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June 2018

*Wyoming Mining  
In a New Environment*



**63rd Annual Convention**

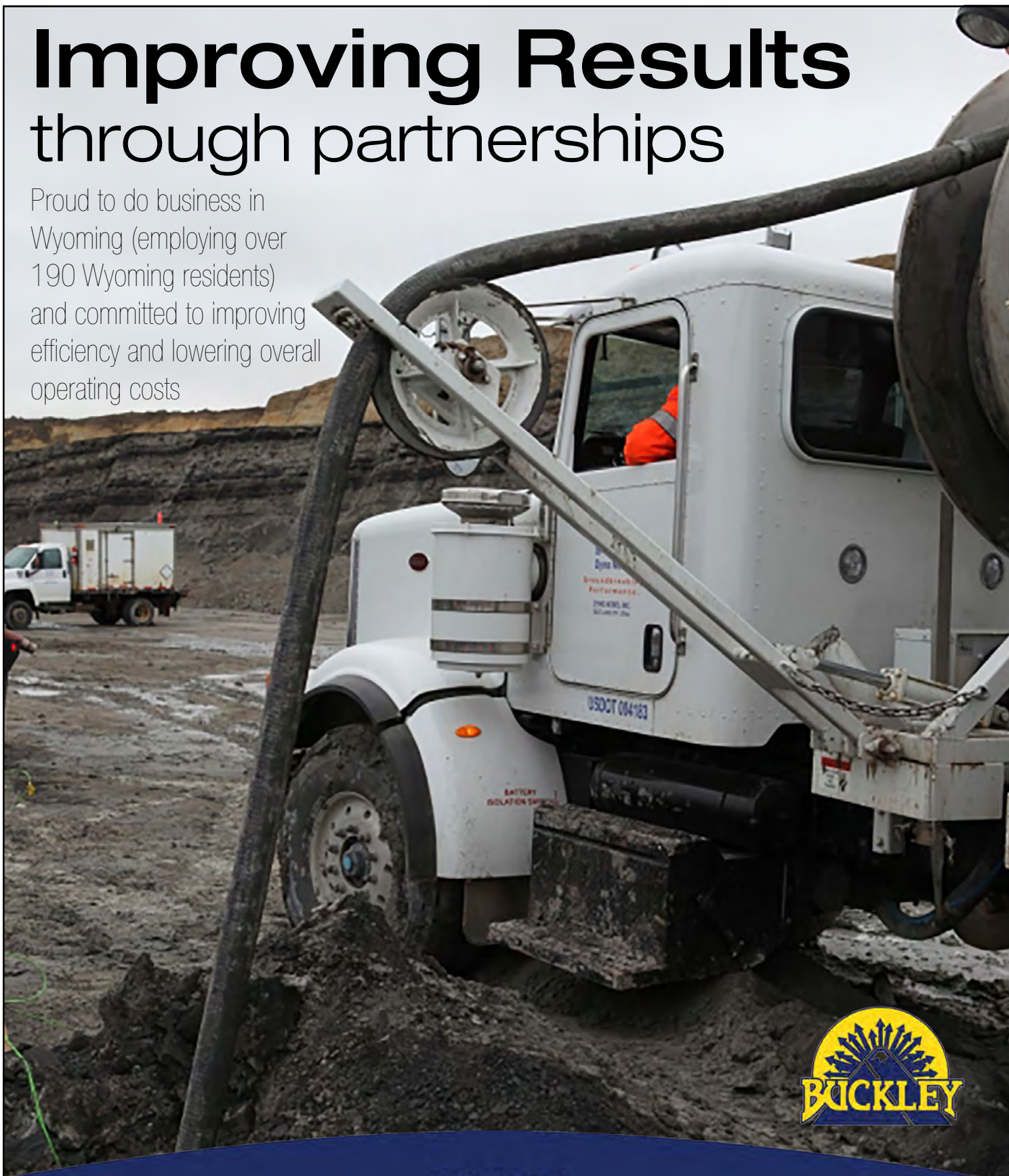
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### THE MINING CLAIM

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Pat Joyce.....Editor

# Mining in a New ENVIRONMENT

Nothing is as good as it seems. Nothing is as bad as it seems. And reality falls somewhere in between. I tell my kids this on a regular basis, and as we reflect on the last year for our industry, I think this statement has clear ring of truth.

Wyoming miners have seen significant changes over the last few years in their operating environment at both the state and federal levels. Some of these changes have been good for us, and some not so good. Today, while we find ourselves on what I believe is more stable ground, current challenges and future uncertainty remain.

No doubt the current federal regulatory environment under the Trump Administration has brought some welcome changes. The regulatory relief is real, and perhaps more importantly, the lines of communication between operators and federal agencies have reopened. Miners are being heard once again. While issues still certainly remain, it has been



**TRAVIS DETI**  
*Executive Director*  
Wyoming Mining Association

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# A Message From the WMA PRESIDENT

The Wyoming Mining Association continues to provide value to the citizens of Wyoming. Mining in Wyoming is not without challenges, which includes market share dilution by competing commodities, competition from foreign products, the costs associated with environmental and social responsibility, a diminishing trained and engaged future work force, and the current reality of diverse public opinion.



**DAN CLOSE**  
*WMA President*  
M-I SWACO

The WMA strives to stay relevant through its active engagement in Wyoming issues, fostering positive dialog among stakeholders with a priority focus on education and the promotion of safe and responsible mining. The WMA facilitates the collaborative efforts of industry/WDEQ work groups, provides guidance to local, county, and state leaders, actively partners with the business community, and promotes resource and industry-related education in the public schools.

Its member companies are actively involved in community safety and scholarship programs and community causes, provide innovative research into alternative options for products, lead the nation in safety accountability, and demonstrate some of the highest examples of reclamation in the world.

It is my personal belief that forward progress results not only from conviction and persistence, but from the forging of positive working relationships among all stakeholders. This involves seeking a common outcome, where possible, or affecting responsible change, where necessary. This strategy has, time and again, proved successful. ■

A guiding message to live by:

---

***“I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty.”***  
***– John D. Rockefeller, Jr.***

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*Dan Close is President of the Wyoming Mining Association.*

## In a New Environment

... Continued from Page 3

good to be at the table to talk about them and look for positive means to address challenges in a way that has not been available in recent years.

We also continue to make progress at the state regulatory level. The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality continues the stand-up of the Uranium Agreement State Program. Industry has been a driver in this effort and has been included at every step of the process. On a more concerning note, the agency undertook to revise rules for self-bonding. However, lines of communication have been open and industry has been involved from day one.

At the legislative level, we will continue to face the pressure of efforts to raise taxes on the industry as the state struggles to fill critical revenue shortfalls.

Market conditions also have a key role. All things considered, we've seen some good situations and some bad ones over the last year. On the coal front, we saw some recovery from the dreadful downturn of the past couple of years. Production was up, as well as employment. While challenges remain on the horizon, projections show Wyo-

ming coal will remain a critical source to help feed America's energy appetite for years to come.

Wyoming bentonite miners produced more than 1 million tons over the previous year while also adding employees. The trona and natural soda ash industry also saw increased production. Regretfully, our uranium producers continue to struggle with historic low prices and an over supplied market.

If one had to summarize the past year for the mining industry in Wyoming, the word “resilient” would be an apt description. The industry continued to face strong headwinds, but has proven its ability to adapt and remain strong. The theme of this year's annual convention of the Wyoming Mining Association is “Wyoming Mining in a New Environment.” We'll hear how our industry is adapting and what to expect going forward.

The operating environment has changed and will continue to do so. But in the end, Wyoming and America remain reliant on our vital industry. And we will continue to meet the challenge of providing the energy and raw materials used by every citizen every day. ■

---

*Travis Deti is the Executive Director of the Wyoming Mining Association.*

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## Office of the Governor



Dear Participants and Guests,

Welcome to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wyoming Mining Association Convention. Jackson is a great location, and I know you will have a productive meeting and also a good time.

Wyoming is the top producer of coal, bentonite, trona and uranium in the United States and proudly so. We have a bounty of other resources as well from diamonds to rare earth minerals – all with potential. Our minerals are treasures that yield many benefits to many people. They need to be developed responsibly not left unused, wasted in the ground. You are the folks that get the job done and we thank you.

The mining industry has played an indispensable role through Wyoming's history. The state is fiscally strong in great part because of the robust, diverse mining and industry sector. It generates revenue for our communities, schools, roads and infrastructure. Mining provides good paying, skilled jobs. Those who work in the mining sector appreciate clean air, water and the land. The industry is steadfast with its dedication to safety, responsible mining practices and reclamation.

During my time as Governor, Wyoming has worked to keep the mining industry strong. We developed two energy strategies, and continue to work against federal overreach and for expanded markets from CO2 pipeline corridors to incentives for carbon capture technology. We have built the Integrated Test Center, allowing Wyoming to take charge and lead the way to advance carbon capture technologies. Wyoming and mining are linked past, present and future. We look forward to a bright future as we know you do too.

June is a wonderful time of the year to be in the mountains. I hope your time allows for you to get out for a hike, fishing or golfing. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Mead".

Matthew H. Mead  
Governor

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# COAL-FUELED POWER

## Federal Battle Shifts to States

It's been just over a year since President Trump took office and our industry has benefited greatly from the change at the federal level. Yes, there is still work to be done in Washington DC, and yes this change cannot come soon enough. However, if you take a quick look at the achievements over the past year, you will see a remarkable turnaround.

- In Oct. 2017, U.S. EPA proposed to replace the Clean Power Plan (CPP) in its entirety. Public comments are due April 26, 2018. EPA predicts it will have a proposed CPP replacement rule by this June and a final CPP replacement rule in place by the end of 2018.
- Likewise, last year the EPA ask the D.C. Circuit Court to hold the New Source Performance Standard litigation in abeyance while it reviews and proposes changes to the NSPS for CO2.
- The EPA issued a new proposed rule concerning Coal Combustion Residue in March, 2018. This CCR rule allows for more state jurisdiction and disposal site flexibility.
- The Obama EPA Effluent Limitations Guidelines were postponed until May, 2019. A final ELF rule is scheduled to be out in Sept. 2020.
- Last February, the D.C. Circuit issued a ruling that vacated significant portions of EPA's 2008 (75ppb) Ozone Standard. In addition, the current EPA has taken measures to pull back on their 2015 revised Ozone Standard.
- At the request of the EPA, the D.C. Circuit is holding the Mercury and Air Toxics Standard (MATS), Startup Shutdown and Malfunction (SSM), and Regional Haze rules in abeyance while EPA reviews the rules and makes recommended changes.

### Sierra Club Combats Coal

It was obvious that the environmental groups saw the 'handwriting on the wall' early on and began to focus heavily on the states. Mary Ann Hitt, executive director of the Sierra Club's 'Beyond Coal' campaign made the following statement just weeks after Pres. Trump was sworn into office.

*"The strength of our campaign has been working with states and cities and utility commissions, so that every time there is a decision made about whether to invest in a coal plant or not, we are there to make the case that renewable energy is cheaper, and investing in coal is a bad bet. We're going to double down on that."*



**RANDY EMINGER**  
*Executive Director*  
Energy Policy Network



And indeed the Sierra Club has 'doubled down' in the states. The Sierra Club estimates it is filing a new lawsuit or appeal in the states roughly every three days. The attacks are not just in the courts. Other avenues used to kill coal include, intervening in electric utilities Integrated Resource Planning processes before state Public Utility Commissions, recruiting anti-fossil fuel candidates to run for state and local offices, and promoting state ballot initiatives to increase the renewable portfolio standards.

Engaging in over 35 states on multiple issues is expensive, but money doesn't seem to be a concern. Besides donations from its three million members, folks like Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyers are ponying up big bucks to kill coal. Bloomberg recently presented environmental groups with a \$64 million check, bringing his total to \$168 million since 2011.

We are fighting back. In 2015, the Energy Policy Network was created by a former Peabody Executive Kelly Mader. Although Kelly is no longer with us, his legacy lives on through the success of the organization. The mission of EPN is to represent PRB coal in the coal consuming states. We engage the Sierra Club on a plant-by-plant basis. Although we have a fraction of the funding and staff of the 'Beyond Coal' campaign, we have proved to be a formidable foe.

### EPN Counters Sierra Club Efforts

The EPN played a pivotal role in the victory to keep the Sooner Power Plant from converting to natural gas. Facing the requirement by the Obama EPA to put scrubbers on the facility, the natural gas industry, wind industry, and environmental groups teamed up to promote the closing of the plant instead of adding controls. To combat the effort, the EPN created a broad-based coalition of large industry, railroads, electric cooperatives, and consumer groups. Michelin, IBM, and American Airlines spoke in favor of adding controls and keeping the coal plant. In addition, 600 emails and over 200 personal phone calls poured into the three Oklahoma Corporation Commissioners a few days prior to the vote. The commission voted 2-1 in favor of the plan to add controls and keep the Sooner power plant in operation for many years to come. 2.6/MMT of PRB coal is shipped to this plant annually.



The next challenge came when EPN learned that an electric utility had signed a consent decree with the Sierra Club to close two of our nation's largest coal-fueled plants. The White Bluff and Independence Stations reside in Arkansas and represent 3,200MW of electric capacity. In the typical 'sue and settle' approach implemented under the Obama

administration, the Sierra Club sued the EPA on the issue of Regional Haze and the EPA settled. The settlement was to require Entergy to add \$2 billion in air controls or close the plants early. It didn't seem to matter that the state was meeting (in fact exceeding!) its Regional Haze improvement goals. The consent decree specified that White Bluff would close in 2025 and Independence in 2027.

## Life of Coal-Fueled Plants Extended

EPN brought together the large industrials (steel mills, pulp & paper, food processing, electronics), the natural gas consumers, and several coal companies to oppose the closing of the plants. The Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge decided the state should sue EPA and the Sierra Club in an effort to keep the plants operating. EPN joined the lawsuit in support of the state of Arkansas. For 14 months EPN engaged in tactics to keep the Sierra Club, EPA, and Entergy from moving forward with its plan to close the two plants. In the end, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality drafted a new state implementation plan (SIP) that calls for the use of Low-sulfur coal as the only control requirement. The final step is for the Trump EPA to accept the new SIP. We expect that to happen this spring. Meanwhile, the 8th Circuit Court has stayed the lawsuit pending final action by the EPA.

The battle was long and expensive, but in the end it added a combined 19 years of life to these two plants. With a PRB coal burn of 8.5/MMT annually, the fight was certainly worth it.

Although EPN prefers to work with electric utilities to prolong the life of coal plants, in some cases we have to oppose them. Late last year, Xcel introduced an Energy Resource Plan that did not call for the early closure of any of their Colorado coal fleet. In January they backtracked and produced a new ERP calling for the closure of Coman-



**ABOVE:** EPN won a long, expensive battle resulting in an additional combined 19 years of life for two Arkansas power plants that burn PRB coal.

**LEFT:** EPN tours Caballo Rojo mine with legislators from Arkansas.

che units I & II, and replacing them with wind and solar energy. Given that Xcel recently added \$190 million in air controls to the two units at Comanche and the fact that the Comanche plant produces extremely low-cost electricity (1.6 cents/Kwh), it makes no sense to close them early. Therefore, EPN's latest endeavor is to work with a group of concerned businesses in the state to intervene in Xcel's ERP, before the Colorado Public Regulatory Commission. Our 'Ratepayer Coalition' has made substantive arguments before the commission. For instance, Xcel claims retiring the coal plants and replacing them with renewables will save customers money. However, they failed to factor in the cost of transmission for the renewable resources. Xcel also failed to account for the \$173 million in sunken cost of Comanche I & II and to add the decommissioning cost of the two units. EPN will continue to oppose the early closure of Comanche I & II. The Commission makes a final decision in late July. The Comanche Power Station consumes 5.6/MMT of PRB coal annually.

## Coal Power Can Be Undervalued

One of our biggest challenges is that policymakers from coal consuming states do not understand the importance of coal-fueled power to their state. EPN is proud to work with organizations such as the Wyoming Infrastructure Authority to help educate legislators and regulators on the value of PRB coal to their economy.

In the states, the battles for coal-fueled power plants are more intense than ever. EPN continues to gain experience in trench warfare, and with your help, we hope to have many more successes. ■

*Randy Eminger is the Executive Director of the Energy Policy Network.*



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# REGULATORY AFFAIRS

## Committee Covers All Mining Sectors

The Wyoming Mining Association is a statewide trade organization that advocates and communicates on issues affecting and impacting the mining industry in Wyoming. Tracking and working to understand how our industry can be affected by local, state and national events and issues requires a robust group of people with a broad range of expertise. Regulatory topics in the environmental arena alone span the alphabet from air to zoology with dozens of regulatory agencies at all levels of government. The WMA wraps its arms around the regulatory environment through the Regulatory Affairs Committee.

The Regulatory Affairs Committee is charged with maintaining awareness, communicating through the organization, and becoming involved in regulatory matters to further the interests of the mining community in Wyoming and the Nation. The Committee is composed entirely of volunteers from within the mining industry and affiliated companies and consulting firms. The Committee advises the WMA and receives administrative support through the Wyoming Mining Association staff. Membership of the Committee represents each of the four mining sectors (bentonite, coal, trona and uranium). Participation is considerable in some sectors, less so in others, and never enough. There are always many more issues than people or time to address them. Consequently, choosing which issues or projects to address and which to monitor is always a challenge. Nevertheless RAC has risen to the occasion and made meaningful professional, scientific and technical contributions to many of the most impactful issues in recent years.

### What can the Committee do for you?

With participation from the various mining sectors, Regulatory Affairs Committee has been able to leverage considerable knowledge and experience in various regulatory topic areas to the advantage of the entire industry. For example, in 2016, drawing from all four mining sectors, Regulatory Affairs Committee, through its bond subcommittee, organized an effort to demonstrate the actual costs of operating large earth-moving equipment in Wyoming. The Committee collected and summarized operating and cost data on thousands of pieces of mining equipment from the membership. The summary was submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality to demonstrate that costs published by the agency for use in calculating reclamation performance bonds were inordinately high. After consideration, the State Agency refined costs in their guidance documents. This helped to “right-size” the bond



**PHILIP C. DINSMOOR**  
*Chair, WMA Regulatory  
Affairs Committee*  
Peabody

calculations and eliminated inflated bond liabilities by up to 30% for some operators.

In another instance, the Committee realized in 2013 that each of the mining sectors was being treated differently by federal agencies in the application of cultural resource evaluation and protection requirements. The individual company and mining sectors consolidated their efforts under the Archaeology Subcommittee and the agencies were approached in a more unified effort. Because of this coordinated effort, including WMA testimony before the Wyoming Legislature’s Select Committee on Federal Resource Management, the mining industry has been more effective in negotiating revised protocols and guidelines.

Regulatory Affairs Committee evaluates and comments on tens of rule and policy proposals at the state and federal levels each year. Topics range from Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act proposals to wildlife and mining rules and regulations. In recent years the Committee has established regular meetings with Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality officials; engaged with State and Federal mining, environmental protection and wildlife agencies; and various resource management organizations. The object is to learn; to maintain awareness of the regulatory actions; and to make sure that regulatory organizations recognize the Wyoming mining industry as a viable, informed, coordinated and engaged industry. The committee brings to the table many hundreds of years of regulatory experience, scientific, engineering, permitting, reclamation and compliance knowledge in dozens of regulatory programs.

### What can you do for Regulatory Affairs?

We have seen that environmental regulations, policies and programs will continue to change, regardless of which political party is in control of the state or federal governments. We have demonstrated that we can influence these regulations policies and programs if we engage early and in a coordinated fashion. Recognize what this Committee has done for your mining company in the past, and what this Committee can do for your mining company in the future. This takes people with experience and knowledge in mining and related matters. Encourage participation from all levels of your organization’s environmental department, regardless of their years of experience. ■

---

*Philip C. Dinsmoor is the Chairman of the WMA Regulatory Affairs Committee and serves as the Director of Environmental Services for Peabody.*



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# From the Assistant Director's Desk

## WMA Focuses on Safety & Education

It has been a great year with tremendous opportunity for the Wyoming Mining Association to continue to build on previous programs and establish new opportunities. The focus from this desk is on education, safety and everything legislative. Oh, and yes, sage grouse.

This past year the WMA Teachers Workshop was held in coordination with the Wyoming Department of Education STEM program with a new twist in Gillette. WMA hosted Wyoming teachers at the Buckskin Mine for a half-day educational lecture by Russell Krall of Buckskin Mine as well as a hands-on tour of the mine. Teachers were able to see first-hand the working of the mine after they learned in a classroom setting what the mine operation entails. WMA will participate in the STEM program again this year with a tour of the Uranium One mine thanks to Greg Kruse, Manager of U.S. Operations.

WMA is re-establishing the Education committee to open a working relationship with the Career Technical Division within the Wyoming Department of Education to develop a pilot project that would re-introduce the career skills that are no longer taught in the school curriculum that prepare students to enter the workforce. Such skills, today, are referred to as "soft skills" which you have no doubt heard discussed. Guy Jackson, Director of the Wyoming Department of Education CT Division has opened the door to WMA to develop this program and is working with us to develop the pilot. The details are under discussion.

WMA has also reached out to the Wyoming Contractors Association and the Wyoming Trucking Association to join us in this effort as many of their members are also members of the Mining Associates of Wyoming (MAW).

This year the Health and Safety committee stepped out and expanded the Safety seminar to an extra half day including speakers from national and international mine safety specialties. A Miner's banquet was also added on the first evening with US and Canadian Safety consultant, Eldeen Pozniak of Pozniak Safety Associates as the keynote speaker.

The Health and Safety committee is an active and committed group who have made this event highly worthwhile to all who attended. We have also added sponsorships for this event and we were very pleased to see the wide scope of support from the mines and the MAW members. Everyone is committed to making this a showcase event for WMA from here on out.

The 2018 Health and Safety Seminar is scheduled for September 25-26 at the Ramkota in Casper, Wyoming.

WMA was invited to participate in the Wyoming Excels education outreach program, under the authority of the



**PAT JOYCE**  
*Assistant Director*  
Wyoming Mining Association

Wyoming Heritage program, a partner of the Wyoming Business Alliance. This program was spearheaded by WMA's own trona mine manager, Fred Von Ahrens of Genesis Alkali in Green River. As a result, Fred is now the Chairman of Excels and Pat Joyce is the Secretary-Treasurer. Katie Legerski, Executive Director of the Wyoming Contractor's Association is the Vice Chairman.

Again, this year, WMA is working with the Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom to establish the working curriculum which also includes an emphasis on energy and mining.

We continue to be a part of the sage grouse discussion along with the rest of the energy and agriculture industries. WMA members, Fred Von Ahrens and Julie Lutz of

Genesis Alkali, Lyndon Bucher of American Colloid, Laurel Vicklund and Phil Dinsmoor of Peabody are the resident experts who attend the SGIT meetings and keep the rest of us up to date. We sincerely appreciate their hard work and dedication to this ongoing and vital work in progress.

I'm looking forward to this next year of working with all of you who belong to WMA and MAW. I see a lot of opportunity to expand our influence and make this association more valuable to you our members. Always feel free to call the office and let me know what's on your mind. I look forward to serving the men and women of mining in Wyoming. ■

---

*Pat Joyce is the Wyoming Mining Association Assistant Director.*

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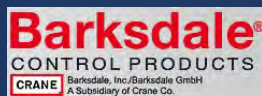


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# ANOTHER YEAR INJURY FREE



The Wyodak Mine employees mined 4.2 million tons of coal in 2017, which was used to generate 720 MW of electricity to our local communities. This was all accomplished without a lost-time incident.

Congratulations and thank you to the Wyodak Mine and Black Hills Energy Generation employees for their hard work and ceaseless dedication to safety and each other.



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# SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT

Each morning we wake up, step out of bed and prepare for our day at the mine. As we begin our day, each of us start to think about what the day will look like and the tasks we may face. While we consider these tasks and possible issues, none of us think this is the day we are going to be injured. While we may never think today is the day I will be injured, very few times do we ever begin to consider how we will perform our tasks and get through our day safely.

As we enter our mine sites, each of us enter a dynamic world which is never the same and can change minutes after we walk through an area. We work with risks and hazards weekly, daily and hourly. We all have safety programs to help us mitigate these risks and hazards, but do we make sure everyone understands what Safety truly means. Many believe working safely means being incident or accident free. While incident and accident free can be a product of working safely, many times we can be accident and incident free without practicing safe working procedures. We were lucky rather than being safe.

What is Safety? Safety IS NOT the absence of injury or incident, but rather the presence and capability to recognize, control, manage, communicate and mitigate hazards and risk exposures. Safety is the effort of recognizing and addressing the “not so obvious” and the “what lies beneath”. Safety is respect for yourself, your environment, your peers and your family. Your decisions DO NOT only affect you. Your decision making affects your family, your co-workers, your employer, your industry and your community. Safety incorporates three main things: The Individual, the environment and the behavior as well as attitude and decisions which are also involved and help to drive the behavior. Each of these elements need to be in alignment.

Having the tools, knowledge and education to make the right decisions. Recognizing the not so obvious which includes, the at-risk behaviors, shortcuts, near miss reporting and thinking about possible incidents which occur while performing the task. Asking the questions “What If?”, and “What Could?”. Understanding risks and hazards and knowing how to mitigate them. Respect for your family and peers, understanding each decision we make affects more than just ourselves are all aspects of working safely. In 2004 there was a fatality at our trona facility. An underground bolter operator, with more than ten years of experience, was fatally injured when he stepped off a miner and put himself in between the tail of the miner and the rib. The most difficult part of the event was not performing CPR on the individual I had grown up with, but rather walking into the hospital and seeing his

---

***What is Safety? Safety is NOT the absence of injury or incident, but rather is the presence and capability to recognize, control, manage, communicate and mitigate hazards and risk exposures.***

---

wife, kids and father who I had known all my life. When his wife came up to me and asked me if he was going to be “Ok”, I knew this was the toughest moment of my mining career.

As the Wyoming Mining Association Health and Safety Committee, we are committed to ensuring that Wyoming miners have the tools, education, and knowledge to make the right decisions when evaluating the various tasks to be performed, regarding the hazards and risks they are faced with. We will do this through informational bulletins, updates and articles on the WMA website. Please plan to attend our annual Health and Safety Conference scheduled for September 25 and 26, 2018 at the Ramkota in Casper. See the WMA website for more details. ■

---

*Neil Malicoat is the Safety Superintendent for Ciner Wyoming and chairs the WMA Health and Safety Committee.*

---

## SAVE THE DATE

### WMA Health and Safety Seminar and Trade Show September 25-26, 2018

Ramkota Hotel &  
Convention Center  
Casper, WY

#### Featuring:

- Nationally Recognized Safety Speakers
- Key Mining Safety Demonstrations on Site
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Rocky Mountain Power takes pride in serving Wyoming. You'll see it in our dedication to safety and the jobs that help fuel Wyoming's economy. You'll see it in our support for local organizations that make this community a great place to live and work.



See Page 36 for the 2017 Safety Award Winners  
who will be recognized at this year's conference.

# NELSON BROTHERS

# 25

WESTERN  
REGION  
1993 - 2018



## WESTERN REGION HISTORIC HIGHLIGHTS

**1993**

*Establishes Western Region operation*

**1995**

*Commissions state-of-the-art emulsion facility near Gillette, WY*

**1999**

*Nelson Brothers and Orica USA form Joint Venture*

**2001**

*Introduction of I-kon electronic blasting system*

**2007**

*Introduction of UniTronic electronic blasting system*

**2012**

*Introduction of Next Generation UniTronic electronic blasting system*

**2013**

*Major infrastructure expansion at emulsion facility*

**2014 - 2017**

*Completes transition of entire bulk truck fleet (~30 units) to Western Star chassis*



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A Division of the Wyoming Mining Association

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# LETTER FROM PRESIDENT GROOMBRIDGE

It has truly been a privilege and an honor to serve as the president of the Mining Associates of Wyoming (MAW) for 2017-2018. I am grateful to have been supported by the Mining Associates board members who represent the association and mining community with such dedication.

I want to thank all Mining Associates of Wyoming members who share a goal to promote the mining industry and support the Wyoming Mining Association. For the health and to gain strength in the industry, it is critical that we continue to collectively fight on all fronts to change legislation, educate, and improve attitudes toward mining. The contributions of our industries to our communities and state are considerable. Our associations are the proprietors for Wyoming families who depend on us for jobs, livelihood, and security.

Mining Associates of Wyoming memberships help fund our collective efforts. Hence, the importance of your participation in being a MAW member. Two thirds of the MAW dues go directly to the Wyoming Mining Association to influence, promote, and educate the overall benefits to the state through safe responsible mining. I encourage all companies who are not members of MAW to participate in our efforts. There are three levels of patronage including, Patron, Sustaining, and Associate, available to support from. Again, my gratitude to all current MAW members for your support.

I want to take this opportunity to talk a little about the most important role we have, and that is to ensure our employees go home safe. Safety is a shared vision we all have. MAW will continue to support and recognize members of the Mining Associates of Wyoming for their commitment and achievements to work safe. Safety awards for 2017 performance in small, medium, and large contractor categories will be presented at the convention. On behalf of the board and myself, congratulations to this years awarded companies.

At the annual convention in June, MAW will be hosting a function following the golf tournament for everyone including family members. I encourage you to attend to enjoy food, refreshments, and door prizes.

Once more, it has been a great opportunity and pleasure to serve the mining industry as the president for the Mining Associates of Wyoming. It has been an honor in serving and meeting truly inspirational and dedicated people on both sides of mining and suppliers. ■



**RUSSELL GROOMBRIDGE**  
*President*  
Mining Associates of Wyoming

*Russell Groombridge is President of the Mining Associates of Wyoming.*





# MINING ASSOCIATES OF WYOMING



We've been the strong right arm of the Wyoming mining industry for over 30 years! We, the service & supply companies, support the Wyoming Mining Association. Thanks to the skilled, dedicated people, equipped with the best machines, tools and techniques on earth, Wyoming mining continues to be safe, strong and vital.



Thanks to the support of our members, we're helping to keep it that way!

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# MINING ASSOCIATES OF WYOMING

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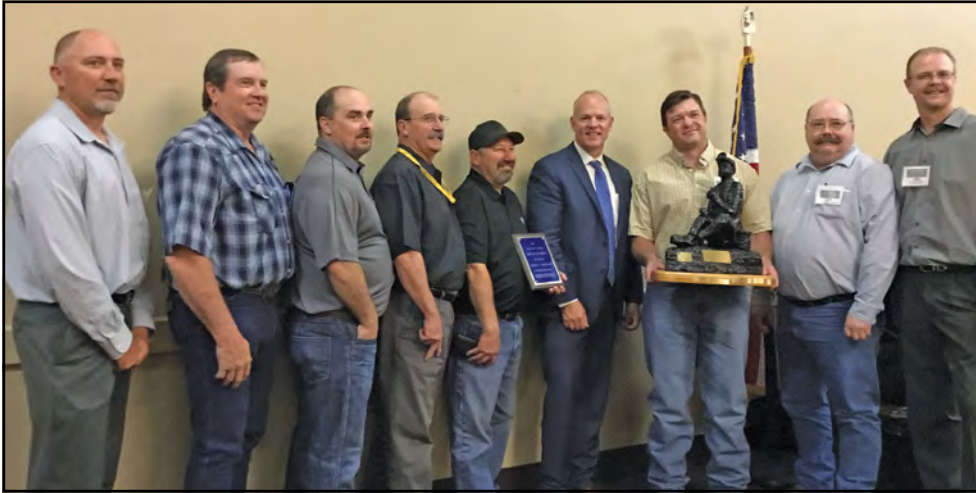


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# The 2017 WMA Convention in Pictures



**TOP ROW LEFT:** Governor Matt Mead presents the Safe Sam Award to Cloud Peak Energy's Cordero Rojo Mine for finishing the year with the most manhours without a lost-time accident.

**TOP ROW RIGHT:** The Peck Community Achievement Award winner for 2017 was Mr. Todd Jolovich of Wyodak Resources.

**MIDDLE ROW LEFT:** Dave Simonson of Wyoming Machinery presents the Loomis Trophy to the winning foursome of the annual WMA golf tournament.



**MIDDLE ROW RIGHT:** Governor Matt Mead presents WMA Executive Director Travis Deti with the 2017 State of Wyoming Reclamation Award for Non-Coal. WMA, in conjunction with the Wyoming uranium industry earned the award for work in standing up Wyoming agreement state program.

**BOTTOM ROW:** Wyoming State Senators Michael Von Flatern, Eli Bebout and Drew Perkins discuss the legislative activity at the 2017 WMA convention.



From our scholarship program to hiring and purchasing, we are proud of our record of commitment and involvement in our communities.

Together we're working to provide opportunity and build a better future for the people of Crook County.

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**ISR URANIUM MINE**

# Congratulations, Bucksin Mine Employees worked 2017 without a Recordable Incident!



**Bucksin Mining Company would like to recognize the following employees for their dedication to safety.**

- |                    |                     |                     |                |                    |                     |                   |                    |
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| Eric Adams         | Jay Brosa           | Lacey Derby         | Justin Grant   | Russell Krall      | Jay Melton          | Mark Piercy       | James Sweet        |
| Tom Albin          | Gilley Brown        | Chris Didier        | Larry Hagen    | Loren Lang         | Jeremy Merdink      | Eric Powers       | Jason Thomas       |
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| Amanda Andreen     | Craig Bryan         | Scott Domino        | Corey Hanten   | Eric Lee           | Christopher Michael | Ron Reed          | Brandon Thornton   |
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| Andy Andrews       | Colton Callaway     | Josh Eggers         | Terry Hart     | Lance Lehto        | Joseph Michael      | Brett Reynolds    | Brian Tusha        |
| Tom Bach           | Patrick Campbell    | Bill Elberson       | Nick Herman    | Duane Leonard      | Justin Miller       | Bill Richards     | Devon Tutor        |
| Rene Baker         | Jules Casey         | Teresa Evans        | Rhett Hoffman  | George Leupold     | Michael Mills       | Jack Ringeisen    | Morgan Uhrig       |
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| Jeff Beckham       | Dennis Conlon       | Mark Fogle          | Kerry Jackson  | Troy Mallak        | Tri Nation          | Dustin Salmon     | Hunter Wickland    |
| Wade Bellon        | Greg Conner         | Matt Fogle          | Kramer Jackson | Mark Martin        | Bill Neiman         | Josh Schmit       | Brian Williams     |
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| Cody Bertalot      | JT Crawford         | Rose Frieling       | Lyle Keller    | Daniel Mattson     | Paul Norfolk        | Dave Smith        | Dirk Wise          |
| Bryan Bietz        | Joe Dahlhausen      | Josh Fronk          | Terry King     | Steven Maurer      | Sonny Oedekoven     | Mark Spear        | Chad Wissler       |
| Aaron Borden       | Arthur Dahn         | Brandon Fullenwider | Dave Kirsch    | David Mayes        | John Owolabi        | Matt Spear        | Kurt Wolch         |
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COMPANY**



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**500  
million tons  
of coal.**



# 2018 Convention Speakers

## “In Washington, A Red Light Turned to Green”

– Ms. Katie Sweeney, *Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel*, National Mining Association



**Katie Sweeney**  
*National Mining Association*

**Katie Sweeney** is Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs & General Counsel for the National Mining Association. She practices environmental, mining, public land, administrative and corporate law. Katie is responsible for managing the association's legal services and litigation program. Ms. Sweeney has been with NMA for 28 years and most recently served as deputy general counsel. Additionally, she is a trustee of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.

She is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and the George Mason School of Law.

## “Global Perspective for Wyoming Trona”

– Mr. Mike Lacey, *President*, Solvay North America



**Michael Lacey**  
*Solvay*

**Michael Lacey** serves as President of the North America Zone for Solvay. In his role as president of GBU Soda Ash and Derivatives, Mike is responsible for developing, articulating and implementing the strategic growth plan for Solvay Chemicals' businesses operating in North America. Prior to heading up North America, Mike was Executive Vice President, Finance & IT and Chief Financial Officer for Solvay North America.

During his tenure, he oversaw annual turnover of more than \$3 billion and was project leader for Conexia which established a single global integrated enterprise resource planning (ERP) system for all operating companies. Mike came to Solvay in 2002 in the acquisition of Ausimont and served as President of the newly formed company, Solexis.

## “Wyoming Bentonite: Providing for American and World Needs”

– Mr. David Brown, *President and CEO*, Wyo-Ben, Inc.



**David S. Brown**  
*Wyo-Ben, Inc.*

**David S. Brown** is President and CEO of Wyo-Ben, Inc., a Billings, Montana headquartered mining and manufacturing company. The company mines the industrial mineral Bentonite and manufactures dozens of bentonite clay based products at its three Wyoming plants for worldwide application in oil & gas drilling, water treatment, consumer products, cat litter, construction, metal casting and steel making, to name a few. The company also manufactures drilling mud recycling equipment under its Thunder Products Division plant in Ponder, Texas.

Brown is a member of the Board of Directors of the Billings Clinic and has served as Chairman of the Board since July of 2014. He recently joined the American Hospital Association's Committee on Governance. He serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Western Region, Boy Scouts of America. He is also a member of the Board of the Montana Council. He is the Immediate Past President of the Industrial Minerals Association, North America and also serves as a Director of the National Mining Museum and Hall of Fame. Brown's other business interests include a 3rd generation family ranch and farm operation at Custer, Montana, started by his grandfather, Rockwood Brown, Sr.

Brown received his MBA from Pacific Lutheran University. He and his wife, Jinx, have three children.

## “Changing the Paradigm for the Domestic Uranium Industry”

– Mr. Wayne Heili, *Managing Director and CEO*, Peninsula Energy



**Wayne Heili**  
*Peninsula Energy*

**Wayne Heili** is the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Peninsula Energy Limited, an Australian Stock Exchange listed company focused on the production of uranium and the development of advanced uranium projects. The Company has offices in Perth, WA and Wyoming, USA where its flagship Lance ISR Project is located.

Heili has committed his 30-year professional career to the uranium recovery industry. He has held various process engineering, management and executive positions at both ISR and conventional uranium recovery projects. While maintaining an operational and technical focus throughout, Wayne has significant experience in new mine development, project finance and uranium markets. Prior to joining Peninsula, Mr. Heili led the team at Ur-Energy that designed, built and operated the successful Lost Creek ISR production facility in Wyoming.

Wayne earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Metallurgical Engineering with a Mineral Processing emphasis from Michigan Technological University in 1988. During his career, he has proudly served as an officer of the Wyoming Section of the SME and as a Director for both the Uranium Producers of America and the Wyoming Mining Association (WMA). Mr. Heili was the President of the WMA in 2011-2012. He also served the City of Casper Wyoming in 2016 as a City Councilman. Wayne and his wife Stacie are the proud parents of three very talented young adults.

## “Westmoreland Coal Company: A 163-Year Perspective”

– Mr. Joe Micheletti, *Chief Operating Officer*, Westmoreland Coal Company



**Joseph E. Micheletti**  
*Westmoreland Coal*

**Joe Micheletti** is currently Chief Operating Officer of Westmoreland Coal Company. Mr. Micheletti is the officer responsible for day to day operations of Westmoreland’s (19) mining operations across Canada and the US. Westmoreland’s cornerstone/core value of “Uncompromised Safety” and a culture of always treating people right, are the attributes of Westmoreland that he is most proud of. Joe joined Westmoreland in August 1998 and he overflows with great

admiration and pride in leading a committed and dedicated workforce of 3,000 employees. From 2012 through 2016, Joe was key to growing Westmoreland’s business platform four-fold, having led due diligence, business plan development, and overseeing integration of multiple acquisitions.

A mineral processing engineer by education, Joe graduated with honors from Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology in 1987. Joe started his mining career in the gold mining industry, but has now spent most of his career with Westmoreland in the coal sector. He has worked in the production, maintenance, processing, and engineering disciplines of the mining industry for 31 years. Joe previously served as President of the Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute, an association of nine western US states dedicated to the promotion of western coal through public education and youth scholarship.

Joe is a fourth generation Montanan; an Anaconda kid. He and his beautiful wife Jenni reside in Billings, Montana and are blessed with three children; Joey, Alyssa and Nico.

## “Permitting a Coal Export Facility on the Left Coast”

– Mrs. Wendy Hutchinson, *Vice President of Public Affairs*, Millennium Bulk Terminals



**Wendy Hutchinson**  
*Peninsula Energy*

**Wendy Hutchinson** is the Vice President of External Affairs for Millennium Bulk Terminals – Longview, LLC. Millennium is an operating bulk materials port on the Columbia River in Longview, Washington, which was initially home to an aluminum smelter built in 1941. The site is being redeveloped into a coal export facility. Wendy Hutchinson has over 25 years of experience in industrial site development,

regulatory affairs and environmental management. She received her BS and MS degrees in civil engineering from The Ohio State University. Prior to joining Millennium, Wendy was the Regulatory Affairs Manager for Thunder Basin Coal Company in Wright, Wyoming. Wendy oversaw permitting for several major expansions of the Black Thunder Mine that grew permitted capacity more than fivefold. Her guidance resulted in the addition of 1.9 billion tons of mine coal reserves, while maintaining an exceptional compliance and reclamation record. Wendy also served for 10 years as a governor’s appointee to the Wyoming Environmental Quality Council. Wendy currently serves on the board of the Longview Chamber of Commerce and the Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Institute. When she’s not in Washington explaining to people that coal is a legal commodity, Wendy can be found horseback with her husband on their buffalo ranch in NE Wyoming.

## WMA President's Lunch Guest Speaker:

The Honorable Joe Balash, *Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, U.S. Department of the Interior*



**Joe Balash**  
*U.S. Department  
of the Interior*

**Joe Balash** is the Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management for the U.S. Department of the Interior. He is a former Alaska Department of Natural Resources Commissioner where he managed one of the largest single portfolios of land and water resources in the world, with more than 100 million acres of uplands, 40-60 million acres of submerged lands and tidelands, and more than 500,000 barrels of oil produced daily. Before going to the Department of the Interior, he served as chief of staff for U.S. Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska.

As Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Balash oversees DOI federal agencies including the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement.

Balash is a native of North Pole, Alaska, and has more than 19 years experience in land and natural resource management.

### “Safety & Reclamation in the New Environment”

– The Honorable Wayne D. Palmer, *Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Mine Safety and Health Administration*



**Wayne D. Palmer**  
*Mine Safety and  
Health Administration*

**Wayne D. Palmer** is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Mine Safety and Health Administration. He was appointed to the position in August 2017, following engagements as Senior White House Advisor for the Department of Labor and Chief of Staff to Secretary R. Alexander Acosta.

Palmer previously served as Senior Manager of Congressional Relations at the nonpartisan Center for Presidential Transition, where he armed transition teams with innovative tools to navigate the Senate confirmation process effectively.

Prior to that he oversaw operations for a global consultancy and owned a private consulting practice where he crafted health policy options for the National Association of Manufacturers and served as Thought Leader for IMS Health. For three years he spearheaded the drug safety team in Federal Government Relations at the world's 7th largest pharmaceutical company and subsequently managed C-level governance teams for its \$13 billion U.S. unit.

Earlier he served U.S. Sen. George Voinovich (OH) and Conference Chairman Rick Santorum (PA) for 13 combined years in a variety of legislative/management roles, lastly as Santorum's Chief of Staff.

A native Pennsylvanian, Mr. Palmer earned his B.A. in Political Science from Penn State University and Master of Government Administration degree from the University of Pennsylvania, subsequently entering federal service as a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of Commerce and rotating through the U.S. House, U.S. Senate and White House Office of Management and Budget.

### “Building a Safety Culture – One Worker, One Shift, One Day at a Time”

– Mr. Bill Boyle, *Safety Manager,  
Interstate Companies, Inc.*



**Bill Boyle**  
*Interstate Companies*

**Bill Boyle** with Interstate Power-Systems was born in Boston and raised by two hard working parents that both emphasized safety at home, work and personal activities. Bill has taken that advice and along with his creative thinking approach built a solid safety program wherever he ventured. A highly energized “Safety Guy” with a 30 plus year proven track record in Safety, Risk Management and Security. The success of Bill's approach and concepts was the results of his introduction in the mid 1990's to workplace organization initiatives with a strong focus on process improvement through 5S and Six Sigma.

Bill immediately grasped hold of the concept of how an organized workplace has a direct correlation in reduction of workers injury, equipment failures and facility damage, while at the same time developing a highly motivated workforce.

Bill has nicely tied 5S and Process Improvement to organizing the workplace by delivering relevant safety topics, creating a detailed auditing process and inviting all employees to participate in safety teams and safety committees. With each organization that has believed in this process there has been a dramatic reduction in workplace injuries, workers compensation, annual insurance premiums and a significant decrease in OSHA and EMR rates year over year. Among these industries and agencies where Bill has applied this process to are Major Air Carriers, Construction, Energy, Land and Sea Transportation, Military Organizations and Government Security Agencies.

As Bill states “it's not a difficult task to make the workplace or your home safer you just need to know and understand the people, their jobs and their willingness to follow a process from start to finish.”

## “Mining, Ecology and Energy”

– Mr. Kyle Wendtland, *Administrator*,  
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality,  
Land Quality Division



**Bill Boyle**

*Interstate Companies*

Mr. Kyle J. Wendtland has been the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Land Quality Division Administrator since April of 2015. Prior he was an Environmental Engineering Manager for the coal industry. Mr. Wendtland has held a wide range of environmental and engineering positions and has extensive experience in environmental and reclamation issues. Mr. Wendtland began his career with the Montana Department of State Lands in 1991 with the coal regulatory program and subsequently moved to private industry in 1993. Mr. Wendtland holds a Master's of Science and Bachelors of Science in Range Management with a focus in disturbed land reclamation from the University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming. Mr. Wendtland has been recognized for his contributions in advancing reclamation science at the state and national levels.

## “Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation: Industry Providing for People While Partnering in Conservation and Environmental Stewardship”

– Ms. Wanda Burget, *Executive Director*,  
Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation



**Wanda Burget**

*Accord Resource Solutions, LLC*

Wanda Burget is a co-owner and principal of Accord Resource Solutions, LLC, a woman-owned natural resource consultancy and serves as the Executive Director of the Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation (Foundation). The Foundation is currently managing a large landscape-scale conservation effort created to benefit the Greater sage-grouse which was initiated by the mining industry in southwestern Wyoming.

Prior to starting her consultancy, Wanda served as the Vice President of Environmental Services for Norwest Corporation based in Salt Lake City, Utah for 3 years and worked for Peabody Energy Corporation for 29 years. Her responsibilities with Peabody included serving as Director, Sustainable Development for Peabody's U.S. operations and managing permitting and environmental compliance for four major surface mining operations in Wyoming and Montana. She was also the environmental lead for Peabody's federal coal leasing efforts and a member of Peabody's international project support team.

Throughout her career, Wanda has been entrusted with positions of leadership and responsibility in numerous local, state, regional and national boards, workgroups and coalitions comprising a broad and diverse cross-section of stakeholders. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Thunder Basin Grasslands Prairie Ecosystem Association, the Vore Buffalo Jump Foundation, the Wyoming Conservation Exchange, Women's Mining Coalition and Leadership Wyoming. Wanda also serves on the Board of Supervisor's for the Crook County Natural Resource District and the Conservation Practitioner Team for the Center for Collaborative Conservation – Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University.



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WYOMING MINING  
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# WMA – Working for You All Year Long



The Wyoming Mining Association is active in many activities throughout the year including:

- WMA Annual Convention & MAW Golf Tournament
- Health and Safety Seminar and Trade Show
- Teacher's Workshop
- State Legislature Lobbying
- Congressional Relations
- Oversee and authorize industry comments for mining regulations
- Mineral Working Groups to coordinate with DEQ
- WCIC – WY Coal Information Committee
- Legislative Committee
- Regulatory Affairs Comm.
- Safety Committee
- Taxation Committee
- Education Committee (in progress of formation)
- Wyoming EXCELS (WY Business Alliance)
- UW Energy Day booth
- Candidate Forum for State-wide elections
- Promote/produce industry forums to support mining
- Participate with partner industries in SGIT & WY Natural Resource Council
- And more!

**TOP:** Senator Mike Enzi testifies at a WMA-sponsored rally to oppose the Clean Power Plan.

**FAR LEFT:** Repeal supporter attends Clean Power Plan rally.

**LEFT:** Attendees at the annual WMA Health and Safety Seminar and Trade Show experience key mining safety demonstrations.

## PROVIDE FOR TODAY, PROTECT FOR TOMORROW

Cloud Peak Energy is proud of its commitment to environmental stewardship. In 2017, we reclaimed 922 acres at our three surface coal mines, all located in the Powder River Basin. Our safe and reliable coal production helps support local schools, hospitals and organizations that help make a difference in Wyoming, Montana and Colorado.



# Wyoming Mining Association 63rd Annual Convention

Snow King Resort | Jackson, WY | June 6-8, 2018

## CONVENTION AGENDA

### Wednesday, June 6, 2018

- 9:00 am **WMA Board of Director's Meeting**  
*Snow King – Timberline 1*
- 11:00 am **Registration**  
to 3:00 pm *Snow King Breezeway*  
Lanyards Courtesy of Epiroc
- 12:00 pm **Box Lunch** *Teton Pines Resort & Country Club, 3450 Clubhouse Drive, Wilson, WY*
- 12:30 pm **WMA Golf Tournament Tee Off**  
*Teton Pines Resort & Country Club*  
Drink Carts Sponsored by Wyoming Machinery
- 5:00 pm **MAW Annual Function**  
Drinks and Heavy Hors d'oeuvres  
*Teton Pines Resort & Country Club*
- 8:45 am **“Global Perspective for Wyoming Trona”** – Mr. Mike Lacey, *President, Solvay North America*
- 9:15 am **“Wyoming Bentonite: Providing for American and World Needs”** – Mr. David Brown, *President and CEO, Wyo-Ben, Inc.*
- 9:45 am **Coffee Break** *Outside Grandview Ballroom*  
Sponsored by Wyoming Machinery
- 10:15 am **“Changing the Paradigm for the Domestic Uranium Industry”**  
– Mr. Wayne Heili, *Managing Director and CEO, Peninsula Energy*
- 10:45 am **“Westmoreland Coal Company: A 163-Year Perspective”** – Mr. Joe Micheletti, *Chief Operating Officer, Westmoreland Coal Company*

### Thursday, June 7, 2018

- 7:00 am **Breakfast**  
*Snow King – Grand Room*  
Sponsored by Nelson Brothers
- 7:30 am **WMA Registration**  
to 1:00 pm *Snow King Breezeway*  
Lanyards Courtesy of Epiroc
- Wyoming Mining  
in a New Environment**  
*Snow King Grandview Ballroom*
- 8:00 am **Welcoming Address**  
Mr. Travis Deti, *Executive Director, Wyoming Mining Association*
- 8:15 am **“In Washington, A Red Light Turned to Green”** – Ms. Katie Sweeney, *Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel, National Mining Association*
- 11:15 am **“Permitting a Coal Export Facility on the Left Coast”** – Mrs. Wendy Hutchinson, *Vice President of Public Affairs, Millennium Bulk Terminals*
- 12:00 pm **WMA President's Lunch**  
*Snow King – Grand Room*  
**Guest Speaker:** The Honorable Joe Balash, *Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management*
- 1:30 pm **Wyoming Governors Candidate Forum**  
*Snow King – Grand Room*
- 6:00 pm **No Host Cocktail Hour**  
*Snow King – Grand Teton Mezanine*
- 7:00 pm **WMA Annual Dinner**  
*Snow King – Grant Teton Room*  
Dinner Sponsored by Ramaco Wine Courtesy of Westech  
**Salesman of the Year Awards, WMA Peck Community Achievement Award, Door Prizes & Silent Auction**



# WYOMING MINING ASSOCIATION

## Friday, June 8, 2018

- 7:00 am **MAW Board Meeting**  
*Snow King – Timberline 1*
- 7:00 am **Breakfast**  
*Snow King – Grand Room*  
*Sponsored by SLS West*

## Safety and Reclamation in the New Environment

*Snow King – Grandview Ballroom*

- 9:00 am **The Honorable Wayne D. Palmer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Mine Safety and Health Administration**
- 9:30 am **“Building a Safety Culture – One Worker, One Shift, One Day at a Time”**  
– Mr. Bill Boyle, *Safety Manager, Interstate Companies, Inc.*
- 10:00 am **Coffee Break** *Outside Grandview Ballroom*  
Sponsored by Wyoming Machinery and Crowley & Fleck
- 10:30 am **“Mining, Ecology and Energy”**  
– Mr. Kyle Wendtland, *Administrator, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Land Quality Division*
- 11:00 am **“Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation: Industry Providing for People While Partnering in Conservation and Environmental Stewardship”**  
– Ms. Wanda Burget, *Executive Director, Wyoming Mining Natural Resource Foundation*
- 11:45 am **Safety/Reclamation Awards Luncheon**  
*Snow King – Grand Room*  
**Guest Speaker:** The Honorable Matt Mead, *Governor of Wyoming*  
**WMA Safety Awards, WMA Safe Sam Award, MAW Safety Awards, State of Wyoming Reclamation Awards**

## 2018 Peck Community Award Winner

**Mr. Pat Gaffield,**  
*Cloud Peak Energy*

*The Peck Community Achievement Award was established in 1983 following State Senator Roy Peck’s death. The first recipient was Roy Peck posthumously. The award is given to recognize outstanding voluntary community service by a miner. This annual award commemorates the dedication of the Peck family to improve their state and community. It also recognizes the Peck’s commitment to the responsible development of the Wyoming mining industry.*



**Pat Gaffield will be recognized and the award will be presented at the WMA Annual Dinner.**

Pat Gaffield is currently a level 6 mechanic for Cloud Peak Energy at the Cordero Rojo Mine, and joined the organization nearly 17 years ago. Pat has been involved with the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2711 in Gillette for over 22 years. His involvement extends beyond the local chapter to state and international levels as well. As a leader in this organization, Pat has helped make a significant difference in the lives of hundreds of people – right in the heart of mining country. In addition to his work through the Eagles, Pat and his wife Ronda are truly selfless community members, giving back to the by cooking dinner for the Wyoming Special Olympics organization and staying involved in various activities throughout Campbell County. He truly goes above and beyond for his community. For these ongoing contributions, The Wyoming Mining Association is proud to present Pat Gaffield with the 2018 Wyoming Mining Association Peck Community Achievement Award.

## Door Prize Donors

Door Prize drawings are held at the Business Sessions and the WMA Annual Dinner. Door prizes are provided by contributions made by members of the Mining Associates of Wyoming. Thank you for your support!

## 2017 WMA Safety Award Winners

### Surface Mine Large Category

- First Place – Black Thunder Mine
- Second Place – Antelope Mine
- Third Place – Cordero Rojo Mine

### Surface Mine Small Category

- First Place – Bridger Coal Surface Mine
- Second Place – Buckskin Mine
- Third Place – Coal Creek Mine

### Underground Mine Large Category

- First Place – Ciner Wyoming LLC
- Second Place – Genesis Alkali
- Third Place – Solvay Chemicals

### Wyoming Mining Association Safe Sam Award

- Thunder Basin Coal Company, Black Thunder Mine



## 2018 Reclamation Award

**2018 Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality  
Land Quality Division State Reclamation Award:  
Peabody Coal Company**

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality is proud to announce the selection of Peabody Coal Company as the winner of the 2018 Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality – Land Quality Division State Reclamation Award in the coal category. The award is for the PM-1 Improvements: Stabilizing the Reclaimed Stream Channel for Reclamation Success and Bond Release. The reclamation project targeted stabilization 4,900-foot ephemeral channel called the PM-1 Draw. The original channel design proved to be too steep and narrow in some sections that resulted in unsatisfactory erosion and head-cutting. The drainage was modeled and re-engineered using rock counter-weirs. The counter-weirs were constructed by excavating a foundation perpendicular to the channel, rock and non-woven geotextile are then installed, and a low notch in the center of the counter-weir is created to concentrate flow and flood attenuation through the center of the channel. This design has a stair-step appearance and limits outflow during runoff events, thereby reducing the erosive hydraulic forces of the channel. The result is a stable channel condition.

## 2017 MAW Safety Award Winners

Place	Company	Consecutive Years/Hours
<b>Large Contractors (More than 75,000 Hours Reported)</b>		
1st	Komatsu Mining Corp. <i>(formerly Joy Global)</i>	5 Years, 889,045 Hours
2nd	Interstate Power Systems	3 Years, 808,538 Hours
3rd	Wyoming Machinery Company	2 Years; 408,083 Hours
<b>Medium Contractors (25,000 to 75,000 Hours Reported)</b>		
1st	L&H Industrial	8 Years, 482,031 Hours
2nd	Big Horn Tire	6 Years, 400,453 Hours
3rd	SLS West	8 Years, 283,309 Hours
<b>Small Contractors (Less than 25,000 Hours Reported)</b>		
1st	Cate Equipment Company	8 Years, 169,263 Hours
2nd	FireMaster	6 Years, 162,355 Hours
3rd	Liebherr Mining Equipment	5 Years, 130,144 Hours

## 2018 WMA Salesman of the Year Awards

### Equipment Salesman:

Mr. Dan Mollett, Tractor and Equipment Co.

### Materials & Supply Salesman:

Mr. Don Botkin, Interstate Power Systems

### Professional Services Salesman:

Mr. Dale Brown, WWC Engineering

# 64th Annual Convention of the Wyoming Mining Association

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## WMA Political Action Committee Silent Auction

The Silent Auction will be held during the WMA Annual Dinner at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7. Don't forget to bid high and often! Remember – this money supports the interests of Wyoming Mining in our home state!  
*Thank you donors!*

# 2017 Wyoming Mining PRODUCTION & EMPLOYMENT BY MINING SECTOR

### BENTONITE

**Production:** 4,268,741 Tons (plant)  
4,553,103 Tons (mine)  
**Employment:** 718

### TRONA

**Production:** 17,739,386 Tons  
**Employment:** 2,227

### COAL

**Production:** 306,603,867 Tons  
**Employment:** 5,687

### URANIUM

**Production:** 1,000,000 lbs.  
**Employment:** 245

*Sources: Wyoming State Inspector of Mines, Wyoming Mining Association*

## WMA Conference Sponsors & Donors

A special thanks to these companies for being conference sponsors and donors this year:

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For a Strong Future Mining Industry,

# EDUCATION IS KEY

So, it's time to rehire for the latest opening in your mine or small business. What's your routine? Do feel enthusiasm or dread?

Chances are if you are hiring for an entry level position, requiring a high school diploma and no skills you will have different expectations than if you are hiring a seasoned mine or plant manager.

How do we prepare to meet the newly minted high school and college graduates arriving with their resumes in the HR office in today's environment? Whether they are applying for a position as a driver, IT specialist or a safety manager, they will all need similar "soft skills" to succeed. But do they know that?

Recently, in a meeting between Wyoming mine managers and the Wyoming Department of Education stories were relayed that told of prospective employees showing up ill prepared to interview. They told of young people not knowing they had to show up on time. They didn't know how to introduce themselves or that they should shake hands with the person interviewing them as well as not knowing they were competing with others for the job. My guess is they were surprised to learn the mine would not automatically hire them and start sending them checks!

Reports confirm that in today's secondary school students are not learning the "soft skills" that came like second nature with new hires of a decade or more ago. Today's classroom focus does not round out the student's skill set to include "problem solving, oral or written communication, team work, organizational planning or even how to show up on time, look the other guy in the eye when speaking to him or how to dress for an interview." If you are older than a millennial this is cause for frustration. If you are a millennial, you may not even



**The Wyoming Mining Association is preparing to re-establish the Education Committee to influence skills taught in Wyoming schools for future hires.**

know what you are missing in your new hire.

According to a 2017 article by Lydia Dishman, in *The Future of Work*, the graduate today needs to be aware of the need to develop five critical skills, not taught in the classroom or required for graduation. They are as follows:

■ **Storytelling:** It's not being the life of the party. It is, however, being able to listen to and identify the needs of more than one department, quantify the specific details and relay that information to management in such a way that will assist them in clearly determining the necessary decisions that will enhance the company success and profitability.

■ **Collaboration:** Being able to listen to and comprehend the needs and challenges of others on your team or in a different department leads to the ability to sort out and solve the challenges that exist between the cross-functional teams that must coordinate to ensure the success of the work required by the mine or the business.

■ **Project Management:** Maybe you don't think you are hiring a project manager, but most every job requires the ability to problem solve, organize a workload by planning to succeed and achieve the best possible outcome.

■ **Conflict Resolution:** If you primarily communicate by "texting" and "Instagram" all throughout your school days when do you learn to read the facial expression or body language of a boss or coworker? How would you even know if there is a conflict on a project if you don't learn the nuance of non-verbal communication? It's imperative to know how to work through misunderstandings and disagreements with a professional courtesy to reach resolution.



■ **Managing People:** This one won't always show up in the job description, but it will show up on the job. It goes along with communication skills, conflict resolution and likely advancement to management positions. If you don't learn how to manage relationships and communications, you won't be apt to advance in your career.

What is the Wyoming Mining Association doing to influence this need in Wyoming schools and our mining and support businesses?

This past winter we have begun to gather a group of interested persons who are interested in working with our schools and the Department of Education to elevate the need to instill these skills, along with the technical skills, into our schools to prepare the next generation workforce.

Not everything old should be thrown out in favor of the new. The ability to prepare and sell your self in an interview is one of those old skills that should not have disappeared. Also, the ability to look someone in the eye, shake their hand sincerely and introduce yourself politely and humbly. That valuable skill sells well most everywhere, but especially in the West and is most recognized here in Wyoming.

WMA is preparing to re-establish our Education Committee. To date, we have about a dozen people from mining, MAW and outside interests who have expressed an interest in

defining and implementing "soft skills" back in to the education system here in Wyoming.

We are most encouraged by the support and interest shown by the Wyoming Department of Education Career Technical Department, directed by Guy Jackson. WMA members met in February with CTD in Cheyenne to discuss the hiring needs of the mines and the skills they see most lacking. Jackson and his staff encouraged the group to continue the dialogue with their office with the goal of identifying how the two entities may define a pilot project to begin the process of highlighting and teaching those "old" critical and valuable soft skills.

WMA sees the value of partnering with other like-minded organizations that would benefit from these same values. To that end, we have reached out to the Wyoming Contractors Association and the Wyoming Trucking Association to join WMA in this effort. They have readily agreed to work with us and we are looking forward to this partnership along with the Wyoming Department of Education.

If this issue interests you and you would like to take part in the process, call me at the WMA office (307-635-0331) to become a part of the committee. We welcome all practical input.

Here's looking you in the eye! ■

*Pat Joyce is the Wyoming Mining Association Assistant Director.*



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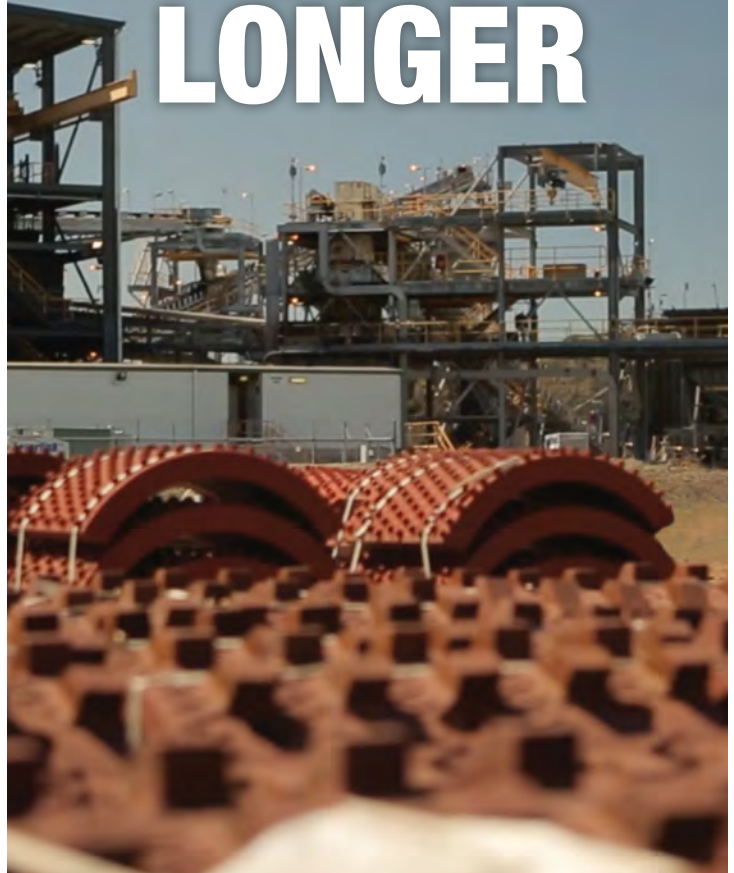


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