Energy

Darn, it's cold out there, then it is hot, then it snows again. Its weather and it is looking a little crazy. There has been a shortage of propane in the Midwest and spot natural gas prices were up over $80.00 per Million Btu. We had not seen single degree temperatures and negative degree wind chill temperatures around D.C. in January for a very long time. We hear more and more from regular people (not the CO2 proponent scientist) that, “Duh – it's Global Warming – with a snicker.” Could it be that the supposedly agreed upon science and the assumptions behind it are being questioned creating a little consternation in the ENGO community and the Administration as they try to do everything they can, plus more, to circumvent Congress to kill coal, raise energy prices and mandate high cost renewable energy?

One of the fundamental principles of road cleaning during winter in the South, at least for side roads, is that when the sun comes out, the snow will melt. However, they are finding out that when the temperature doesn’t get much above 21 degrees F, that doesn’t work. Schools in the Western D.C. suburbs had been closed for a week. “Cabin Fever” set in and some planned school breaks eliminated and the school year extended. That Global Warming better set in very quickly. While the American people are a great, resourceful, forgiving and innovative people, they may not be the most patient people on the globe. It did set in for a couple days to around 70. The Ground Hog saw his shadow and we have six more weeks of winter with only around three left. The Administration and the ENGOs are probably hoping for the first 100 degree days this July or August so we will forget about the 2 degree mornings last month.

Many people could be wondering why the President is still pushing Global Warming with five paragraphs dedicated to energy and climate change. The following is a quote that pretty much tells us what we are in for if Congress cannot step in to help mitigate the drive to kill coal and raise energy prices:

“Taken together, our energy policy is creating jobs and leading to a cleaner, safer planet. Over the past eight years, the United States has reduced our total carbon pollution more than any other nation on Earth. But we have to act with more urgency – because a changing climate is already harming western communities struggling with drought, and coastal cities dealing with floods. That's why I directed my administration to work with states, utilities, and others to set new standards on the amount of carbon pollution our power plants are allowed to dump into the air. The shift to a cleaner energy economy won't happen overnight, and it will require tough choices along the way. But the debate is settled. Climate change is a fact.”

We must always remember it takes energy to make and do anything. And, raising the cost of energy impacts the cost of everything we do or buy. It especially and disproportionately impacts poor, less fortunate and retired people on fixed incomes. How to live and survive with higher energy prices and make the environment a little better in the process is the foundation upon which CIBO has been built. Check out the March Committee Meetings.

Environment

We looked for the word “coal” in the President’s speech and it was nowhere to be found. We looked for the words that talked about the environmental agenda beyond Climate Change (Global Warming). We found them: ““My administration will keep working with the industry to sustain production and job growth while strengthening protection of our air, our water, and our communities.” In actuality,
this is what CIBO is always trying to do. The battle always comes when the terms “Investment” and “Environmental Benefit” are considered. The results usually wind up in the courts or delayed for some political purpose like a national election. NAAQS, ASH and just about anything that is controversial will be talked about at the Committee Meetings next week. Of significant importance is the delay in the briefing schedules for Boiler MACT. It looks like we will not get to oral arguments until the end of this year resulting in a court decision by the end of next spring or summer (2015). While this creates a scenario like the 2003 Boiler MACT rule, we still do not see any reason for vacatur and continue to expect a remand, if anything needs to be changed based on the court’s rulings. With the high Natural Gas prices and variability of late, there are some companies that may be thinking to reconsider compliance plans based on 100% conversion to gas. The delay could add three months to the compliance plan development process as well as provide a basis for a request for a one year extension to January 31, 2017. The reconsideration process does not seem to be moving very fast as the Administration and the Agency considers recent court rulings on variability. At this point, it doesn’t look like the Reconsideration will be completed before the briefing is submitted in the court cases. There is a good probability following finalization of the reconsideration that those issues will not be satisfactory for everyone involved and promote further litigatation in the court possibly extending the final ruling dates and the compliance certainty that comes with it. This year’s Quarterly Committee Meetings and Conferences will be extremely important for the owners and anyone who will be involved in helping the owners to comply.

Focus Group, Environmental, Energy & Technical Committee Meetings –March 4-5, 2014 Crystal City, VA

Focus Group Topic is “CHP, Heat Rate Issues and Future Emissions”. Key topics of Committees to be addressed include: Energy Assessments; BMACT Major Source, Area Source, CISWI & NHSM Reviews and Compliance Concerns; Litigation and Reconsideration for BMACT Suite of Rules; Ozone Implementation Rule Issues; PM2.5 Annual Standard; and Coal Ash, GHG, Litigation, NAAQS including Modeling Development, and Water Issues Updates.

2014 Conferences & Meetings Schedule

This year’s conferences are scheduled and venues selected. The Fluidized Bed Combustion XXVII and Stoker Fired Operations and Performance Conference will be held May 19-21 at The Hershey Lodge in Hershey Pennsylvania.

The Industrial Emissions Control Technology XII Conference and Natural Gas Conversion Workshop will be held by popular demand, once again at The Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine, Aug 4-7.

If you would like to submit a presentation, topic for consideration, or assist in the planning, send an e-mail to gail@cibo.org. We have been focusing on the agenda development for both conferences with a member priority cutoff date of March 14, 2014 for The FBC/Stoker Operations & Performance Conference and May 14, 2014 for the IECT Conference. After that non-member presentation requests will be considered. If you would like an exhibit table, please register at www.cibo.org as soon as possible, tables sell out quickly!

The Quarterly Committee Meetings at the Radisson, Crystal City, Virginia will be the Tuesday and Wednesday of March 4-5, June 10-11, September 9-10 and December 2-3.

The 36th Annual Meeting will be held at Hotel Santa Fe in Santa Fe, New Mexico on October 15-17.

From the President’s Desk – Bob Bessette

Before I say anything I want to welcome six new members since the beginning of the year: Horn Industrial Services, Indeck Keystone Energy, LLC, MOBOTEC LLC, Nationwide Boiler Inc., Valmet, Victory Energy Operations, LLC. As the compliance planning process shifts from the planning stage to the implementation stage we begin to hear the operations engineers and plant people say “well maybe we cannot do it quite like that or it will not work.” That is when reality sets in. I believe this is one of the places where CIBO’s strength and structure shows strongest In that light, 2014 could be our best ever.
Did everyone listen in to the President’s State of the Union Address on Tuesday evening January 28th? After about a month, he is doing everything he said as fast as he can, regardless of what Congress thinks he should do and before the November elections. As he said in Wisconsin “I am the President, I can do whatever I want.” With this attitude within the Administration, and because of our broad base membership, CIBO's ability to define the impact of reality on policy will be most needed. It will allow us to promote reasonable, achievable alternatives and solutions to improve both our energy situation and environmental performance and help move the issues forward in a positive manner. Happy New Year! With everyone’s help, it will be the best ever. Thank you in advance.

**Member News**

Jansen Combustion and Boiler Technologies, Inc. (JANSEN) is sponsoring two 2014 Biomass Boiler Workshops:

- Raleigh, North Carolina, May 8-9, 2014
- Memphis Tennessee, September 18-19, 2014

For sign-up and to receive a detailed program of the technical presentations, workshop location, and hotel, etc., please contact Pat Azeltine or Cathy Thomas by phone at 425.952.2843/2835 or by e-mail at FirstName.LastName@jansenboiler.com.

**We Proudly Profile:**

For nearly fifty years Nationwide Boiler has provided superior dependable solutions to meet the emergency rental, planned outage, and permanent boiler system needs of every industry. Today, Nationwide Boiler continues to provide innovative solutions and leads the nation with the largest low NOx boiler rental fleet and most successful <5 ppm NOx retrofit/installations for package boilers with the exclusive CataStak™ SCR system. Nationwide Boiler is committed to provide our customers with 24-hour responsive, technical support and high quality boiler equipment. Our solutions include:

- Rental Boilers – Trailer Mounted to 120,000 pph
- Mobile Boiler Rooms to 650 hp
- Babcock & Wilcox Watertube Boilers to 250,000 pph
- Large Inventory of New & Used Boilers – Available for Immediate Shipment
- Environmental Controls – CataStak™ SCR Systems for less than 5 ppm NOx
- EconoStak Economizers – For Maximum Fuel Efficiency
- Water Treatment Solutions … and more!

Nationwide Boiler can be contacted at 1-800-227-1966 or info@nationwideboiler.com.