

Representing the Interests of America's Industrial Energy Users Since 1978



BoilerBlast News[®]

Energy

On Wednesday March 4th, CIBO sponsored a Capital Visitor's Center Briefing with Senator Inhofe on "The Importance of Thermal Energy & National Energy Policy." The National Associations of Manufacturers (NAM), the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) and The American Council for a Clean Coal Economy (ACCCE) joined us with Senator Inhofe leading off with valuable insight on the value of energy to the industrial/institutional community and the importance of all energy beyond electricity and gasoline to all of us. He understands, it takes energy to make or do anything; and, anything that impacts the cost and availability of energy impacts everything we make or do. He had to leave for a vote to override the President's veto of the Keystone Energy Pipeline. It did not gain the 67 votes needed to override the veto. Bob Bessette began the briefing after introducing Senator Inhofe, discussing the need for thermal energy and how the cost of energy impacts us and the need for fuel flexibility – our white paper available on the CIBO Website. Greg Bertelsen of NAM talked about Regulations and the Cost of Energy, especially the new Ozone NAAQS to be finalized later this year. With the utilities plant closings and not much more they can do to reduce NOx, any NAAQS set below 70 ppm, would require significant NOx reductions from the industrial and institutional sectors beyond those already required for Boiler MACT compliance, as well as, impact Natural gas fired units with minimal compliance requirements under MACT. Combustion of any sort could very well come under the gun if a standard is set any lower than the 70 ppm. Neil Elliott of ACEEE talked about the need for energy efficiency and how within the industrial and institutional sectors for the most part, if an energy project was cost effective, it has already been done. As a result, serious capital allocations decisions have to be considered for any new projects; and, unlike utilities these may not be passed on to their customers. The cost of energy impacts the cost of anything we make or do. Paul Bailey of ACCCE talked about the impact of shuttering existing utility coal plants on the industrial sector and the general population as a whole. While the NAAQS limits for PM and Ozone and the Transport Rule and MATS have taken their toll on utility plants, low cost coal plants that could not survive if expensive controls were added and the potential for closures due to the Clean Power Plan Rule could cause another 45 GW to 169 GW of coal fired generation retirements. We have seen up to a 37% increase in electricity cost in New England due to shuttering low cost coal and replacing it with high cost renewables, gas and oil. How much more could we see in the future? As an environmentalist once said, raising the cost of energy is good. It forces people to conserve. They forget there is a disproportionate impact on the poor, the old on fixed incomes and the less fortunate. Of course, as we see under environmental considerations, the impact of raising the cost of energy has nothing to do with environmental/social justice.

Environment

Boiler MACT compliance is January 31, 2016 (NEXT YEAR) – less than 10 months from today. Unless you will be able to comply by then in one way or another or you already have an extension until January 31, 2017 from the state, you may want to be talking to your state about your compliance plan and a possible extension. We do not believe any court ruling will come much before the end of the year, and that whatever it is will not change the compliance requirements for the existing rule. Also, as far as we have heard and know, there is no reasonable reason any state will accept to grant an extension to the Energy Assessment portion of the rule January 31, 2016. Of course, if you are planning on doing nothing and shuttering the boiler and/or plant as your compliance plan, a state might be willing to give you an extension. They might even look for ways to help find an alternative compliance plan.

While the *Industrial Emissions Control Technology XIII Conference and Natural Gas Conversion Workshop* will focus on the how to and hurdles of compliance and those technology alternative plans for compliance with plenty of time for discussion and networking and future consideration for additional NOx and GHG compliance, the April *Fluidized Bed Combustion XXVIII and Stoker Fired Operations and Performance Conference* will focus on the real world problems associated with running a powerhouse from those who are doing it today. After all is considered, the drive for environmental regulations by this Administration to kill coal and combustion generated energy is still the primary reason behind everything we have to do for compliance and operations today and be able to survive. The environmentalist will not give up. In a hearing last week in the House on the Mark-up of a Bill to basically codify the EPA Coal Ash Rule, the Environmentalist speaker in her testimony and at the questioning of the Minority Representatives said, for all practical purposes, No! Hell No! It would take away the public display of reporting data to make it hard for ENGOs to sue plants and mess with the data, and it would officially codify coal ash as a non-hazardous waste. Something EPA held out saying they might look back at sometime in the future. It is a beginning.

Can something be put together to garner 67 votes in the Senate and 292 votes in the House to override a Presidential Veto of something codifying a rule his Administration put out? One never knows these days. We will be following this and everything else they throw at us. Check out Scott Darling's presentation on the MOG activities and potentials of a new Ozone NAAQA on the CIBO members' only website from the March committee meetings with the meeting summary and other presentations. Let us know if you have any questions or if you would like to hear more about other specific issues.

2015

CIBO Meetings & Conferences

EE/Technical Committee Meetings
Radisson Hotel
Crystal City, VA
 June 2-3
 Sep 15-16
 Dec 8-9

Fluidized Bed Combustion XXVIII And Stoker Fired Operations and Performance Conf
Baton Rouge, LA
 Apr 27-29

Industrial Emissions Control Technology XIII Conf
Portland, ME
 Aug 3-6

37th Annual Meeting
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
 Oct 21-23

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Technical

As the Energy operations at our member's facilities are changing and environmental regulations are expanding to cover more and more of the energy asset base, we are finding those assets that were taken for granted (i.e. gas fired boilers, small gas fired Firetube boilers, emergency generators, compressor stations and just about anything that can produce energy) must now be considered when evaluating any energy project of potential need. The Technical Focus Group session on "Integrating Industrial Operations for Profit" associated with the March committee meetings was very timely and informative. **Tom Casten, Recycled Energy Development**, presented an "Overall Case Study"; **Mike Zebell, Environmental Resources Management**, presented "Total Systems Implications"; and **Brian Bird, HDR**, presented "How you do it? Technical and Regulatory." Presentations are on the CIBO members' only website, www.cibo.org. Someday we may have to be looking for ways to do without thermal energy. Until then, CIBO is still the place where real-time industrial and institutional energy production and use provide the foundation for everything we do. With electricity prices pushing above 10 Cents/KW (~ \$29 /MMBtu) and Natural Gas and coal at less \$5.00/MMBtu, using thermal energy efficiently and effectively can still be the best option.

2015 Conferences & Meetings Schedule

There is still time to register for **The Fluidized Bed Combustion XXVIII and Stoker Fired Operations and Performance Conference**, April 27-29, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Hotel Cutoff date is April 12th. With the changing environment and fuels situation at our facilities, our ability to make energy cost effectively, efficiently and in an environmentally sustainable way is the foundation upon which this conference is based. We address the concerns of CIBO members and FBC, Industrial, and Institutional Boiler Owners and Operators across the country regarding how to continue to operate and improve performance with constraints that are changing, almost, on a daily basis. For those companies converting to Natural Gas this is extremely important. CIBO's annual FBC and Major Source Operations and Performance Survey has had very good response so far. There is still one week to complete it if you have not done so already. The final agenda is complete and on the CIBO website cibo.org. There is a \$200 AMEX Gift Certificate given out at the meeting to any one of the owners in attendance that has filled out and submitted the survey. We are looking forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge.

The Industrial Emissions Control Technology XIII Conference and Natural Gas Conversion

Workshop will be held by popular demand again in Portland, Maine, Aug 3-6. With Natural Gas rapidly growing as a compliance option to emissions controls for MACT, the Thursday Natural Gas Conversion Workshop should again be a highlight. Your help, comments and suggestions are welcomed and appreciated. If you would like to submit an abstract for a presentation, e-mail gail@cibo.org. The member priority cutoff date will be March 31, 2015 on a first come first serve basis. After that, non-member presentations will be considered to fill available slots.

From the President's Desk – Bob Bessette

I would like to welcome Minnesota Power and Verso Paper as new CIBO members. Their help, perspective and support will help us all as we try to make progress against the massive effort of this Administration to kill coal and raise energy prices without regard for the direct impact on the people they portend to help.

The other day I was at the Hilton Baton Rouge (the site for next month's Operations and Performance Conference and Plant Tour) looking out over the Mississippi River across the road and watching a little tug boat moving 120 foot loaded barges around to make a larger tow to move up stream. It did it. It was not easy, and it had to use the current to help it get the barges into position for the up-river move. There was, however, a much bigger tug for the trip up stream against the current. I smiled a bit and thought of the "Little Engine that Could" and those other children's stories about the little tugboat. It never ceases to amaze me at what we can do with a little constant pressure using the resistance to get results.