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MINE Update

MINING INDUSTRY NEWS E-COMM UPDATE

Issue 33 | August 24, 2022

Brought to you by the National Mining Association

This Week in the News

After several weeks of intense activity on the energy and environmental front, the summer congressional recess is in full swing and primary elections season is winding down as the administration's regulatory agenda rolls on. The National Mining Association (NMA) remains focused on actively engaging to advance mining's interests at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue. Plus, we have updates on how the mining and energy markets are faring.

Safety Share

The American Red Cross provides training on subjects ranging from first aid and CPR to babysitting and water safety. The organization's handy [course locator](#) helps you find a class near you or online.

Join NMA's Grassroots Push for IWG Comments

August 30 is the deadline for all public comments to the White House's Interagency Working Group on mining regulations. The NMA is coordinating a final grassroots push. In order to send an NMA prepared grassroots communication to outreach lists in your company, please link to our [Minerals Make Life action page](#) that ties directly into the [Regulations.gov comment portal](#). Input from employees of the mining industry is important in this process and if you need further technical assistance, please contact mroper@nma.org or rjackson@nma.org.

[TAKE ACTION](#)

Governors Weigh In Against EPA's Grid Threatening Regulations



Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson



Missouri Gov. Mike Parson



Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte



Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts



Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt



South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem



Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon

Seven Western governors laid out their concerns to the Southwest Power Pool, Inc., about the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Good Neighbor Federal Implementation Plan that would govern the interstate transportation of emissions while ignoring state-designed plans that are already in place. You can find the letter [here](#).

The governors wrote that the U.S. EPA's proposed rule would implement additional compliance obligations on coal- and gas-fired power plants in less than a year. The governors, whose states are part of the power pool, pointed out that the plan would place additional financial burdens on the states when it comes to coal- and gas-fired power plants. The governors said the federal proposal would be costly to the states and difficult to implement. They said the federal government has ignored similar plans created by the states that have worked. The signers of the letter were: Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, Missouri Governor Mike Parson, Montana Governor Greg Gianforte, Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts, Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt, South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem and Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon.

Secretary Yellen Advocates for U.S. Chilean Tax Treaty Ratification



While most of Washington is away through Labor Day, the NMA continues to work with a broad coalition of industries to ratify the U.S. Chilean Tax Treaty allowing for billions of dollars in new mining investments. This week U.S. Treasury Secretary joined the coalition weighing in with [Senate Majority Leader Schumer](#), [Minority Leader McConnell](#), and members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to schedule the treaty for a full Senate vote. Earlier this year, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee favorably reported the treaty to the full Senate for final ratification. The Senate floor has been consumed with other business this year including the Inflation Reduction Act, CHIPS Act, nominations, and other matters. The NMA supported coalition is working to get this important treaty ratified this year. Read our most recent blog [here](#).

DOI Codifies AML Program Changes Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

This morning, the Department of the Interior (DOI) released a [prepublication](#) version of the final rule that extends the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund program through 2034, as directed by the recently passed Bipartisan [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (Act). The final rule codifies the extension of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and

Enforcement's (OSMRE) authority to collect reclamation fees for an additional thirteen years, and to reduce the fee rates by 20 percent. The final rule also reflects the statutory extension of the dates when moneys derived from the fees will be available to eligible states and tribes for grant distribution. The final rule will become effective on Aug. 24, 2022.

Recall, OSMRE's reclamation fee collection authority lapsed on Sept. 30, 2021. The Act was signed into law on Nov. 15, 2021, leaving a gap in the reauthorization of the program from Oct. 1, 2021, through Nov. 15, 2021. The OSMRE considers the 2021 SMCRA amendments in the Act to be self-executing but is publishing the final rule to provide consistency between regulations and the 2021 amendments to clarify that fee collections continue without interruption at the reduced rates, and the extension of the fee collection authority. The reclamation fees described above are separate and do not fund the \$11.3 billion in grants for states and Tribes to address legacy coal abandoned mine land provided under Section 40701(f) of the Act.

Reserve Your Rooms THIS WEEK for NMA's Fall Board of Directors and Annual Members Meeting in Washington, D.C.



The NMA Fall Board of Directors and Annual Members Meeting will be held Sept. 14-16, at the [Conrad Washington, D.C.](#), located at 950 New York Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20001. Washington is very busy in the fall, and hotels are booking up quickly. The deadline to book hotel rooms at the group rate is this Friday, August 26, 2022. Hotel rooms in the NMA block are on a first come, first serve basis. The group rate (\$429 /night) will be available until August 26, 2022, or until the block is full. [Click here](#) to reserve a room at the Conrad Washington, D.C.

If you have not already done so, to register for the Board Meeting and the congressional reception, please [click here](#). If you are only planning to attend the NMA congressional reception, please be sure to [RSVP](#).

NMA and Third Party Voices

[Real Clear Energy](#) (D.C.) has an op-ed from Rich Nolan on how destabilizing subsidies, additional taxes and further regulatory overreach could devastate the nation's remaining coal fleet and consequently the reliability and affordability of the nation's supply of power.

Rich Nolan is quoted by [Mining.com](#) in a story noting that years of neglecting its critical metal supplies is finally catching up with the United States, whose government now realizes it must invest heavily in mining and manufacturing, as demand for the raw materials needed to build a new green economy that rejects fossil fuels gears up.

From our third parties, [The Washington Times](#) (D.C.) carries an op-ed by Terry Jarrett, an energy attorney and consultant who has served on both the board of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners and the Missouri Public Service Commission, in which he argues the Inflation Reduction Act could make the nation's grid reliability crisis much worse.

[MSN](#) (USA), [Las Vegas Sun](#) (Nev.), [Logansport Pharos Tribune](#) (Ind.), [Northwest Signal](#) (Ohio) and [The Missoulian](#) (Mont.) carry carries an op-ed by Thomas Madison Jr.,

an infrastructure consultant who has previously served as administrator of the U.S. Federal Highway Administration, in which he argues regardless of why politicians seek permitting reform, it's clear that our country desperately needs it.

Mining and Energy News

[Argus](#) reported that Illinois Basin coal output rose 13 percent in the second quarter, as most of the region's mines increased production.

[E&E News PM](#) reported that earthquake and natural hazards specialist David Applegate officially took over the top spot at the U.S. Geological Survey last week.

[Bloomberg](#) published: "Graphite in EV batteries creates a conundrum under U.S. climate bill: China dominates both natural and synthetic graphite production capacity."

[Mining.com](#) reported that the London Metal Exchange has banned Russian nickel from its warehouses.

[Utility Dive](#) reported on an NEI survey of utilities suggesting that emerging small reactors could provide 90 GW of nuclear power to the U.S. grid by 2050.

[Mining.com](#) reported that China has increased its rare earth quota to a record high.

[Argus](#) reported that Central Appalachian coal production climbed 4 percent for the second quarter in a row on rising domestic and international demand.

[Bloomberg](#) reported CenterPoint Energy Inc. is delaying retirement of a coal-fueled power plant in Indiana as a surge in wholesale electricity prices and uncertainty about some renewable projects undermines the push to decarbonize the grid.

[Reuters](#) reported that a coal-fueled power plant in Nebraska delayed its closure by three years, becoming the latest plant in recent months to postpone shutting.

[EnergyWire](#) published: “Supply chain slows closure of large Midwest coal plant: Ameren Missouri faces a March 2024 deadline to meet Clean Air Act requirements for sulfur dioxide emissions at its Rush Island plant.”

[Wall Street Journal](#) reported that the ocean floor contains a trove of metals that can be used in making batteries for electric vehicles.

[E&E News](#) reported that speaking at a summit in Alaska hosted by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Republican Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan made their case for the state to be a mineral breadbasket for the nation as a new climate law is expected to juice the demand for minerals needed to make electric vehicles, solar panels and wind turbines.

Mining Action Strategy Team

Access the latest snapshot of the NMA’s ongoing regulatory efforts. The MAST tracker is updated weekly to the extent new actions have occurred.

Current password: Mining

[Mining Action Strategy Team](#)

CORESafety



The August edition of CORESafety TV:

- A discussion of the dangers of extreme heat.
- An interview with Stephen Gigliotti from MSHA.
- CORESafety's module eight on Communication and Collaboration.

Bluefield Coal & Mining Show



THE BLUEFIELD COAL & MINING SHOW

A Show for Mining:
Our Past, Present, Future

September 14, 15, 16, 2022

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