



Boiler Blast News



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

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Government Relations

It is now the full-fledged beginning of the 2020 "Silly Season" heading to the 2020 Presidential elections this November. Whatever your leanings, this is sure to be an "interesting" time for all. With the House controlled by the "Ds" and the Senate Controlled by the "Rs," only legislation that can support everyone's positions without impacting anyone's policy positions will make it through the gauntlet. There are some energy bills that might be able to do that. We will hear about those during the Energy Committee Meeting March 11th. During the deliberations we will however hear the positions and desires for what will come in the year following the elections. It is important that we listen carefully to our state and local politicians and let them know thermal energy is important to us and our companies. CIBO's One Page document on Industrial and Institutional Thermal Energy is an ideal

reference. < <https://www.cibo.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CIBO-Energy4.pdf> >.

This Document has added importance relative to, not only how the cost of energy impact us (those of us who can afford to take advantage of improved efficiency applications and technologies), but to those at risk populations that need to find ways to keep warm in the winter and cool in the summer and cannot afford the efficiency and technology upgrades to decrease carbon and maintain their current standard of living. To meet the global commitments by 2050, thermal energy must be addressed. How it is addressed is where CIBO's strengths come into play.

Energy

Natural Gas prices are lower than anyone could have thought about, even three years ago. While we have not actually seen any contracts, we are hearing about long term (+3 Year

contracts at less than \$2.00/MMBtu. and the prognosis for these numbers continuing into the future is very good. We will hear more about that during the March meetings. At these costs, even a free waste solid fuel without a sufficient disposal cost savings, tipping fee or incentive tax credit can compete. We are beginning to look at recycling the plastics into energy to eliminate the need for the combustion of new fossil fuels. We will be looking at how can you do it; and what will it cost? Differing types of plastic have differing combustion and/or gasification profiles. Questions like, does it melt before or while it is burning; or, does it burn before it melts, become important questions. There are technologies with experience and temperature profiles that could be applicable. Plastics are getting a lot of attention these days. However carbon footprint is growing in increasing importance, maybe more so than the need to address plastics in the environment, as the corporate investor and product consumer is looking to use

Carbon Footprint information in their decision making regarding the use of their funds. We will hear about this from Bloomberg, NEF and the Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) Sustainable Energy in America Factbook at our meetings in March. You can check it out at <WWW.BSCE.ORG/FACTBOOK>. One of the tasks of CIBO's Technical Committee may be to look for a way that addressing plastics, be it for energy, will also help with a company or institution's Carbon Footprint and environmental and social responsibility standing.

Environment

Does anyone remember Boiler MACT? As it was said in some movie a long time ago, "I'm back." Could this be the dawn of "Ground Hog Day IV?" The last remaining piece from the past legal cases and the reconsideration is now at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for a 45 day interagency review. At this point, EPA is prohibited from talking about what is in the proposal until after its publication or signature. We will be spending some time getting back up to speed on BMACT in March. The Environmental Committee should have received an email with a few docs that can help and those same docs have been put up on the Higher Logic site for anyone else that might want to take a look. You might want to check to see if one of your facilities will fall under the final version as we think of it today. There is information to help you do that there. Considering there are still industrial and institutional coal fired boilers in the United States and there is a great push by the ENGO Community to find a way to eliminate Natural Gas and combustion in general from future energy options, we could be in for another round of litigation and rule

making including a way to get at Natural Gas. Will it be possible for this administration to have it complete before the Presidential election to prevent to the next administration, if not the same, from pulling it back or for the next Congress from using the Congressional Review Act to do the same. As they said this Monday at Daytona, for the second time "Gentlemen, start your engines."

There are a few other issues acting up that will be important to all of us. The Next Gen chemicals including PFAS/PFOS and a host of others are now being considered for TRI reporting. The Status of Once-In-Always-In is again in the news as we await rulings from the courts. The Ozone NAAQS is also again in the news as New York State and some on the EPA's Science advisory council push for lower numbers. (Lower numbers begin the push for single digit NOx and a future end for Natural Gas combustion.) EPA's NSR reform continues to move forward with some proposed Plant Wide Applicability Limit guidance. Kevin Culligan from EPA's Office of Air and Radiation will be coming over to the March Meetings to talk about what has been and could be going on other than Boiler MACT. The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is also coming over to talk about the proposed changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that the Administration is coming under fire for from just about everyone except the energy sector. Not to be forgotten, Ash and water have been active. If you have an ash disposal site at one of your facilities, the thought that the current rules are for utilities only, may not be valid. We will hear more about that in March. We have a new Water Rule from this Administration. The "From this Administration," makes it a

potential political target as we move toward November.

Technical

As we mentioned above, "Plastics" will be a topic of conversation as companies and institutions try to figure out what to do with them while they continue to put priorities on reducing their Carbon Footprints. We will be spending some time at the Focus Group this March talking about the possibilities and limitations. As always, this should be a great session and provide valuable information as companies move down the path to implement their sustainability plans and objectives. The best Industrial and Institutional technical energy program that addresses energy and boiler maintenance, operations, and performance is coming up in May and looking real good. The Boiler Maintenance, Operations and Performance Conference May 11th through the 13th at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA is the foundation upon which facility sustainability plans and objectives are accomplished. Finding ways to do what we have to do better, quicker and more efficiently is how our companies will be able to report positive accomplishments within their financial sustainability reporting activities. We have also talked about the future need to integrate the energy operations at the plant with the Electric Grid and the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT). The May meeting will continue this discussion. Capitalizing on these technologies and information now will provide our members with significant advantage as we progress to a carbon neutral future by 2050 as deemed by some states and many countries around the world. The Technical Committee has its work cut out for it. If you want to participate contact CIBO's office.

Meetings & Conferences:

Since up to 60% of the world's energy use is for thermal energy demands, when you think about all that is happening, as it relates with energy and sustainability, to meet the global sustainability desires thermal energy will have to be addressed. And, as we heard at last year's Annual Meeting, it will be the engineers that will do it at the industrial plants and operations. Right now, these Meetings and Conferences are the only place this is happening. If you want to participate or get involved, we can make that happen.

Committee Meetings, March 10 & 11, Crystal City, Virginia

Boiler Maintenance, Operations and Performance Conference, May 11 – 13, Hershey, Pennsylvania

Industrial Emissions Control Technology Conference, July 27- 29, Portland, Maine

Joint Combined Heat and Power Alliance, Conference September 15-16, Arlington, Virginia

CIBO 2020 Annual Meeting, October 14-16, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Committee Meetings, December 8-9. Crystal City, Virginia

operations, costs and competitiveness. November 3rd, 2020 will be the day that will set the needs for the future. With Boiler MACT's awakening, we have something that will need our focus and attention to protect what we have already achieved and prevent a new round of rulemaking that could include natural gas limits on particulates, formaldehyde and a host of other air toxics and the basis for setting the stage for the next Administration – whenever that arrives, for some a new Administration. At least, this year Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow and Spring is supposed to come early. Here is hoping we are not getting ready to enter into Ground Hog Day IV on Boiler MACT.

From the President's Desk – Bob Bessette

I have to admit, it has been a little bit boring with Natural Gas prices at less than \$2.00/MMBtu and an Administration that is doing all it can to make our lives easier from the environmental regulations side. There are no big, driving issues that could shut down energy operations and businesses. Don't get me wrong, as you read the above there are plenty of things that could severely impact our