

coal

Issue 1 • 2017

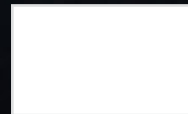
ENERGY

From the Mine to the Utility

WORLD NEWS:
UKRAINE

HONORING
OUR COAL MINER'S

**TRUMP'S
100 DAY
PLAN**



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letter from THE PUBLISHER



APRIL 2017

Dear readers,

Welcome to Issue 1, 2017 of **Coal Energy**.

Coal Energy is 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.

In this issue you can find articles on Trump's progress on unwinding the CPP, coal stock basics, information on the European Coal Outlook Conference and reclamation awards deadline dates.

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 Ukraine's news, where the rail blockade caused hundreds of power outages. In the next issue we will update you on Russia's coal developments.

Every year our writers gather information on the tragic loss of coal miners in the industry. MSHA's updates are included semi-annually as well as tributes and memorials to honor our fallen miner's. The memorial for 2016 will be included in the next issue. Please stay tuned to remember our nation's heroes that lost their lives to provide energy for America. Please take a moment of silence as you review information regarding these nine miners on page 25.

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 section starting on page 11.

Please visit our website, **www.coalenergyonline.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 public interface for the image of coal energy.

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.

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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



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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.

www.acaa-usa.org

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

www.nma.org

NATIONAL COAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

The Mission of the NCTA is to provide education and facilitation for the resolution of coal transportation issues in order to serve the needs of the general public, industry, and all modes of transportation.

This is accomplished through the sponsoring of educational forums and providing opportunities for the lawful exchange of ideas and knowledge with all elements of the coal transportation infrastructure.

www.nationalcoaltransportation.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.

<http://fp1.ca.uky.edu/asmr>

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.

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.

www.worldcoal.org/about-wca/

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.

www.rmел.org

COAL TRADING ASSOCIATION

MISSION:

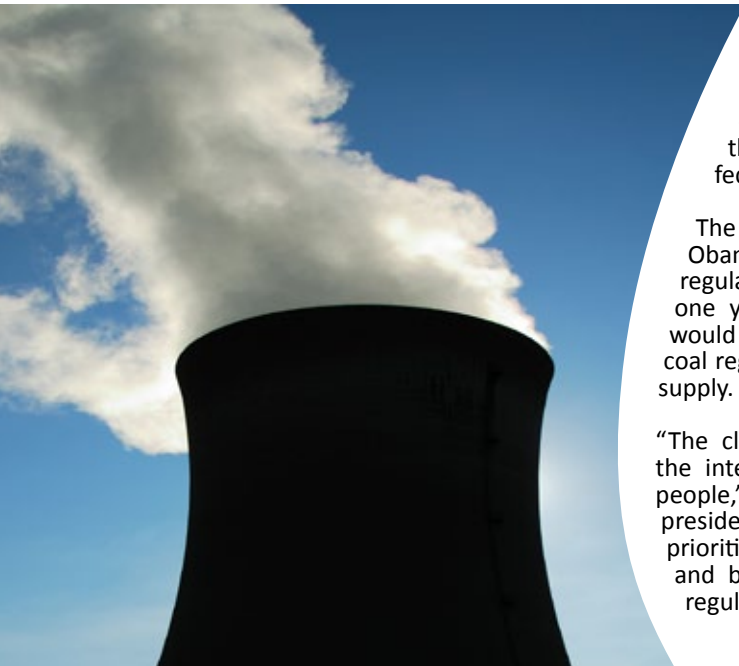
The Coal Trading Association (CTA) is the only trade association dedicated exclusively to the needs of traders, trading managers, brokers, risk managers, sales managers, and purchasing managers in the coal trading industry.

CTA was established in 1999 to promote coal trading capability and liquidity in the US. CTA develops and maintains industry standards for coal trading activity with the goal of achieving a disciplined, liquid and efficient coal trading industry. To achieve this goal, CTA develops policies, exchanges information among members and other interested professional and technical groups, and offers training programs to improve the knowledge, skills, and practice tools of its members.

www.coaltrade.org

NMA APPLAUDS EXECUTIVE ORDER TARGETING THE COSTLY POWER PLAN AND THE COAL MORATORIUM

March 28th, 2017 / WASHINGTON, D.C



The National Mining Association (NMA) today applauded President Trump's executive order on the costly Clean Power Plan (CPP) and the Department of the Interior moratorium on federal coal leasing.

The order begins the process to unwind the CPP, the Obama administration's signature climate change regulation that was stayed by the Supreme Court one year ago. Lifting the federal coal moratorium would remove the cloud over future investments in a coal region responsible for 40 percent of the U.S. coal supply.

"The clean power plan and the moratorium served the interests of political activists, not the American people," said Hal Quinn, NMA president and CEO. "The president's actions today help to restore common sense priorities and the important balance between costs and benefits that have been missing from federal regulatory policies."



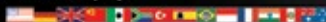
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Quinn called the CPP “an unlawful attempt to radically transform the nation’s power grid, destroying valuable energy assets and leaving our economy more vulnerable to rising power prices—all for no discernible environmental benefit.”

EIA recently found that unplugging the CPP would preserve 240 million tons of annual coal production (EIA AEO 2017), saving 27,700 high-wage mining jobs and an additional 99,849 jobs throughout the supply chain, according to NMA estimates.

“The moratorium on federal coal leasing was entirely without merit and rested on politically contrived reasoning,” Quinn added. The moratorium was never about a fair return to the taxpayer, and all about capitulating to the demands of the “keep-it-in-the-ground” movement. By every metric, the federal coal leasing program is highly profitable to taxpayers with annual leasing revenues in 2015 double the amount received 12 years ago.

BACKGROUND ON OBAMA ERA RULES

CLEAN POWER PLAN

The CPP is an Obama Administration policy regulating carbon dioxide emissions from power plants. If implemented, the rule would transform the mix of electricity generation in nearly every state in the nation. In addition to the National Mining Association, 26 states, the utility industry, electric cooperatives; labor groups and industry associations including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and National Association of Manufacturers challenged the rule.

Due to the extraordinary nature of the case and the threat of immediate economic harm posed by the rule, the Supreme Court issued a stay on Feb. 9, 2016, suspending any obligation by the states to implement the rule before litigation is completed. The Supreme Court has never issued a stay of a government regulation before a lower court has heard the merits of the case.

ALL PAIN AND NO GAIN

The CPP would be extremely costly while providing no significant environmental benefits. The Energy Information Administration recently forecast the CPP would force 39,319 Megawatts of coal

generating capacity into retirement (EIA AEO 2017) sending coal production down by 28 percent.

The CPP would harm the wider economy, including households and businesses. After implementation, the typical annual household electricity bills in 2020 would be more than a third higher than they were in 2012, or an estimated \$680 per family. More than 40 states would face double-digit increases in the cost of wholesale electricity, with the CPP increasing wholesale electricity prices by \$214 billion. The construction of replacement generating capacity would cost an additional \$64 billion. To view state-by-state impacts of the CPP, visit: <http://www.countoncoal.org/costly-power-plan/>.

THE FEDERAL COAL LEASING MORATORIUM

The Obama leasing moratorium represented an abrupt about face from the Department of Interior’s earlier rejection of the unfounded claims advanced by special interests that sought to deny the public the twin benefits of a source of low-cost electricity and revenues derived from coal mining. A report prepared by Norwest Corporation revealed that the Secretary of the Interior uncritically accepted incomplete and manipulated data from several advocacy organizations to suggest that federal coal producers pay below market royalties and fees. In fact, the report shows that federal coal producers are paying above-market royalty rates as well as bonus bids and other fees that are rarely, if ever, charged on private coal leases.

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PRESS RELEASES

Peabody Energy Announces Plans For U.S. Reclamation Assurances / ST. LOUIS, March 6, 2017, PRNewswire

Peabody Energy announced today it has chosen a path for future coal mine reclamation bonding requirements upon emergence from Chapter 11. While Peabody believes it continues to qualify for self-bonding, the company is choosing to support its coal mine reclamation bonding requirements through third-party bonding facilities.

"We are pleased to reach a bonding solution that we believe best serves the capital structure of the new Peabody at this time," said President and Chief Executive Officer Glenn Kellow. "Peabody believes it continues to qualify for self-bonding and will consider adding self-bonding to its capital structure to support its coal mine reclamation requirements in the future, should circumstances warrant."

Peabody fully accounts for the projected financial impact of its final coal mine reclamation requirements through its asset retirement obligation (ARO) on its balance sheet in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. As of Dec. 31, 2016, Peabody's ARO liability totaled \$471 million for its U.S. operations. In addition to its ARO financial liability, Peabody is required to secure its current coal mine reclamation bonding requirements through assurances such as surety bonds or self bonds. In support of its U.S. coal mine reclamation requirements, Peabody has arranged for \$1.26 billion in commercial surety bonds and \$14.5 million through a state bond pool to be in place upon emergence from Chapter 11, which will fully satisfy its U.S. assurance requirements.

The bonding amount significantly exceeds the financial ARO liability as of Dec. 31, 2016, as bonding represents an undiscounted amount that assumes a mine ceases to operate in the current period regardless of the economic life of the mine, while actual cessation of mining could be a number of years or even decades away.

Peabody views land restoration as an essential part of the coal mining process. In 2016, Peabody

accelerated its restoration activities, reclaiming 70 percent more land than what was disturbed. The company funds every dollar of its coal mine reclamation and pays tens of millions of dollars each year for a reclamation fund for other producers' former coal mines. Peabody remains focused on restoring the land and providing assurances for future obligations.

Peabody Energy is the world's largest private-sector coal company and a Fortune 500 company. The company serves metallurgical and thermal coal customers in 25 countries on six continents.

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Manchin Introduces Measure to Overturn Anti-Coal Rule /

January 30 2017, Washington, D.C

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) today introduced a resolution of disapproval under the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to overturn the “stream buffer rule.” Last year, the Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement (OSMRE)’s decided to send its final stream protection rule to the White House without fulfilling obligations for state engagement as directed by Congress.

“The last Administration’s long list of overreaching regulations absolutely crippled West Virginia families and businesses,” **Senator Manchin said.** “Not only is the rule very alarming in its scope and potential impacts, the rule making was executed in a flawed way. Rules by the Department of the Interior and OSMRE must be based on comprehensive data that is available to stakeholders, par-

ticularly when those rules threaten to eliminate thousands of jobs. Furthermore, agencies should not be issuing duplicative rules that overlap with regulations under other environmental laws such as the Clean Water Act.

“I have been committed to pursuing any legislation to ensure protect our coal mining communities and economies and that is why I am glad to introduce this resolution of disapproval to undo this harmful, overreaching regulation. I remain unconvinced that this jobs-killing regulation is necessary or substantiated, particularly when you consider state and federal regulations already in place. The consequences of this regulation will have far-reaching impacts on the future of coal mining and, therefore, will only serve to hinder development of affordable reliable energy.”

In June, Senator Manchin sent a letter to Shaun Donovan, Director of the Office of Management and Budget, to express his concern about the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement’s (OSMRE) decision to send its final stream protection rule to the White House without fulfilling obligations for state engagement as directed by Congress.

In 2015, Senator Manchin introduced the bipartisan *Supporting Transparent Regulatory and Environmental Actions in Mining (STREAM) Act*. The bill would add transparency and stop federal rulemaking overreach related to mining. It would ensure that any rule issued by DOI is based on comprehensive, open data and would not unnecessarily increase regulations or eliminate thousands of jobs.



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Arch Coal Receives Top Safety Honors in West Virginia /

ST. LOUIS, February 24, 2017

Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE: ARCH) today announced that its West Virginia operations earned 11 prestigious safety and environmental awards, including the state's highest honor for underground mine safety and surface mine safety as announced at the Annual West Virginia Mining Symposium held on February 22-23.

This marks the second consecutive year that Arch subsidiaries were recognized with the top safety honor in both the surface and underground categories.

Sentinel mine was honored with the 2016 Eustace E. Frederick Milestones of Safety Award for achieving the best safety performance among underground coal mines in West Virginia.

Coal-Mac's Holden 22 mine earned the 2016 Bart B. Lay, Jr. Milestones of Safety Award for achieving the best safety performance among West Virginia surface coal mines in 2016.

Moreover, three other Arch subsidiary operations and facilities received West Virginia Mountaineer Guardian Awards for exemplary safety records achieved during 2016: Beckley's Pocahontas mine; Mingo Logan's Mountain Laurel Mountaineer II mine and the Leer preparation plant. In addition to the state safety awards, three Arch subsidiaries received five environmental awards from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection. Coal-Mac's Pine Creek surface mine, Mingo Logan's Mountain Laurel complex and Wolf Run Mining's Sentinel complex received accolades for outstanding coal refuse reclamation and construction techniques. Coal Mac's Phoenix No. 5 surface mine was honored for demonstrating exemplary

performance in reclamation of a surface operation in the southern area. Coal-Mac's Loggy Branch surface mine received the National Wild Turkey Federation award for restoring former mine land for wildlife habitat.

Notably, Coal-Mac also received the 2016 West Virginia State Excellence in Reforestation Award from the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI). The award recognizes "exemplary performance using the Forestry Reclamation Approach (FRA)" at the Phoenix Surface Mine No. 1.

The Excellence in Reforestation Award was presented to Coal-Mac on behalf of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) and the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.

"We're honored to receive statewide praise for our performance in safety and environmental care again this year," said Paul A. Lang, Arch's president and chief operating officer. "These awards highlight the good work our operations are doing to stay ahead of the curve, and we applaud our employees for their unrelenting hard work and deep commitment to our operating philosophies."

U.S.-based Arch Coal, Inc. is a top coal producer for the global steel and power generation industries. Arch operates a streamlined portfolio of large-scale, low-cost mining complexes that produce high-quality metallurgical coals in Appalachia and low-emitting thermal coals in the Powder River Basin and other strategic supply regions. For more information, visit www.archcoal.com.

President Hits the Mark in Speech to Congress / March 1, 2017,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

National Mining Association (NMA) president and CEO Hal Quinn issued this statement applauding President Trump's speech last night to a joint session of Congress:

"America's miners applaud the president for his steadfast support for policies that stimulate economic opportunity, job creation and robust economic growth. Voters have stated a clear preference for actions that will get the country moving again and the president has heard them.

"We share his belief that 'a renewal of American spirit' will not be created for millions of underemployed and unemployed Americans so long as federal agencies constrain opportunity with needless regulations. Regulations will not make Americans prosperous nor will they make America great.

"The mining industry welcomes the opportunity he offers to provide the minerals and metals essential for infrastructure improvements and the coal and uranium needed to power the growing economy Americans deserve."

Arch Coal, Inc. Announces Successful Closing of \$300 Million Senior Secured Term Loan Facility / March 7, 2017, ST. LOUIS, PRNewswire

Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE: ARCH) today announced that it has successfully refinanced its senior secured term loan and, in response to strong demand and very attractive rates, has upsized the term loan to \$300 million from the previously announced level of \$250 million. The interest rate for the new term loan facility, which matures in 2024, is LIBOR plus 400 basis points with a LIBOR floor of one percent. This represents a reduction of 500 basis points from the previous facility. Proceeds – along with cash on hand – are being used to pay off Arch's existing term loan.

"We are extremely pleased with the outcome of this transaction and with the confidence and support we have received from our capital partners," said John W. Eaves, Arch's chief executive officer. "Through this refinancing effort, we have reduced our projected

annual interest expense by \$18 million, or nearly 50 percent, while extending debt maturities by more than two years."

"In addition to securing much-improved borrowing rates, we used our healthy cash position to trim debt levels by more than \$25 million," Eaves said. "We believe that managing our capital structure in a careful and prudent manner is an excellent way to protect and enhance long-term shareholder value."

With the completion of the transaction, Arch now has pro forma total indebtedness at December 31, 2016 of \$337 million, comprised of the new, \$300 million term loan and \$37 million in equipment financing and other debt. Arch expects to end the first quarter with a cash balance in excess of its total debt.

Credit Suisse acted as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent for the new term loan. Credit Suisse and Citigroup Global Markets Inc., acted as Joint Lead Arrangers. Regions Capital Markets, a division of Regions Bank, BMO Capital Markets Corp., Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., PNC Capital Markets LLC, and Jefferies Finance LLC acted as Joint Bookrunners.

U.S.-based Arch Coal, Inc. is a top coal producer for the global steel and power generation industries. Arch operates a streamlined portfolio of large-scale, low-cost mining complexes that produce high-quality metallurgical coals in Appalachia and low-emitting thermal coals in the Powder River Basin and other strategic supply regions. For more information, visit www.archcoal.com.

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Coal Trading Association merges with American Coal Council /

15 Feb 2017, Houston (Platts)

The Coal Trading Association this week officially merged into the American Coal Council. The months-long process was completed Monday following approval by both sides. The ACC announced the unification Wednesday.

"We are very excited of the opportunity to be part of the ACC and what lies ahead," CTA president Steve Watson of Arch Coal said. "The mission of the CTA will continue, which is to promote efficient and effective coal trading practices and procedures.

"Being part of the ACC gives us a bigger voice and a larger audience for the trading part of the industry," Watson said. "I think it makes us a stronger group, and that's a real benefit."

The two US-based organizations first talked about the move in earnest during the CTA's annual Coal Trading Conference in New York in early December. Since then, CTA and ACC officials have been in talks with their respective memberships about the idea.

Watson said it received "overwhelming support" from both CTA and ACC members.

As part of the unification, Watson and CTA Director Ginny Farrow of NRG Energy have been added to the ACC Board of Directors, and the ACC created a Coal Trading Committee, chaired by Watson, that will address coal trading-specific issues.

"We're very happy and excited of the move," ACC CEO Betsy Monseu said. "It really strengthens all of us as a whole by combining two groups that serve the coal sector into one larger, stronger organization."

Monseu added that creation of the ACC Coal Trading Committee would help bring trading matters in front of more coal participants and highlight a part of the industry which might be otherwise overlooked. She said that encompassing more of the coal trading area into the organization's business is a "mutual benefit" to both traders and the new ACC.

Jim Levesque, jim.levesque@spglobal.com

Edited by Lisa Miller, lisa.miller@spglobal.com

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U.S. Mines Complete Safest Year Ever, Besting Last Year's Record

/ January 4, 2017, Washington, D.C.

2016 marks the safest year ever for American miners. Together, coal mines and metal/non-metal mines last year recorded the lowest fatality and injury rates in the history of U.S. mining – a sign of continuous improvement for an industry that saw a record low the previous year.

The official figures, issued recently by the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration, show 25 fatalities for all U.S. mining in 2016. U.S. minerals mining last year recorded 16 fatalities, while coal mining recorded nine fatalities – the lowest rates ever recorded by the U.S. mining industry.

“We are proud of our industry for showing continued progress because it exemplifies our commitment to making American mines the world’s safest and our determination to return every miner home safely after every shift,” said National Mining Association (NMA) President and CEO Hal Quinn. “This safety milestone confirms the value of our voluntary safety initiatives and our determination to achieve excellence in mine safety and health year after year.”

Especially successful in driving continuous safety progress is NMA’s own **CORESafety®** framework. **CORESafety** has won international recognition among safety experts for its innovative approach that aims to eliminate fatalities and reduce injury by 50 percent in five years (0:50:5). **CORESafety** offers a management system approach to mine safety, offering not a “top-down-one-size-fits-all” model but a free, scalable framework for operations of all sizes.

To better understand what’s behind the transformation of mine safety, check out our video featuring industry CEOs discussing what **CORESafety** has meant to the success of their operations.

For more information on the **CORESafety** program, visit our website at www.coresafety.org. For 2016 mine safety data, visit the Mine Safety and Health Administration website at www.msha.gov.

Cloud Peak Energy Modifies Throughput and Transportation Agreements with Westshore Terminals and BNSF Railway /

February 15, 2017

-Cloud Peak Energy Inc. (NYSE:CLD), one of the largest U.S. coal producers and the only pure-play Powder River Basin (“PRB”) coal company, today announced that Cloud Peak Energy Logistics LLC replaced its throughput agreement with Westshore Terminals Limited Partnership (TMX: WTE) and its transportation agreement with BNSF Railway Company (“BNSF”).

Under the new agreements, which are effective commencing January 2017 for the throughput agreement and April 2017 for the transportation agreement, Cloud Peak Energy made upfront payments and also committed to minimum payments through 2018. The outstanding undiscounted commitments are approximately \$51 million through the current two year term of these agreements.

Both agreements provide that the parties may extend the agreements through the end of 2019 if elected. In addition, Westshore has certain priority rights on throughput capacity in respect of any export shipments by Cloud Peak Energy through 2024. The original throughput and transportation agreements and underlying take-or-pay commitments, which have now been replaced, previously would have expired at the end of 2024.

“Westshore and BNSF are critical parts of our effort to maintain a viable long-term Asian export business. We value our strong relationships with Westshore and BNSF and appreciate their willingness to work with us. We believe in the long-term opportunity for Asian exports of Powder River Basin coal,” said Colin Marshall, Cloud Peak Energy’s President and Chief Executive Officer.

RECLAMATION AWARDS DEADLINE

Nomination Deadline Updated for OSMRE's Annual Excellence in Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Awards

(Washington, D.C.) March 28, 2017— The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) is soliciting nominations for its 2017 active coal mine reclamation awards.

The Excellence in Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Awards honors coal mine operators that go beyond reclamation requirements and best practices in the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to restore active mine sites. Coal companies, regulatory authorities, state or Federal mine inspectors, interest groups, or landowners may submit nominations. Company officials and employees may nominate their own operations. To submit a nomination, visit <https://www.osmre.gov/programs/awards/2017ActiveMineApplication.pdf>.

Previous winners often introduce or refine innovative techniques to achieve superior results in returning a site to productive use after the completion of mining. To see video of the winning projects from 2016, visit OSMRE's YouTube page.

Previous projects have showcased the benefits of reforestation in reclaiming mined areas; techniques that shape the land to more closely resemble the appearance and function of the area prior to mining. By raising the profile of successful reclamation techniques, the awards programs demonstrate to regulators, as well as mine operators, the feasibility of such methods.

OSMRE and its sponsoring partner, the National Mining Association, will present the Excellence in Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Awards on Monday, November

6, 2017 at the Renaissance Washington Hotel in Washington, DC.

The deadline to submit Excellence in Surface Coal Mining Reclamation Awards nominations is April 27, 2017.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) carries out the requirements of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 in cooperation with states and tribes. OSMRE's objectives are to ensure that coal mining activities are conducted in a manner that protects citizens and the environment during mining, to ensure that the land is restored to beneficial use after mining, and to mitigate the effects of past mining by aggressively pursuing reclamation of abandoned coal mines. For instant updates on OSMRE, follow the bureau's Twitter feed @OSMRE.

Contact: Christopher Holmes

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TOP 4 COAL- MINING STOCKS FOR 2017

By Kevin Johnston
January 24, 2017 | Investopedia.com

Below are four chosen coal stocks that look like they can make money going forward and give investors an opportunity to profit in this sector. All figures are current as of February 25, 2017.

CLOUD PEAK ENERGY INC.

The stock of Cloud Peak Energy Inc. (CLD) has been rising steadily since the beginning of 2016. However, 2017 has seen a slight decline. This has occurred on low volume, so the move could be a price consolidation that may form the foundation of a continued rise. The stock has found support around \$5 per share. A steep drop on February 23 was the result of the company offering new common shares. This dilutes the price of existing shares. The stock again found support at around \$5.00. Investors will be watching to see if the stock remains in its current base despite the dilution.

This company has been in business since 1993, so it offers investors a stable choice in the coal sector. Revenues have been increasing for the past three quarters.

BHP BILLITON

BHP Billiton (BHP) is a major miner of copper, iron and coal. It also works in the areas of silver, lead, zinc, uranium and gold. The advantage with this stock is that it does not rely exclusively on coal, so it is less likely to suffer if the coal market takes a downturn. This is not a pure coal play, but it does offer the protection of a diversified product portfolio.

BHP made a steady climb throughout 2016, and indications are that this trend will continue into 2017. The BHP chart looks extremely healthy, with the 50-day moving average well above the 200-day. The price dropped below the 50-day moving average on February 24th, but the stock is still in an upward price channel.

BHP is poised to outperform last year's growth in earnings, so investors may consider buying on the dips in anticipation of that growth getting priced into the stock.

RIO TINTO

Rio Tinto (RIO) is another company that mines other mineral resources besides coal. Its coal mines serve both the thermal (heating) and metallurgical (steel-making) industries. Like BHP, the diversity of products helps protect RIO from fluctuations in coal prices.

The stock has been in an uptrend for more than a year and is paying a dividend of 3.6%. The company has been raising production levels for products where demand is increasing.

The short-term moving average is widening the gap above the long-term average, indicating that the momentum of this stock is upward for the foreseeable future.

SOUTH32 LIMITED

South32 Limited (SOUHY) was a part of BHP but now operates independently. South32 was previously called BHP Coal Holdings. The company mines other products besides coal, but it does provide coal to both the thermal coal and metallurgical coal industries.

The stock began a steady uptrend in the beginning of 2016, and has continued that movement into 2017. There are no indications that South32's stock is overbought or that it has moved too high too fast. The action seems to be orderly and sustainable.

THE BOTTOM LINE

The four stocks on this list have been making investors money for the past year, and could make money throughout 2017.

When following these stocks, it is important to follow not only coal, but other minerals the companies work with. None of these is a pure coal miner. Checking the price of a basket of minerals will serve better than simply checking coal pricing.

In addition, continue to monitor quarterly reports to see if any downtrend occurs in revenues or operating income. If a slip in those figures does develop, this could be an indication that the stocks are about to reverse the long upward trend they have been in.

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QUARTERLY COAL REPORT

U.S. Energy Information Administration

Release Date: February 9, 2017 | Next Release Date: April 6, 2017

The Quarterly Coal Report provides detailed quarterly data on U.S. coal production, exports, and imports.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THIRD QUARTER 2016:

- U.S. coal production during third quarter 2016 totaled 195.1 million short tons. This was 21.6% higher than the previous quarter and 17.6% lower than third quarter 2015. Production in the Western Region, which represented about 58.7% of total U.S. coal production in third quarter 2016, totaled about 114.6 million short tons (15.3% lower than third quarter 2015).

- Third quarter 2016 U.S. coal exports (12.6 million short tons) decreased 11.3% from second quarter 2016 and decreased 26.0% from third quarter 2015. The average price of U.S. coal exports during the third quarter 2016 was \$67.24 per short ton. Steam coal exports totaled 3.5 million short tons (16.5% lower than second quarter 2016); metallurgical coal exports totaled 9.1 million short tons (9.8% lower than second quarter 2016)..

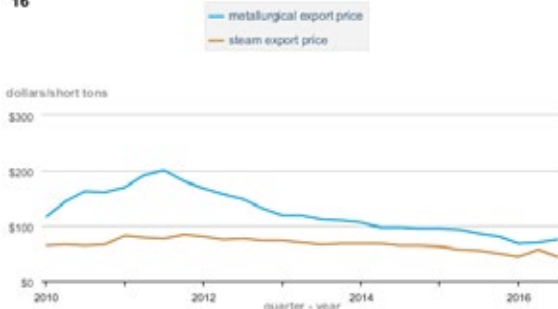
- U.S. coal consumption totaled 223.1 million short tons in third quarter 2016; this was 39.5% higher than the 159.9 million short tons reported in second quarter 2016 and 2.8% lower than the 229.4 million short tons reported in third quarter 2015. The electric power sector consumed about 94.3% of the total U.S. coal consumption in third quarter 2016.

- U.S. coal imports in third quarter 2016 totaled 2.7 million short tons. The average price of U.S. coal imports during the third quarter 2016 was \$62.70 per short ton. The United States continued to import coal primarily from Colombia (79.7%), Canada (11.8%), and Indonesia (6.2%).

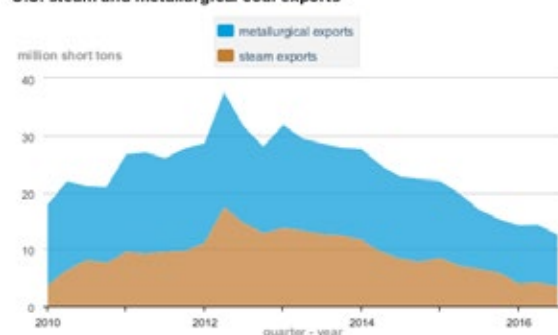
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- Third quarter 2016 coal stocks decreased to 197.5 million short tons from 226.2 million short tons at the end of second quarter 2016 (12.7% decrease). Stocks in the electric power sector decreased to 158.2 million short tons from 183.1 million short tons at the end of second quarter 2016 (13.6% decrease).

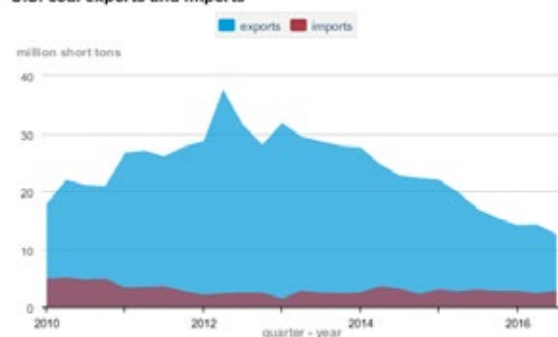
Average price of U.S. steam and metallurgical coal exports, 2010 - 16



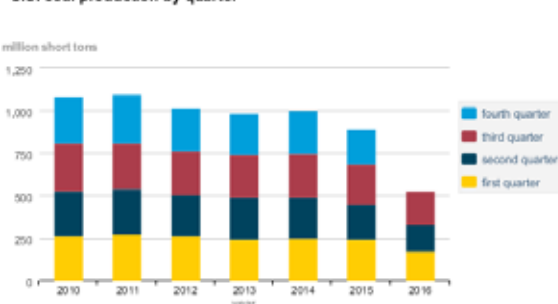
U.S. steam and metallurgical coal exports



U.S. coal exports and imports



U.S. coal production by quarter





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World News: UKRAINE

CLASHES OVER BLOCKADE OF COAL FROM EASTERN UKRAINE / February 20th, 2017 /

Seven people have been arrested during a protest to support a blockade of coal from Russian-backed rebels in the east. Ukraine's leaders say the obstruction, which started in late January, could lead to more power cuts.

Clashes broke out between Ukrainian ultra-nationalist demonstrators and police in central Kyiv on Sunday evening, a correspondent with the Agence France-Presse (AFP) news agency said.

Security forces had escorted the protesters as they marched from the Ukrainian capital's Independence or Maidan square to the offices of the president.

"Shame on the corrupt government!," "The enemy is within!" many shouted, some hurling firecrackers before the clashes.

"Poroshenko benefits from this trade, that's why he

is against the blockade," said 51-year-old protester Yevgen.

SEVERAL ARRESTS

According to news agency AFP, at least seven protesters were detained during the demonstration by more than 1,000 people, many wearing camouflage and balaclavas.

Among those arrested was Mykola Kokhanivskyi, the head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists.

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Before the violence began, he told the crowd: "We once again warn the authorities who trade coal with the occupied territories, making cash from blood."

Sunday's violence erupted over support for a rail blockade by nationalists who have blocked coal shipments from parts of eastern Ukraine held by Russian-backed separatists.

The blockade, which began in late January, has led to power shortages in government-held parts of the country, leading to officials declaring a state of emergency in the energy sector.

POWER CUT WARNING

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko says a blockade is the last thing the cash-strapped former Soviet state

needs at this time, warning that Kyiv and other cities could be left without heating.

Poroshenko has warned that up to 300,000 jobs could be lost as factories grind to a halt without power.

Ukrainian forces have been fighting separatist rebels in the east since April 2014, a conflict that had killed more than 9,800 people, and left Kyiv without full control of its vital industrial belt.

On Monday, a new ceasefire in eastern Ukraine is expected to come into effect, after a deal was brokered at the Munich Security Conference over the weekend.

The volatile region has seen a spike in violence in recent weeks despite an earlier truce agreement.

World News: IHS ENERGY EUROPEAN COAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

May 22-23, 2017 / Nice, France

IHS Energy will be presenting its annual European Coal Outlook Conference 2017.

IHS IS PRESENTING THE EUROPEAN COAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE IN NICE, FRANCE ON MAY 22-23, 2017

The IHS Energy European Coal Outlook Conference 2017. Topical debate and the very best networking on the major issues covering the European and wider coal markets.

Traditional thermal coal markets are on the move. Colombian cargoes are making inroads into East Asian markets, diverting tons away from Colombia's traditional European customer base. Will the United States be able to return as a swing supplier into the Atlantic and other markets?

Meanwhile, China continues to drive the global seaborne thermal coal market. In particular, it is threatening to reduce coal production once more with the potential re-introduction of its 276 working-day rule for coal mines, while India pushes ahead with market reforms.

The overriding question in coal is: What will the global market do next and how far will these changes impact the Atlantic markets?

The 16th Annual European Coal Outlook Conference by IHS Markit will flesh out these issues and provide a platform for discussion and debate.

Join all the serious players – your colleagues, customers and competitors – at the conference in May to make sure you are well-informed of the most critical topics and business trends shaping the global coal market.

To register please visit <http://www.opisnet.com/IHSCoalEvents/Nice/register.html>

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- 3- Nathan G. Phillips, 36, January 19th 2016, Alliance Resource Partners LP
- 4- Mark Frazier, 48, March 25th 2016, Arch Coal, Inc.
- 5- Eric Meddings, 50, May 16th 2016, Arch Coal, Inc.
- 6- Robbie E. Clark, 34, June 6th 2016, Robert E. Murray
- 7- Donald E. Workman, 58, August 4th 2016, Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.
- 8- Mathew B. Davis, 46, September 23rd 2016, Alpha Natural Resources, Inc.
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Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc.		Intercounty Electric Coop Association
ATCO Emissions Management	Delta Montrose Electric Assn.	Intermountain Rural Electric Assn.
Austin Energy	DIS-TRAN Packaged Substations, LLC	ION Consulting
AZCO INC.	Dowdy Recruiting LLC	Irby
		Irwin Industries, Inc.- Power Plant Services
Babcock & Wilcox Company	E & T Equipment, LLC	
Babcock Power, Inc.	E3 Consulting	J.L. Hermon & Associates, Inc.
Basin Electric Power Cooperative	El Paso Electric Company	
Beta Engineering	Electrical Consultants, Inc.	Kahuna Ventures, LLC
Black & Veatch Corp.	Emerson Process Management	Kansas City Board of Public Utilities
Black Hills Corporation	Empire Electric Association, Inc.	KD Johnson, Inc.
Black Hills Electric Cooperative	Encompass Energy Services LLC	Kiewit
BMT Acquisition, LLC	Energy & Resource Consulting Group, LLC	Kit Carson Electric Cooperative
Boilermakers Local #101	Energy Reps	Kleinfelder
Boone Electric Cooperative	Equal Electric, Inc.	Klondyke Construction LLC
Border States Electric	ESC engineering	
Bowman Consulting Group	Estes Park Light & Power Dept.	La Junta Municipal Utilities
Brand Energy & Infrastructure Services	Exponential Engineering Company	La Plata Electric Association, Inc.
Brooks Manufacturing Company		Lake Region Electric Coop Inc.
Burns & McDonnell		Lamar Utilities Board
Butler Public Power District	Foothills Energy Services Inc.	Laminated Wood Systems, Inc.
	Fort Collins Utilities	Las Animas Municipal Light & Power
C.I.Agent Solutions	Foster Wheeler	Lauren Engineers & Constructors
Carbon Power & Light, Inc.	Fuel Tech, Inc.	LEADERSHIP A Business
Casey Industrial, Inc.		Imperative, Inc.
CB&I	Gallup Joint Utilities	Lewis Associates, Inc.
CBS Arc Safe	GE Power & Water	Lincoln Electric System
Center Electric Light & Power System	Golder Associates, Inc.	Llewellyn Consulting
CH2M HILL	Grand Island Utilities	Longmont Power and Communications
Chimney Rock Public Power District	Grand Valley Rural Power Lines, Inc.	Loup River Public Power District
City of Alliance Electric Department	Great Southwestern Construction, Inc.	Loveland Water & Power
City of Aztec Electric Department		Luminate, LLC
City of Cody	Gunnison County Electric Association, Inc.	
City of Farmington		Magna IV Engineering Inc.
City of Fountain		Marsulex Environmental Technologies
City of Gillette	Hamilton Associates, Inc.	Missouri River Energy Services
City of Glenwood Springs	Hamon Research - Cottrell	Mitsubishi Power Systems
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City of Yuma	Hartigan Power Equipment Company	
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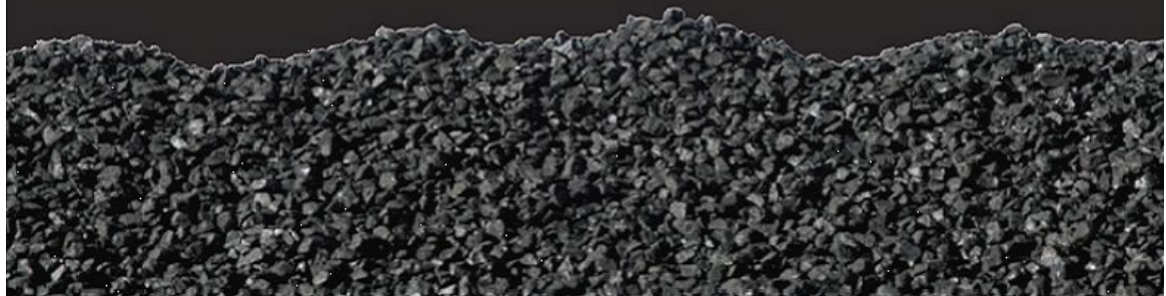


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Email: jimm@akjindustries.com
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FORD STEEL COMPANY

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Categories: Coal Support Services



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Fax: 724-887-2151
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Email: don@pennline.com

TRAXYS NORTH AMERICA

Contact: Matt Reed
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Website: www.traxys.com
Email: matt_reed@traxys.com



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Email: info@HardSteel.net
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Categories: Fans, Material Handling, Ash Handling Systems

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Categories: Coal Consumers

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JUNE 12-14, 2017

Operations and Maintenance
Conference

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MAY 2, 2017

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MAY 21-23, 2017

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Omaha, NE

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