimble Materials integrates with other ERP solutions such as Viewpoint Spectrum and Vista, providing purchasing and spend transparency. **Full**

Story: [World Construction Network](#)

[Granite wins \\$26M contract for SFO taxiway upgrades](#)

Granite has secured a \$26 million contract to upgrade Taxiway Z and part of Taxiway S at San Francisco International Airport. The project, part of the airport's Capital Improvement Program, includes reconstructing asphalt concrete pavement, replacing lighting with LEDs and enhancing drainage. Granite will use 24,105 tons of hot-mix asphalt from its Santa Clara plant, with work set to begin in August and finish in November. **Full Story:** [World Construction Network](#)

[AECOM to handle cleanup at Space Force base in Calif.](#)

AECOM has secured an \$81.3 million contract from the US Army Corps of Engineers to perform environmental remediation at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. The 10-year project involves work at 60 sites, with Aecom using digital tools to optimize data collection and reporting. **Full Story:** [Construction Briefing](#)

[Final phase of levee upgrades begins in Calif. county](#)

The Sutter Butte Flood Control Agency has started the final phase of the Tudor Flood Risk Reduction Project, a vital \$18 million initiative to enhance flood protection near Yuba City, Calif. The project, which began in 2013, aims to provide 100-year flood protection for rural areas and 200-year protection for urban areas. This phase addresses seepage issues by constructing a cutoff wall and is expected to be completed by next fall. **Full Story:** [KTXL-TV \(Sacramento, Calif.\)](#)

[Sacramento's Pacific Elementary starts new campus build](#)

Construction has begun on a new state-of-the-art campus for Pacific Elementary School in Sacramento, funded by voter-approved money. The project, expected to be complete in fall 2027, reflects the age, location and demographics of the school, according to the Sacramento City Unified School District. **Full Story:** [KCRA-TV \(Sacramento, Calif.\)](#)

[CHSRA completes Fresno grade separations for HSR](#)

The California High-Speed Rail Authority has completed two grade separation projects in Fresno, Calif., enhancing safety and connectivity. The Belmont Avenue Grade Separation, a 611-foot-long bridge, and the Central Avenue Grade Separation, a 432-foot-long overpass, now allow vehicles and pedestrians to safely cross over railway tracks, reducing traffic congestion and emissions. **Full Story:** [Mass Transit](#)