

COAL ENERGY

From the Mine to the Utility

THE UPPER BIG BRANCH MINE DISASTER: 10 YEARS LATER

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Coal Energy is a magazine linking the 4 main coal associations and remembering miners who have sacrificed their lives working in the coal mining industry.



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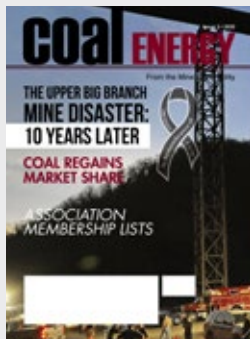


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letter from **THE PUBLISHER**



OCTOBER 2020

Dear readers,

Welcome to Issue 3, 2020 of **Coal Energy**.

In this issue, we take the time to remember each of our **29** coal miners who lost their lives in the tragic **Upper Big Branch mine accident April 5th, 2010**. Please take a moment of silence to honor our brave men. Without our

coal miners, none of our jobs would be possible. What is remembered lives on.

In every issue, **Coal Energy** includes a world news piece to bring the reader up to date on import/export and investment news around the globe. In this issue we take a look at Norway's focus on carbon capture.

Coal Energy is pleased to bring back our statistics department to allow our readers a quick glance at up to date data.

Coal Energy remains proud to be the source journal for information about coal related associations in the industry. We currently provide information at your fingertips on different groups to benefit your companies' needs and targets. By providing information at a glance on each group, and including current member lists, your company can analyze the forums available to market, promote, and lobby for America's future regarding coal energy.

Coal Energy is also proud to be able to provide quick news updates gathered from various sources to create an easy wealth of industry information at the click of a button. From newly released equipment, to quarterly finance news, you can easily review important industry happenings in our press release department.

Please visit our website, www.coalenergyonline.com.

com, for current and prior editions of **Coal Energy**.

You can also like and share our facebook page (www.facebook.com/coalenergyonline) created to network with the nations promoters of coal, suppliers of coal, and to serve as a public interface for the image of coal energy.

In our next issue, we will be featuring an in depth look at energy policies from the election results.

With the ongoing trend and convenience of electronic publications, we are pleased to inform you our online readership is increasing daily. To be added to our digital delivery database, please send an email to info@martonickpublications.com with your subject as Digital Delivery. We are proud to announce that our facebook page now has a weekly reach of over 5,000 contacts and is liked by 1,700 individuals and companies who support coal and coal energy.

We extend a warm appreciation to our supporting advertisers, please support them as they make the publication you are reading possible. If your target market spans across to members of more than one coal association, then **Coal Energy** is the place for you to represent your company. Please contact our advertising sales representatives should you require additional information at info@martonickpublications.com.

And again, thank you for picking up, or clicking on, another edition of **Coal Energy**.

If you have any questions, editorial submissions, advertising interest or just comments about **Coal Energy** please feel free to email me directly at maria@martonickpublications.com.

Warmest regards,

Maria Martonick

President
Martonick Publications, Inc.



ASSOCIATION COMPARISONS



THE NATIONAL MINING ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

NMA's mission is to build support for public policies that will help Americans fully and responsibly benefit from our abundant domestic coal and mineral resources. Our objective is to engage in and influence the public process on the most significant and timely issues that impact mining's ability to safely and sustainably locate, permit, mine, transport and utilize the nation's vast resources.

NMA serves its membership by:

- Promoting the safe production and use of coal and mineral resources
- Establishing a strong political presence in the Nation's Capital
- Serving as the information center for and a single voice of U.S. mining
- Addressing the current and future policy needs of U.S. mining, mining equipment manufacturers and support services members of NMA

<https://www.nma.org>

NATIONAL COAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

To promote the safe, economical, and reliable transport of coal by facilitating communication among coal transport, allied industries and associations to maximize sharing of best-practices to serve the needs of industry and the public.

<https://movecoal.org>

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MINING AND RECLAMATION

MISSION:

ASMR's mission is to represent and serve a diverse national and international community of scientists, practitioners, private industry, technicians, educators, planners, and government regulators involved in mineral extraction and the reclamation of disturbed lands. ASMR promotes the advancement of basic and applied reclamation science through research and technology transfer in the Society's annual meetings, workshops, published proceedings, newsletters, Reclamation Matters magazine, and the ASMR web site.

<https://www.asmr.us>

AMERICAN COAL ASH ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

The ACAA advances the management and use of coal combustion products in ways that are environmentally responsible, technically sound, commercially competitive and more supportive of a sustainable global community.

<https://www.acaa-usa.org>

AMERICAN COAL COUNCIL

MISSION:

American Coal Council (ACC) provides relevant educational programs, market intelligence, advocacy support and peer-to-peer networking forums to advance members' commercial and professional development interests.

ACC represents the collective interests of the American coal industry ~ from the hole-in-the-ground to the plug-in-the-wall ~ in advocating for coal as an economic, abundant and environmentally sound fuel source ACC serves as an essential resource for industry, policy makers and public interest groups. The Association supports activities and objectives that advance coal supply, consumption, transportation and trading.

<https://www.americancoalcouncil.org>

WORLD COAL ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

The World Coal Association is a global industry association comprising the major international coal producers and stakeholders. WCA works to demonstrate and gain acceptance for the fundamental role coal plays in achieving a sustainable and lower carbon energy future. Membership is open to companies and not-for-profit organizations with a stake in the future of coal from anywhere in the world, with member companies represented at Chief Executive level. WCA is the global network for the coal industry.

<https://www.worldcoal.org>

RMEL

MISSION: RMEL, through its diverse membership, educational events, and programs, facilitates the discovery of solutions and strategies for vital issues facing the electric utility industry.

<https://www.rmel.org>

The Upper Big Branch Mine Disaster: 10 Years Later

by LESLIE RUBIN





MONTCOAL, W.Va (WCHS/WVAH) — At 3:02 p.m. on April 5, 2010, time stood still in West Virginia.

Twenty-nine men lost their lives in the worst coal mining disaster in the nation in 40 years.

Twenty-nine families are still left today to honor their memories.

The Families

Left to carry on the memory of the 29 men, their families and friends whose lives were forever changed in an instant 10 years ago.

At a mountaintop cemetery, you can find Tommy Davis. Alone with his thoughts and talking to his oldest son.

"That's a good boy right there, though," he said, admiring the picture of his son on his headstone. "He was something."

"I'm thinking, you know, wondering what Cory would have looked like. What his baby would have looked like. I think about that all the time," he said. "I tell him all the time but he can't hear me but if I could, I just want him to know that I love him and I miss him. And I would like to have another hunt."

"Cory Boy," he calls him, was the youngest of the miners killed at UBB. A fourth generation coal miner who loved the outdoors. He was 20.

"He's not been forgotten. I'll never let him be forgotten. I love him too much to just let it go," Davis said.

But his pain does not start and end here at his son's grave. His brother, Charles Davis, and his nephew, Josh Napper, also died in the explosion. Tommy was on his way out of the mine when it happened.

"It's hard for me to love something. It is. I can't. I struggle because pretty much everything in my family wise, or anything I've ever done that I loved is gone," he said.

For Gary Quarles, the pain comes back in waves. "I ain't forgot nothing," he said of the last 10 years.

His heart is as broken today as it was then.

"Who this boy is and what he meant to me," he said as he tries to explain the pain in his heart.

"Like nothing that you could ever believe, you don't think could ever happen. Wondering, what's the next thing going to be?" he said of the chain of events that's unfolded in the last decade.

His friends called him "Spanky" but his dad calls him Gary Wayne. He had worked underground starting when he was 18-years-old. He confided in others about the dangerous conditions at the mine just days before it took his life.

For all the pain 10 years has brought, he says just 10 second to say 'I love you' would be enough to bring him the peace he's so desperately searching for. "That'd help a lot, that'd help a lot. To be able to just say that."

"It's just hard to believe it's been 10 years because my heart doesn't feel like it's been 10 years," Shereen Atkins said. She lost her son, Jason.

"When I call out these names, I need the families to go in this room. Jason's, his was the third name and from that point on, it's kind of

UPPER BIG BRANCH—A SYNOPSIS OF KEY EVENTS

Monday, April 5

3:01 p.m. Explosion erupts through the mine, blasting debris out of the portals and lasting for several minutes. The carbon monoxide monitoring system alarms and mine fan records show a major disruption to the ventilation.

3:05 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. A phone call is placed to MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration) and West Virginia MHST (Miners' Health Safety and Training) emergency hotlines reporting "an air reversal on the beltline and CO 50 to 100 parts per million." Six Performance Coal personnel enter the mine from the Ellis portal; four others enter from the Upper Big Branch portal.

3:30 p.m. First group of trained Massey Energy rescue personnel arrive at Upper Big Branch and some enter the mine. The six-person group that entered the Ellis portal discovers a mantrap and begins evacuating victims from the mine.

4:22 p.m. The Whitesville Volunteer Fire Department receives a phone call requesting an ambulance. It arrives at the mine eight minutes later.

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. MSHA officials arrive at Upper Big Branch and issue a "control order." The mine rescue plan allows for two rescue teams to enter the mine and establish a fresh air base.

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Family members begin gathering at the Marlinton Safety Building and the press begins to assemble at Marsh Fork Elementary School. Rescue teams advance into the mine, encountering high levels of carbon monoxide on the tail side of the longwall.

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Officials conduct the first briefing for the miner's families, and Massey Energy issues a news release detailing initial estimate of fatalities and unaccounted miners. Mine rescue teams continue to advance inside the Upper Big Branch Coal Mine.

10:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Mine rescue teams report finding the refuge chamber located near the longwall which has not been deployed.

11:30 p.m. – Midnight Rescue teams near the HG22 section report their gas detectors are over-the-range for carbon monoxide and methane. The Command Center orders them out of the mine.

Tuesday, April 6

2:30 a.m. – 3:30 a.m. All rescue team members exit the coal mine. State officials speak to the families and indicate the number of deceased and missing.

6:00 a.m. Crews begin drilling the first of three boreholes from above the HG22 section. Monitoring of gases continues throughout the day.

9:00 p.m. No unusual underground noise is detected by seismic equipment set up by MSHA.

Wednesday, April 7

Drilling and testing of gases continues throughout the day. Briefing and media interviews periodically. MSHA personnel and Massey Energy

Thursday, April 8

3:30 a.m. – 4:00 a.m. Rescue teams enter the mine to begin the recovery of the four missing miners. Gas readings show explosive levels. Rescue teams exit the mine.

Briefings for the media continue throughout the day by Massey Energy

a blur," she said of the moment a Massey human resources worker informed some of the families who had gathered together that their loved ones weren't coming home.

For the 29 families, time is one thing that has certainly passed. The pain and the hurt have certainly not.

"First off, I'd give him a big hug, tell him I love him and I'm proud of him. Proud of the man he had become before he was taken from us," Shereen Atkins said.

The Memorial

On the side of Coal River Road, in the heart of coal country, there is a memorial to the men killed while mining coal.

The UBB Miners Memorial is where friends

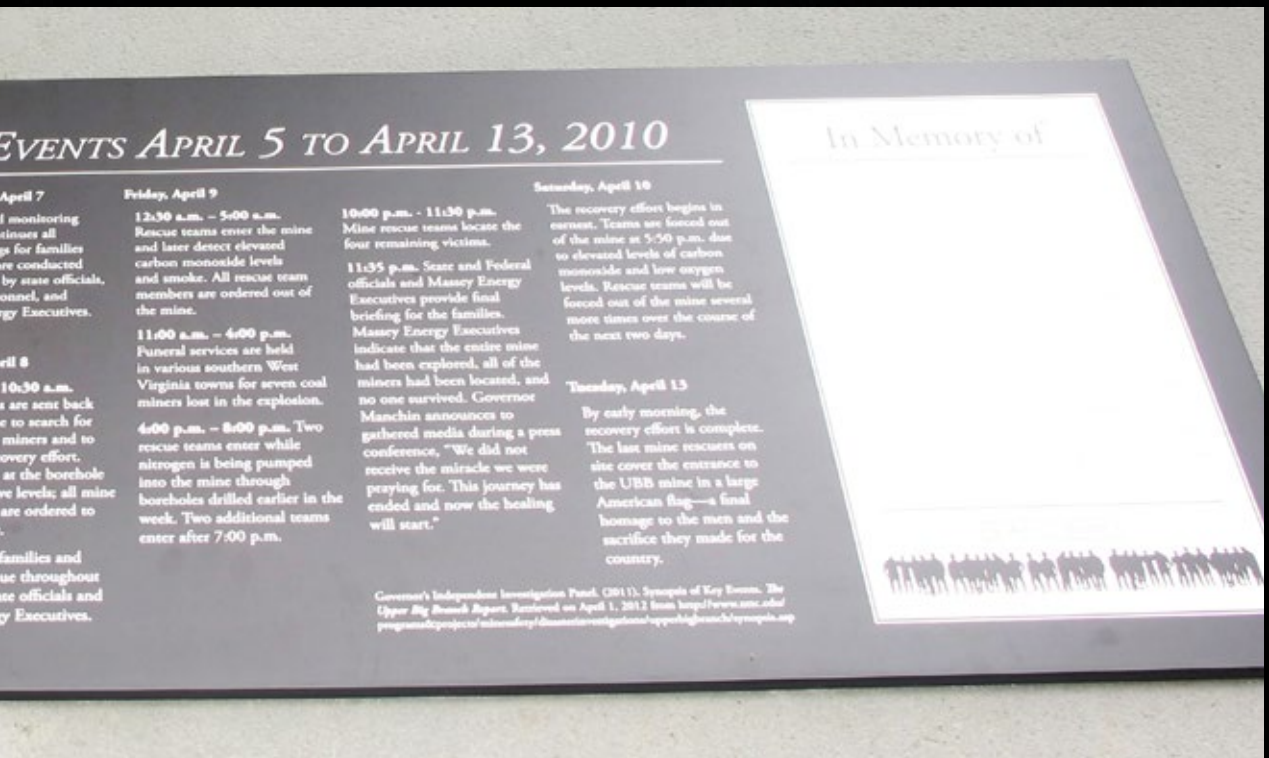
and families came when their community was uprooted by disaster.

From the moment you step onto the hallowed ground you feel a sense of the magnitude of what happened that day and all that was lost -- including hope.

Hope that they could be saved by the brave first responders and mine rescuers who are honored in bronze, standing at the entrance of the mine, reaching out a hand to the miners trapped deep underground.

A few steps away is a massive black granite memorial, rugged like the Appalachian mountains, surrounded by coal from the UBB mine.

On one side is a tribute to all who have worked, been hurt and died in mines, along with the long list of the men killed at UBB.



On the other side are the miners, etched in stone. Life-sized men standing shoulder to shoulder. Standing back, you get a sense of who the 29 men were. A symbol of their strength and their sacrifice. Underneath the men, a verse from the book of Mathew calls out, "come to me, all you who labor and I will give you rest."

The memorial was made possible by contributions from the coal and coal support industries, private individuals and local businesses. Ground was broken at the site in January of 2012 and construction was completed in early July.

The Town

The blast happened in Montcoal but just down the road is Whitesville, the closest town.

"It's a very small community. It used to be a very vibrant, bustling community in the 80s and early 90s when coal was doing well," David Hodges said.

These days, the town of Whitesville looks much different than it once did.

"There was people on the streets all the time. You know, this was a 5 and dime, this was Ben Franklin's, Hadaad's was next door. And you know, on down the line we had the bowling alley and the theater," Garry Dickens, who grew up near Whitesville, recalls.

But the community still thrives off of one thing: coal. The backbone of a community ripped apart by the very thing it relies on.

"April 5th of 2010, I was at my residence. The assistant fire chief came to my residence and the emergency call came across his radio that there had been a mining accident," Whitesville Mayor Fred Harless said.

"It looks like I've got a potential of 10 deceased, currently. Maybe an excess of 30 total injured," Hodges, the assistant chief at the Whitesville Fire Department at the time, can be heard saying on a 911 call.



"I knew that something significant had happened," he said.

"We're still trying to get a total number. They're still bringing fellas to the surface. It's just, it's a total disaster. I need all the resources you can give me," Hodges tells the 911 operator.

Their worst fears confirmed. A moment that turned the community upside down in an instant.

"I remember leaving that night. I remember when we came off the hill, it was like folks were everywhere. There was national media, there was so many mine rescuers, so many state police officers. And then I remember the first time traveling back down to home to shower and it was just like, signs were up everywhere, everyone was holding out hope. Faith was a big thing," Hodges remembers.

David Minturn, a pastor at a nearby church at the time, provided prayer and comfort to

victims' families. He was one of many who watched and waited at a local diner.

"Glued to the TV. Sharing any information they had. There was just a somber attitude," Minturn said.

Nearly five days of agonizing pain passed, waiting for any hope of a miracle that never came.

The first responders were left with a grim task that still haunts them.

"I'll never forget, the evening that the last body left. It's still pretty heavy on me because it's just like, 'what just happened?' You know, it was overwhelming," Hodges said.

While time has passed, the memory of the disaster has not faded.



Tiny tributes still scattered around a town that will never truly heal.

"It's a constant healing process and I can only imagine what the families and those other coal miners and mine rescuers, what they go through daily. It's going to be a lifelong recovery for everyone," Hodges said.

The Changes

Since UBB, 52 miners across West Virginia have died on the job.

In 2019, 24 miners across the country died in mining accidents. The U.S. Department of Labor says that's the lowest nationwide total ever recorded.

There are, undoubtedly, fewer miners in general with the downturn in the industry but there are some who believe the numbers can be attributed to a more proactive safety approach.

"We could've been victims of our own success to somewhat. Mining conditions were so improved. Mining accidents were striking all time lows, low number incidents and the industry could've been lulled into a false sense of security," West Virginia Coal Association Senior Vice President Chris Hamilton said.

A lull that was shaken by Sago in 2006 and then rocked to its core by UBB 4 years later.

Hamilton has 40 years of experience including owning a mine safety consulting firm. He says we've come a long way since UBB, with a renewed and unwavering focus on mine safety.

"I think the industry has shown continuous improvement over the past decade," he said. "We have the highest trained miners you'll find within any jurisdiction, so we're very proud about that and pleased to see the safety record improving every day."

In the five years leading up to UBB, the number of mine violations in West Virginia each year stayed in the 13,000 to 19,000 range.

Over the last eight years, even with stricter enforcement, that number has been declining, coming in under the 10,000 mark in three of the last four years.

Other than 2017, the number of deaths has been five or fewer since 2014.

Director of Miners' Health Safety and Training Eugene White says there have been numerous improvements this decade. Technological, physical and legislative, he says. He was quick to answer when asked what the one thing was that has helped the most.

"The coal mines are rock dusted better today than ever. Every coal company is rock dusting their coal mines," he said.

As a mine inspector for much of his career, White knows first-hand about the importance of safety. He was there, on site, in the immediate aftermath of both UBB and Sago.



"Entirely two different scenarios of damage and destruction," he explains.

"The one thing that I'll never forget about UBB is when we were recovering the last nine victims. The mine rescue guys, we formed a human chain of 140 mine rescue team members," he recalls. "So we had to carry them and we passed them from one team to the other until we got them to the last ride."

It has stayed with him for a decade.

The worst part of coal mining, taking an eternal toll on men like White, who have made it their livelihood.

White says it's something you never get over. "No. No. Mine rescue, Sago changed me. It changed my life. It changed me as a person. It's hard."

The Governor

A central figure during the response to the disaster was Joe Manchin -- he was governor at the time.

Looking back, now Senator Manchin, can recall the tragedy like it was yesterday.

He says the first priority was clear communication. The mistakes of the Sago mine disaster and incorrectly announcing that 12 miners had survived was a difficult lesson they were not going to repeat. He says phones were confiscated and a line of communication established with families as a first priority.

"We're going to make sure the families know what we know, every two hours, anything because they're hanging on every word, now" Manchin said.

Around the clock, day into night. Updates to the public in front of hundreds of cameras. Man-

chin and the others becoming familiar faces on TV while delivering heartbreaking news.

He says it was the moments that no one saw, with the families, that have stayed with him.

"I remember sitting there at night, around 11 o'clock until about six in the morning is when you really got people talking to you because there's nobody else around and they would talk," he remembers. "And they want to tell you all the great things and all the wonderful things they've done, the life they've had and things of that sort."

"The wife of one of the section foreman and her two sisters were sitting with her. They were very quiet and I tried to get a conversation. The next day they wanted to talk, we started talking. They said they knew something would happen, it was just a matter of time. And then it starts making you think, shouldn't anyone who goes to work be expected to come home safe? But when a family member keeps thinking, I always thought this would happen. Her husband left her a letter saying something was going to happen. I'll never forget that. He knew because of the way it was being operated," Manchin recalls.

Manchin says those late night conversations have guided him over the last 10 years, passing bills to require more personal breathing devices, more rescue chambers and an anonymous tip line to report unsafe working conditions.

Reminding others, who didn't experience this first-hand, of the sacrifices made by miners.

"Everything changes, 10 years later, you look back on it, their lives are still there. It's not healed, it will never heal. That hurt will never heal. The only thing they can do is hopefully know we made the changes that save somebody else. That's why I tell everyone, before you start trying to change the mining laws, the safety laws for miners, or any job, OSHA, any job...please think about the price people have paid for those changes to come," Manchin said.



The Miners

*Information courtesy Upper Big Branch Miners Memorial

CARL CALVIN "PEE WEE" ACORD

Carl Calvin "Pee Wee" Acord, 52, had worked in the mines for 34 years and was a proud member of the "Old Man Crew" at the Upper Big Branch Mine. He enjoyed fishing with his sons, working in his yard, driving his tractor and being "PaPaw" to his two grandchildren, Chase and Cameron. He is survived by his wife, Joyce Lynn, and sons, Cody and Casey.

JASON ATKINS

Jason Atkins, 25, of Foster was a 2003 graduate of Sherman High School, where he won all-state honors in football and baseball. He served as a member of the Racine Volunteer Fire Department and was an avid West Virginia University sports fan. Survivors include his wife, Amanda, his parents, Robert and Shereen Bowles Atkins, and his brother, Chris.

CHRISTOPHER BELL

Christopher Bell, 33, of Crab Orchard, was admired for his ability to draw and detail vehicles. He was happiest spending time with his wife, Angela, and children Alexis, Meadow, Christopher and Skylar. His parents, Christopher L. and Kathy Darlene Bell, also survive him.

GREGORY STEVEN BROCK

Greg Brock, 47, of Clear Creek, was an electrician at the Upper Big Branch Mine. He enjoyed spending time with his son, Greg Kyle Brock, and his fiancée, Patti Stover, and her daughters, Shayla and Brooke Stover. He was a NASCAR fan who loved to hunt and fish and who always had a vegetable and flower garden.

KENNETH A. CHAPMAN

Kenny Chapman, 53, of Fairdale was a roof bolter who had the ability to make others laugh. "He was somebody that always had a good time," a nephew said. Kenny also enjoyed hunting, fishing and working in his garden. He is survived by his wife, Laura, children Donna Griffith, Vicky Williams, Kenny Chapman, Jr., Michael Austin Chapman, Jason McMillion, Carl Massey and Jubal McMillion.

ROBERT E. CLARK

Robert E. Clark, 41, of Beckley was described by friends as a caring person who never met a stranger. He enjoyed spending time with his family, riding his motorcycle, fishing, hunting, restoring vehicles, golfing, working with wood and boating. He is survived by his wife, Melissa, and son, Steven Robert Clark.

CORY THOMAS DAVIS

Cory Thomas Davis, 20, of Cabin Creek played baseball in high school and followed his family members into the mines. He loved the outdoors, often spending weekends at a family camp on a mountaintop, hunting, fishing and putting his truck in the mud. He is survived by his parents, Tommy and Cindy Davis.

CHARLES TIMOTHY DAVIS

Timmy Davis, 51, of Eskdale, loved fishing, hunting with his bird dogs and riding his Rhino. His son described him as "the best hunter and fisher you've ever seen." He is survived by his wife, Diana, and children Timmy Davis, Jr., Cody Davis and Misty Dawn Cooper.

MICHAEL LEE "CUZ" ELSWICK

Michael Lee Elswick, 56, of Elkview was a dedicated coal miner for 36 years. He was a member of the Dunbar First Church of God. Family members described him as a rock. "When things fell apart, he was there," his daughter said. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie; son, Jeremy Elswick; daughter Jami Cash.

WILLIAM ILDON "BOB" GRIFFITH

William "Bob" Griffith, 54, of Glen Rogers, came from a family of miners and went to work in the mines as a young man. When he wasn't working, Bob and his wife, Marlene, worked on their 1967 Camaro. Also surviving are a daughter, Deborah Lynn, and a son, William James.

STEVEN "SMILEY" HARRAH

Steve "Smiley" Harrah, 40, of Cool Ridge was described as a thoughtful man who would always offer a helping hand. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and enjoyed hunting, fishing and playing cards. He was devoted to his wife, Tammy, and six-year-old son, Zach, who survive him.

EDWARD DEAN JONES

Dean Jones, 50, of Beckley, was a hard worker who was devoted to his wife, Gina, and son, Kyle Dean, who has cystic fibrosis. Father and son were exceptionally close and shared a love of the Pittsburgh Steelers and the West Virginia Mountaineers. Dean's mother, Ruby Nell Lafferty Jones, also survives.

RICHARD K. LANE

Rick Lane, 45, of Cool Ridge loved running coal and was known for never asking his men to do anything he would not do himself. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and looked forward to retiring to tend to his horses and cattle on his 25-acre farm. He is survived by his wife, Kim, son Rob and grandson Brody Parker Lane.

WILLIAM ROOSEVELT LYNCH

Roosevelt Lynch, 59, of Oak Hill, worked in the mines for more than 30 years while also working as a substitute teacher and basketball, football and track coach. He also served as a devotional leader and praise team leader at the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church in Minden. Survivors include his wife, Geneva; son, Mon; and daughter, Miki Rogers.

JOE MARCUM

Joe Marcum, 57, of Laurel Creek, Lenore, was a coal miner for 35 years and a charter member of the Lenore Volunteer Fire Department. He was a member of the Church of the Living God and was a mainstay in Mingo County politics. His wife, Kathy, and daughters, Kathy Jo Marcum and Garnet Murphy survive him.

RONALD LEE MAYNOR

Ronald Maynor, 31, of Clear Creek, was described as a kind person who was always willing to help anyone who needed him. He enjoyed hunting and took his children fishing, hunting, and for rides on his four-wheeler. Survivors include his wife, Helen, daughter Kaitlyn, son Hunter, and parents, Nancy Burgess and Ronald K. Maynor.

NICOLAS DARRELL MCCROSKEY

Nicolas McCroskey, 26, of Beckley was described as "full of life" and "sweet and helpful and kind-hearted" by a longtime friend. A graduate of Bluefield State College with an engineering degree, he loved hunting, fishing, water sports and riding his Harley Davidson. He is survived by his mother, Debbie Lynn McCroskey.

JAMES E. "EDDIE" MOONEY

Eddie Mooney, 51, of Ashford loved hunting, fishing, camping and taking his 1978 Corvette out for a cruise on the weekends. He was a member of the Rumble Community Baptist Church and is survived by his wife, Sheila, daughter Misty Case, and son Austin Mooney.

ADAM KEITH MORGAN

Adam Morgan, 21, of Pineville, wore No 24 on the Wyoming East High School football team that went to the state Class AA playoffs during his senior season of 2006. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, four-wheel riding, grilling and being outdoors. He is survived by his parents, Steve and Tammy Church Morgan.

REX L. MULLINS

Rex Mullins, 50, of Lively, was an outdoorsman and an ardent West Virginia Mountaineer fan. Survivors include his wife, Brenda; son Jason; daughter, Geneva Blake; stepchildren Jeremy Walker, Tessa Walker and Joseph Walter, and his mother, Joan Bailey Mullins.

JOSHUA SCOTT NAPPER

Josh Napper, 25, of Salem Center, Ohio, was a nurse and an avid body builder who loved the outdoors, camping, dancing and riding his four-wheeler. He wrote a note to his family members, "If anything happens to me, I will be looking down from heaven." He is survived by his daughter, Jenna Leigh, fiancée, Jennifer Ziegler; and parents, Scott and Pam Napper.

HOWARD D. "BOONE" PAYNE

Boone Payne, 53, of Cabin Creek, was described as a gentle giant with flaming red hair who would go out of his way to help people. He loved hunting, fishing and basketball. He is survived by his son, Jason, daughter, Erica, father, Howard Daniel Payne, Sr., and fiancée, Bobbie Pauley.

DILLARD EARL "DEWEY" PERSINGER

Dewey Persinger, 32, of Crab Orchard loved being with his family and he enjoyed country music. He is remembered as being dedicated to his family and his friends. He leaves behind his wife, Heidi; two sons, James and Devin; and his parents, Delmas and Ada Bolen Persinger.

JOEL R. "JODY" PRICE

Jody Price, 55, of Beckley was a coal miner, a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of Saint John United Holiness Church. He was known for his frequent family barbecues. His survivors include his wife, Dorean; stepsons John Jones, Alan Johnson and Matt Jones.

GARY WAYNE QUARLES

Gary Wayne Quarles, 33, of Naoma was a caring father and son who enjoyed spending time with his family, hunting, fishing and riding four-wheelers. He is survived by his children, Trevor and Rebekka, and his parents, Gary and Patty Quarles.

DEWARD ALLAN SCOTT

Deward Scott, 58, of Montcoal, was an avid outdoors-man who loved to hunt and fish. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife, Crissie Lynn; a daughter, Jennifer Ann and a son, Daniel Allan.

GROVER DALE SKEENS

Grover Dale Skeens, 57, of Montcoal, found religion late in life and had a strong church involvement. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marines. "Mostly his passion was work," according to his brother-in-law. "He started out in the coal mines at an early age. He's been working there for almost 30 years." He is survived by a daughter, Renee Bishop, and a son, Jeff Skeens.

BENNY RAY WILLINGHAM

Benny Willingham, 61, of Corinne, had been a coal miner for 30 years and was five weeks away from retirement. He was a Vietnam veteran of the U.S. Air Force. At his funeral, Benny was remembered as a generous and religious man who was known for random acts of kindness. He is survived by his wife, Edith Mae; daughter, Michelle McKinney; sons, Jody Canada and Patrick Canada; and his mother, Cleo Roach.

RICKY WORKMAN

Ricky Workman, 50, of Colcord, had a passion for wheels. He loved his Harley-Davidson and in the summer drove miniature race cars. He is survived by his wife, Annette, daughters, Monica White, Heather Whitt and Chantal Hale, and seven grandchildren.

This article has been edited from its original version, which contains a timeline and political information. The original article can be found at <https://wchstv.com/news/local/ubb-10-years-later>. Reprinted by permission from Leslie Rubin and WCHS News



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PRESS RELEASES

Peabody Announces Changes to Board of Directors /

July 16, 2020 , SOURCE Peabody

ST. LOUIS, July 16, 2020 /PRNewswire/ -- Peabody (NYSE: BTU) today announced that William "Bill" Champion has been appointed to the company's Board of Directors. Most recently, Champion was Principal at Gladiator Mining Group LLC and previously served in several executive management roles at Rio Tinto PLC, including as Managing Director of Rio Tinto's former Australian coal assets. Separately, Teresa Madden has resigned from the Peabody board and Nick Chirekos will be replacing Madden as the Chair of the Audit Committee. Following these changes, the Peabody board consists of eleven directors.

"We are pleased to have Mr. Champion join the Board of Directors, bringing with him operational expertise from the metals and mining industry," said Peabody Chairman of the Board Robert A. Malone. "Bill's expertise in the global coal industry will provide additional operational insight to our already diverse board. He is a proven leader with experience spanning multiple geographies, cultures and metal and mining products.

"I'd also like to thank Teresa for her years of service and the significant contributions she brought to the Peabody board and to the Audit Committee as Chair," said Malone. "Along with my colleagues on the board, we wish Teresa the very best in all her future endeavors."

In Champion's role as Principal at Gladiator Mining Group, he pursued global investment opportunities across a wide range of mineral and metal commodities. Prior to that, he spent 12 years at Rio Tinto PLC, in a number of executive management roles for the company in the coal, diamond, and copper segments.

Champion earned a pair of Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemical Engineering and Biological Sciences from the University of Arizona. He also attended the W.P. Carey School of Business Executive MBA Program at Arizona State University. He is currently an independent director of Buenaventura Mining Co. Inc., Peru's largest, publicly traded precious and base metals company, and of PJSC

Polyus Gold, a Russian gold mining company.

Peabody (NYSE: BTU) is a leading coal producer, serving customers in more than 25 countries on six continents. We provide essential products to fuel baseload electricity for emerging and developed countries and create the steel needed to build foundational infrastructure. Our commitment to sustainability underpins our activities today and helps to shape our strategy for the future.

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US GAS-TO-COAL SWITCHING TO BOOST COAL CONSUMPTION, HELP TRIM STOCKS / 23 September 2020

Despite a long-term trend of coal power plant closures, and dented energy demand more recently due to the coronavirus crisis, upside for coal has been materializing in the US as gas-fired generators reacted to higher prices in the summer months and coal regained some market share lost in 2019.

S&P Global Platts Analytics expects coal generation and production to ramp up through the rest of 2020. Platts Analytics projects the combination of seasonal demand patterns, recovering power demand and increasing electricity and gas prices will drive an increase in US coal consumption in the generation sector of 5-15 million st through the end of 2020, compared with 2019.

Though still below 2019 levels in absolute terms, around 3 million st of additional coal consumption has been added from the apparent switch back from gas generation in August of 7-10 aGW. By the end of the year, the continued gas-to-coal switching and overall market improvements are expected to drive monthly coal consumption above 2019 levels.

Coal generation had dropped to approximately 18% of total US generation during the first six months of 2020 from approximately 24% during the same period in 2019, losing share to natural gas and solar and wind generation. Platts Analytics expects this to improve to approximately 20% through the end of 2020 as coal generation improves.

Natural gas is expected to maintain an approximate 38-39% share of total generation, which represents an improvement over the course

of this year compared to the 34% contributed through the first half of 2019, based on Platts Analytics data. Meanwhile, renewables have been steadily improving their share of total US generation from just under 8% in 2017 to approximately 11% this year.

Coal consumption increases are forecast in the MISO, PJM, SERC, ERCOT, and WECC power markets through the end of the year as forecast short-term coal prices remain competitive for generators compared with forecast gas prices.

This is particularly noticeable in MISO and PJM, where typical coal blends include coal from the Illinois Basin, the Powder River Basin and Central Appalachia. This blending will allow typical coal generators to remain competitive with various gas generators even as coal prices strengthen compared with recent levels.

Improving consumption is also driving a draw-down in US coal stocks. This supports a more bullish view for coal production as deliveries recover from the coronavirus pandemic-induced lows and coal stockpiles across the regions return to early 2020 levels from mid-year peaks.

Platts Analytics expects US stocks to have receded to around 120 million st through September, from the recent peak above 154 million st. We expect further fluctuation to around 134 million st before ending the year near where it began at around 129 million st. While these stock levels represent three-year highs, they are not record highs, and utilities are able to manage higher stock levels in the current market environment.

Usibelli Coal Mine Receives NMA's CORESafety® Certification /

August 6, 2020

WASHINGTON D.C. – The National Mining Association (NMA) today recognized Usibelli Coal Mine (UCM) for its CORESafety® certification. CORESafety is the NMA initiative with the objective of zero fatalities and a 50 percent reduction in mining's injury rate within five

years. Usibelli joins 10 other companies whose operations have been independently certified under NMA's signature safety initiative.

“We celebrate Usibelli's dedication to safety,” said Rich Nolan, NMA President and CEO.

“Participation in the CORESafety program has already helped companies across the industry increase safety awareness and vigilance, prioritizing the miners who we depend on for our modern way of life. Our CORESafety member companies are leaders in mining safety and health management, and Usibelli’s track record clearly shows leadership in this field.”

“CORESafety isn’t a program that expires, it’s a system that has become part of our culture,” said UCM president and CEO, Joe Usibelli Jr. “Recently, we set an all-time high safety record of 1085 days without a lost time incident – and that is because CORESafety is a part of our fabric.”

CORESafety is a risk-based mine safety and health management system developed by NMA. CORESafety participants agree to: commit to the CORESafety system; implement a functionally-equivalent version of the CORESafety safety and health management system; submit to NMA annual self-assessments of progress toward implementation of the CORESafety safety and health management system; and, if the company elects to become or maintain CORESafety certification, complete a thorough third-party assessment of its safety and health

management system to verify that it is functionally equivalent to CORESafety and submit the assessment report to NMA. SomaHive LLC of Parker, Colo., conducted the independent, third-party certification audit on July 21-22.

For more information on the CORESafety system, visit www.coresafety.org, and to view a list of participating companies click [here](#).

About Usibelli Coal Mine

Founded in 1943 by Emil Usibelli, Usibelli Coal Mine is located near the town of Healy and is 115 miles south of Fairbanks and 250 miles north of Anchorage adjacent to the Parks Highway and Alaska Railroad. UCM currently has a workforce of 98 employees, and operates year-round. Mine production has grown from 10,000 tons in 1943 to approximately 1-million tons of coal per year. Currently the only operational coal mine in Alaska, UCM is supported by the most modern mining equipment and state-of-the-art engineering. Today, UCM supplies coal to five Interior Alaska power plants and over the years has exported coal to Chile, South Korea, Japan and several other Pacific Rim destinations.



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COAL GIANT MURRAY ENERGY OUT OF BANKRUPTCY UNDER NEW NAME / September 17, 2020, By JOHN RABY

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — A major U.S. coal mining company has emerged from federal bankruptcy protection under a new name and ownership group.

Murray Energy Holdings said its Chapter 11 plan was approved last month in U.S. bankruptcy court in Ohio and became effective Wednesday. The company said in a statement that it has completed the sale of its assets to an entity formed by former creditors. The new company, St. Clairsville, Ohio-based American Consolidated Natural Resources Inc., is the largest privately owned U.S. coal operator with active mines in Alabama, Kentucky, Ohio, West Virginia and Utah, the statement said. ACNR also has separate management services agreements to operate Foresight Energy mines in Illinois and Murray Energy subsidiary Murray Metallurgical mines.

The new company plans to produce about 35 million tons of bituminous coal annually. In 2018, Murray Energy produced 46.4 million tons and was the country's fourth largest coal producer, accounting for 6% of total production, according to the Energy Information Administration.

The restructuring eliminated more than \$8 billion of Murray's debt and legacy liabilities, and it allowed the new company to access new financing, providing ACNR with enhanced financial flexibility, the company statement said.

When the bankruptcy filing was announced in October 2019, Robert D. Moore was named president and CEO of Murray Energy, replacing Robert Murray. Moore also heads the new company, which has more than 4,000 employees.

"Throughout these complex proceedings, we have been challenged with a global pandemic, extremely volatile coal markets, and months of uncertainty, Moore said. "Our employees and business partners met these challenges, and, together, moved the company forward to today's emergence."

When it filed for bankruptcy last year, Murray Energy joined a growing list of struggling coal producers as utilities switch away from coal to cheaper and less-polluting renewable energy or natural gas. Other major producers to seek bankruptcy protection last year included Blackjewel Mining in West Virginia and Cloud Peak Energy in Wyoming.

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Robert Murray had pushed for and received a flurry of regulatory breaks from the Trump administration. The bankruptcy filing marked a significant political failure for President Donald Trump, who had sought to end what he called a “war on coal” by Democrats as a key part of his campaign and early presidency.

ACNR has hired members of the United Mine Workers union who formerly worked at Murray Energy,

the union said in a statement. Union members ratified an agreement with ACNR in May.

“There is much to be concerned about for those of us associated with and working in the coal industry during these troubling times, but it is good that this process has finally been completed and our members can put the uncertainty of the bankruptcy behind them,” UMW President Cecil Roberts said.

NMA Supports EPA’s Revised Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards / August 31, 2020

WASHINGTON D.C. – The National Mining Association (NMA) today issued the following statement from its president and CEO Rich Nolan applauding the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) revised regulations governing technology-based effluent limitations guidelines and standards (ELGs) for the electric power generating point source category applicable to flue gas desulfurization (FGD) wastewater and bottom ash transport water (BATW).

“This new rule replaces a prime example of regulatory overreach that was specifically designed

to stack the deck against the coal industry when compared with other fuels. The model wastewater treatment techniques under the new rule can effectively remove pollutants at less cost and with fewer facility modifications than the technologies required by the prior rule, while also allowing for more flexibility in plant maintenance operations. The coal industry wants to be able to compete while also safeguarding important environmental protections – this rule shows that balance is possible.”

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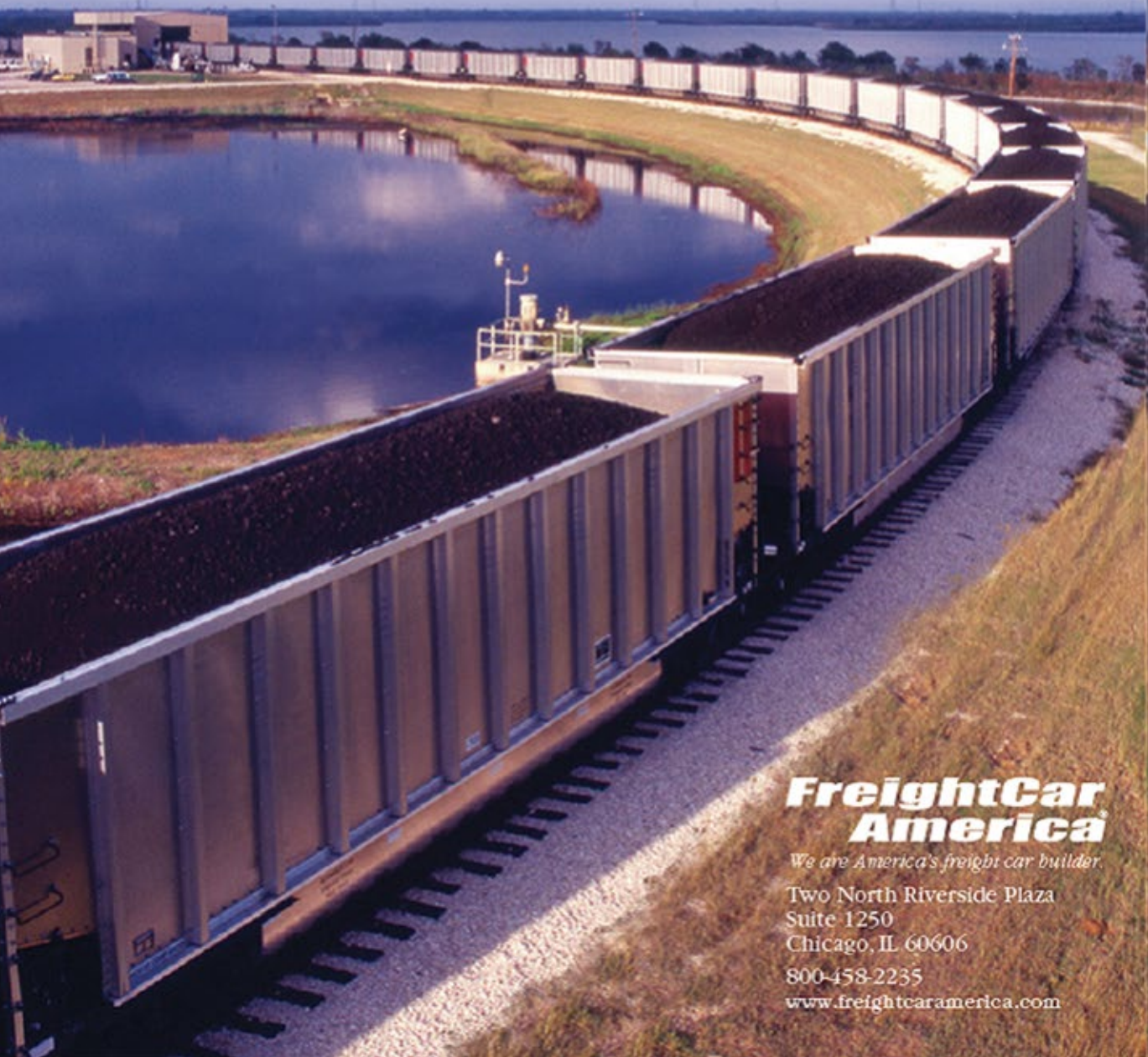
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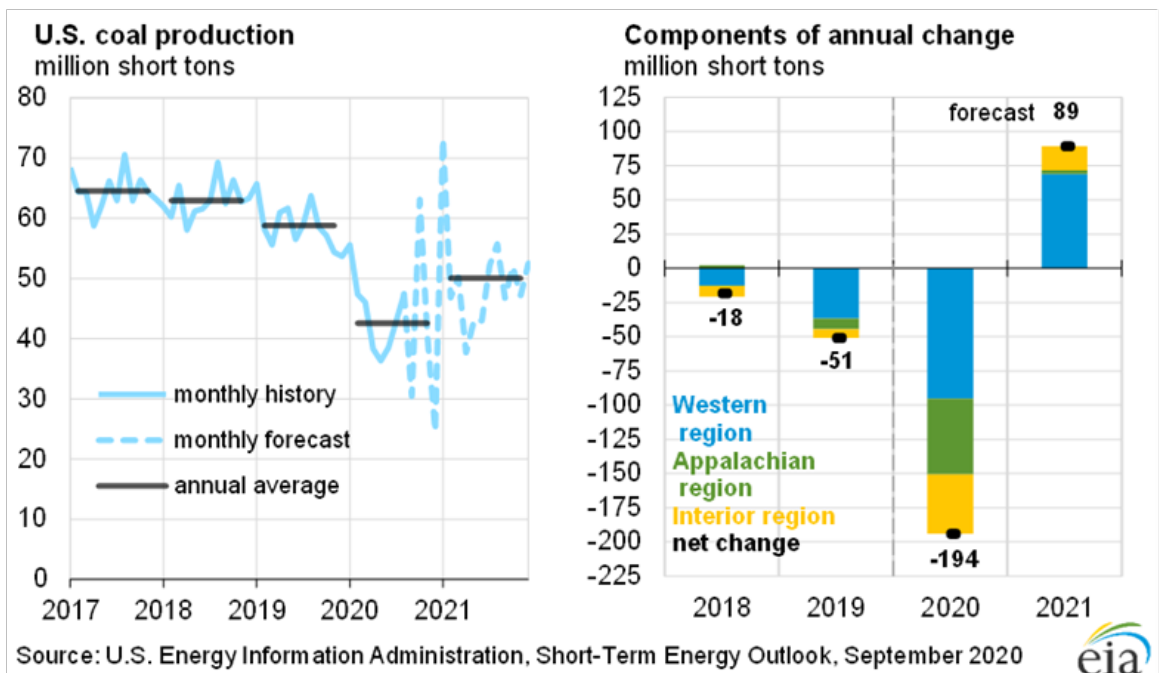
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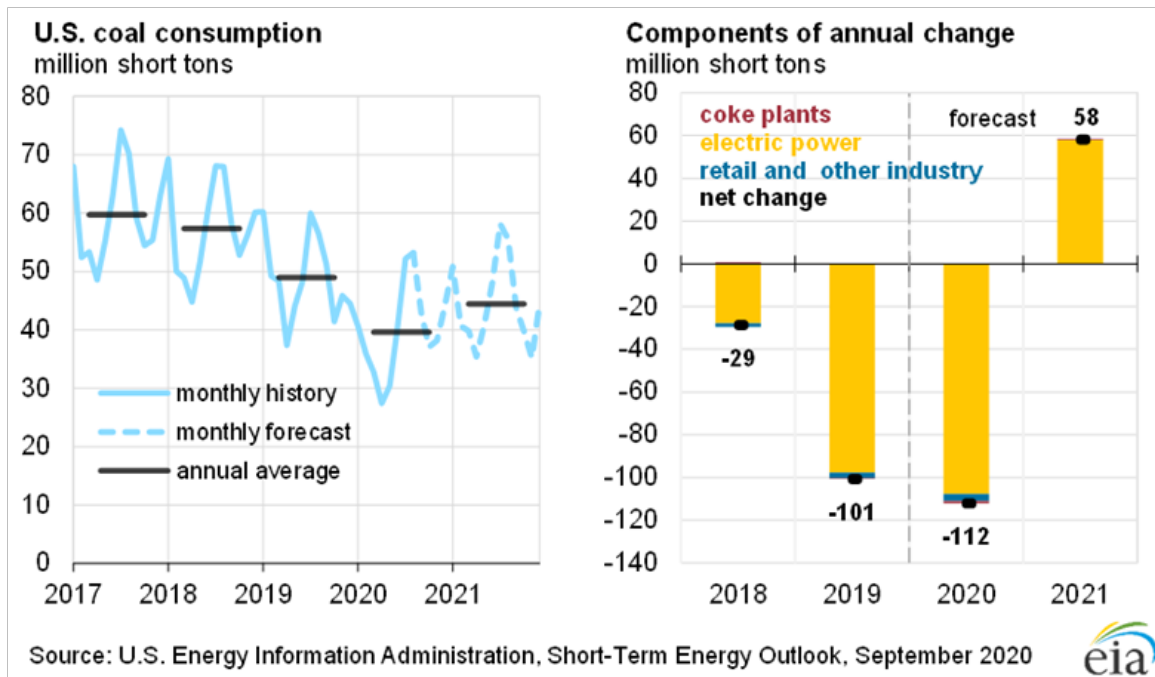
U.S. ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION'S SHORT-TERM ENERGY OUTLOOK

Release Date: September 9, 2020

COAL

EIA expects total U.S. coal production in 2020 to be 511 million short tons (MMst), 194 MMst (28%) lower than in 2019. Mitigation efforts related to COVID-19 and reduced demand from the U.S. electric power sector amid low natural gas prices have both contributed to mine idling and mine closures. EIA expects production to rise to 600 MMst in 2021, up 89 MMst (17%) from 2020. This forecast increase reflects rising demand for coal from U.S. electricity generators because of higher natural gas prices compared with 2020.





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The world needs to build on the growing momentum behind carbon capture

24 September 2020

World News: NORWAY



Major new IEA report, launched at event opened by Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg, shows CCUS can play vital roles of both reducing emissions and removing carbon from atmosphere.

After years of slow progress, technologies to capture carbon emissions and store or reuse them are gaining momentum, a trend that will need to accelerate significantly for the world to achieve its energy and climate goals, according to a new special report released by the IEA today.

The report, *CCUS in Clean Energy Transitions*, is being launched at an IEA online event opened by Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway, whose government announced a major funding commitment this week for a new carbon capture project that can

help tackle emissions from Norway and neighbouring countries.

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) is the only group of technologies that contributes both to reducing emissions in key sectors directly and to removing CO₂ from the atmosphere to balance the emissions that are the hardest to prevent – a crucial part of reaching the net-zero emissions goals that a growing number of governments and companies have set for themselves.

Part of the IEA's *Energy Technology Perspectives Series*, the new IEA report is the most comprehensive global study on CCUS to date. It assesses the state of play of CCUS technologies and maps out the evolving and expanding role they will need to play to put global emissions on a sustain-

able trajectory. It includes a detailed analysis of CO₂ emissions from power and industrial facilities in China, Europe and the United States and potential for storing them.

“The scale of the climate challenge means we need to act across a wide range of energy technologies. Carbon capture is critical for ensuring our transitions to clean energy are secure and sustainable,” said Dr Fatih Birol, the IEA Executive Director.

“In order to develop and deploy carbon capture and storage as a technology for the future we need investments in solutions and facilities in many regions and countries,” said Prime Minister Solberg. “CCUS will be necessary on a global scale if we are to meet the Paris Agreement. And we must start now.”



“Norway has been a global leader in researching, developing and implementing carbon capture technologies, as demonstrated by its major funding commitment this week to the impressive Longship project, which can help not just Norway but other European countries reduce their emissions,” Dr Birol said. “The IEA is delighted and honoured that Prime Minister Solberg is taking part in the launch of our new report that will help inform policy-making on CCUS around the world.”

Plans for more than 30 commercial CCUS facilities have been announced globally in the last three years. And projects now nearing a final investment decision represent an estimated potential investment of around USD 27 billion – more than double the investment planned in 2017. This portfolio of projects is increasingly diverse and would double the amount of CO₂ captured globally.

The report sets out the four main ways that CCUS technologies contribute to clean energy transitions:

- Tackling emissions from existing energy infrastructure such as power and industrial plants;
- Providing a solution for some of the most

challenging emissions from heavy industries like cement and chemicals, as well as from aviation;

- Offering a cost-effective pathway for low-carbon hydrogen production in many regions;
- Removing CO₂ from the atmosphere.

Although CCUS facilities have been operating for decades in certain industries like natural gas and fertilisers, they are still at an early stage of development in key sectors such as cement. These are the areas where CCUS technologies are particularly important for tackling emissions because of a lack of alternatives.

“Action from governments will be essential for establishing a sustainable and viable market for CCUS,” Dr Birol said. “But industry must also embrace the opportunity. No sector will be unaffected by clean energy transitions – and for some, including heavy industry, the value of CCUS is inescapable. As our new report demonstrates, the IEA is committed to leading CCUS analysis and policy advice worldwide – and to bringing together governments, companies and other key players to work together to achieve our shared energy and climate goals.”

For more information, please visit: <https://www.iea.org/reports/ccus-in-clean-energy-transitions>.

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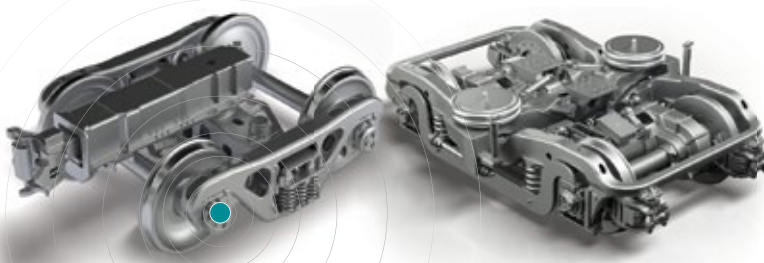
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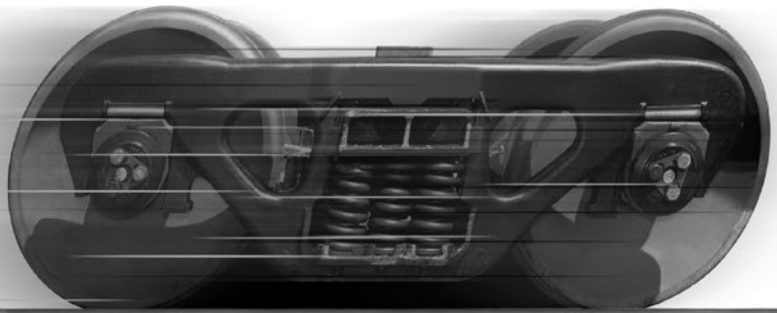
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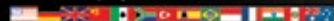
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The logo for FlyAshDirect, featuring the company name in blue and orange text with a circular arrow icon around the 'i' in 'Direct'.

FlyAshDirect

A photograph of a large industrial power plant with several tall smokestacks emitting white smoke, situated next to a body of water. A large cooling tower is visible on the left side of the plant.

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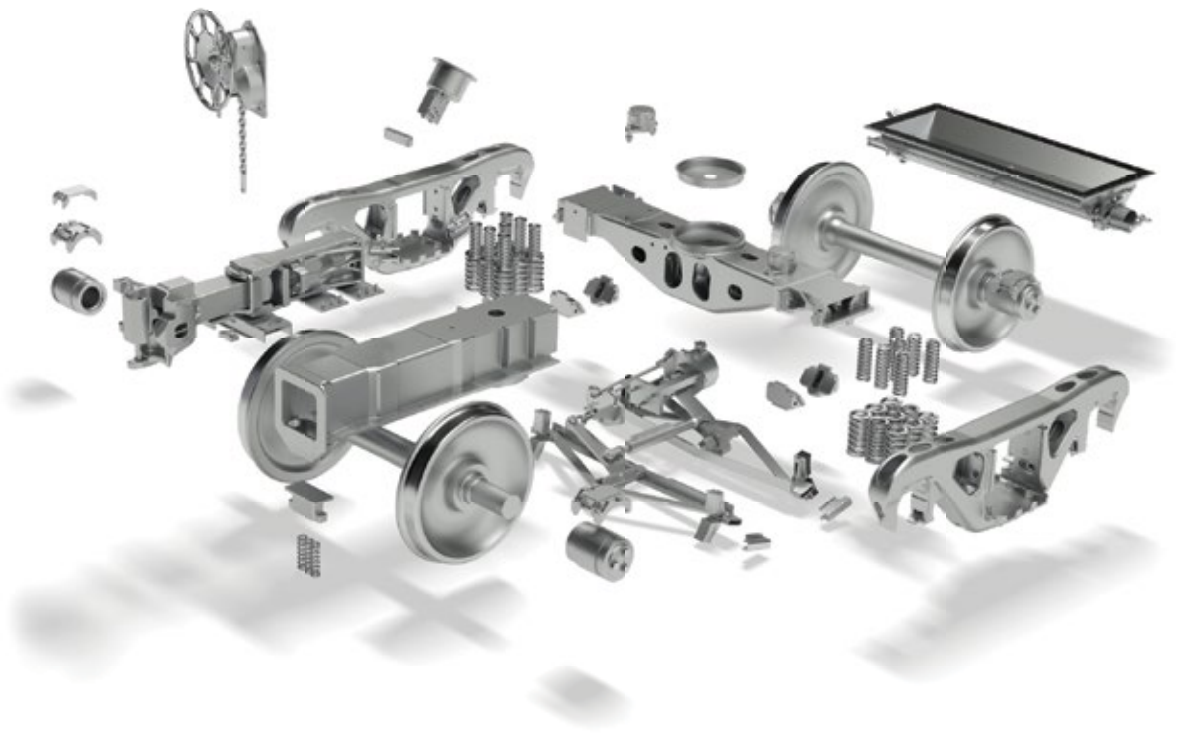
The FlyAshDirect logo, consisting of the company name and a circular arrow icon.

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