

Happy Labor Day

On behalf of NMA, *Mining Week* extends best wishes to its readers for the upcoming Labor Day holiday. In light of the long weekend, *Mining Week* will take a short hiatus and return with its all new format on Sept. 9.

A new *Mining Week* is coming!

Beginning in September, *Mining Week* will become an exclusive NMA members-only publication and will feature a new look and a new publishing schedule. Our new format will give readers the flexibility to easily access each issue from their office and home desktop computers and while on the go using a Blackberry or other handheld device.

Mining Week's new format will also give readers the ability to download a single story or print a complete copy of each edition.

In addition, *Mining Week* will now be published each Wednesday in order to provide readers with mining news as it happens.

Look for the new *Mining Week* on Sept. 9.

American Energy Corporation, Ohio Valley Coal Company fire brigades complete fire training at NIOSH research mine



Members of the American Energy Corporation's Century Mine fire brigade prepare to enter a NIOSH research mine for specialized mine fire fighting training.

Mine fire brigades from the American Energy Corporation and The Ohio Valley Coal Company recently completed specialized training in mine firefighting during two weeks of exercises at the Safety Research Coal Mine operated by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) near Pittsburgh, Pa. Both companies are independent operating subsidiaries of Murray Energy Corporation.

The specialized training, which featured live fires in the mine, was developed by Murray Energy Corporation specifically for members of the company's mine fire brigades.

"We worked very closely with NIOSH to develop a training program in which our teams learn to fight mine fires in a setting that duplicates real-life scenarios far better than above-ground simulations," said Bill Moser, manager of emergency preparedness for Murray Energy Corporation. "Although rare, fires are one of the most dangerous hazards that could occur in a coal mine and we want our fire brigades prepared to respond quickly and safely to help ensure a positive outcome."

During the training exercises, fire brigade teams were given a map of the NIOSH mine and told there was a fire and were tasked with finding and extinguishing the fire. As they worked their way into mine passages, a light haze gave way to thick plumes of

See Fire training, page 2

Urge the Senate to reject Waxman-Markey climate bill, sign NMA's petition



Members of Congress will soon return to Washington, D.C., following the end of the August congressional district work period and could quickly begin work on Senate climate legislation similar to the Waxman-Markey (H.R. 2454) bill that narrowly passed the House in June.

If signed into law, the Waxman-Markey bill will destroy tens of thousands of high-paying mining jobs and drive-up energy prices, while doing little to actually help the environment.

To help mining community supporters express their opposition to the Waxman-Markey bill, NMA has recently launched a new [online petition](#). Show your support for America's mining community by signing the petition and urge friends, co-workers and family to join you in adding their names to the thousands who have contacted Congress and stood up for mining. ✕

NMA, NIOSH to host metal, non-metal mining safety workshop



NMA and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) Office of Mine Safety and Health Research will jointly sponsor a free workshop on Oct. 20 in Denver, Colo., focused on using risk-based analysis to improve safety performance in the metal and non-metal mining industry.

Reservations for the workshop must be made before Oct. 9.

The one-day workshop is designed to educate metal and non-metal mining industry safety professionals and managers about the Major Hazard Risk Assessment (MHRA) process.

Specifically, the workshop will focus on providing attendees examples of the MHRA process, how it's applied in the workplace, demonstrate its use through classroom exercises and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the process.

More information is available at: [NMA/NIOSH Safety Workshop](#). ✕

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smoke that reduced visibility to mere inches.

"It takes time and money and training to get a fire brigade program up and running – and then ongoing training to make sure the teams stay sharp," said Moser. "But, this is an investment in safety—an expert fire brigade can save lives and can save the mine itself."

In addition to training at the NIOSH facility, Murray Energy fire brigades have

undergone specialized mine firefighting training at West Virginia University's Mining Extension Service, as well as the National Mine Health and Safety Academy operated by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) in Beckley, W.Va.

Service on the mine fire brigades is voluntary and miners who volunteer participate in rigorous training in addition to their regular jobs at the mine. ✕

New report highlights promise of CCS technologies

A new report released by an international climate group headed by former British Prime Minister Tony Blair stressed that carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies will do more than any other alternative to reduce global carbon dioxide emissions, while helping meet the world's ever-growing energy appetite.

In examining the commercial viability of various new emissions technologies, the report found that CCS commercialization would cost less than other technological options and yield levels of emissions well below other potential technologies. Absent CCS technologies,

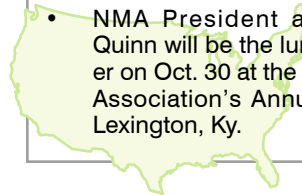
the report predicts that reducing global carbon emissions will cost 70 percent more.

To achieve the full benefits of CCS, the report emphasized the need for immediate and significant investments. The report calls for deployment of 20 commercial-scale CCS plants between 2015 and 2030, an objective that mirrors the G-8 goal of deploying CCS technology broadly by 2020.

A copy of the report is available at: [CCS Report](#). ✕

NMA Outreach: *NMA regularly participates in various conferences, events and other forums to highlight key association initiatives and spotlight important developments in the mining community. Here's a look at upcoming events.*

- NMA President and CEO Hal Quinn will be the luncheon speaker on Sept. 10 at the New Mexico Mining Association's Annual Convention in Albuquerque, N.M.
- NMA Senior Vice President of Communications Carol Raulston will speak on Sept. 12 at the Nevada Mining Association's Annual Convention.
- NMA Vice President of External Communications Luke Popovich will speak at the National Coal Transportation Association's Fall 2009 Meeting and Conference in Denver, Colo., on Sept. 15.
- NMA President and CEO Hal Quinn will speak at a Sept. 16 media breakfast with West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin (D) at the biennial Bluefield Coal Show in Bluefield, W.Va.
- NMA Vice President of External Communications Luke Popovich will speak at Platts' 32nd Annual Coal Marketing Days conference in Pittsburgh, Pa., on Oct. 1.
- NMA President and CEO Hal Quinn will be the luncheon speaker on Oct. 30 at the Kentucky Coal Association's Annual Meeting in Lexington, Ky.



Looking ahead: *Here's a look at what's ahead for the mining community in Washington, D.C.*

- The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate are in adjournment for the August congressional recess and will reconvene on Sept. 8.

Mining Week archives are available on the NMA web site.
www.nma.org

DOE selects projects to monitor and evaluate geologic carbon dioxide storage

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) this week announced the selection of 19 projects to enhance the capability to simulate, track, and evaluate carbon dioxide (CO₂) storage in geologic formations.

The projects' total value is approximately \$35.8 million over four years,

with \$27.6 million of DOE funding and \$8.2 million of non-Federal cost sharing. The work will be managed by DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory.

The projects selected are designed to develop technologies and protocols that will significantly improve the ability to monitor the movement of CO₂ into, through, and out of a targeted geologic storage area and verify the location of CO₂ that has been placed in geologic storage. The projects will also focus on accounting for the entire quantity of

CO₂ that has been transported to geologic storage sites and mathematically simulating the placement, storage, movement and release of CO₂ into, through, and from geologic formations.

In addition, the research will assess the risks associated with the placement of the CO₂ in geologic formations and the potential release of CO₂ from formations after it is stored.

More information is available at: [DOE CO₂ Research](#). ✕



Mining Calendar Events and conferences covering important mining issues are routinely held across the nation. The following may be of interest to members of the mining community:

September 7 Friends of America Labor Day Rally Holden, W.Va. Tickets are now available for the "Friends of America" Labor Day rally, set for Sept. 7 in Holden, W.Va. The rally will be held on a reclaimed mine and will be emceed by Ted Nugent, featuring musical performances by Hank Williams Jr., John Rich and many others, as well as commentary by Fox News personality Sean Hannity. Free tickets are available at: [Friends of America Rally](#).

September 10-12 Reno, Nev. Nevada Mining Association Annual Convention Registration information is available at: [Nevada Mining Association Annual Convention](#).

September 16-18 Bluefield, W.Va. Bluefield Coal Show More information, including registration details, is available at: [Bluefield Coal Show](#).

October 20 Denver, Colo. NMA/NIOSH Reducing Workplace Accidents Through Risk-Based Analysis NMA and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's Office of Mine Safety and Health Research will jointly sponsor a free workshop on Oct. 20 in Denver, Colo., focused on using risk-based analysis to improve safety performance in the metal and non-metal mining industry. Registration deadline is Oct. 9. More information is available at: [NMA/NIOSH Workshop](#).

October 26-28 Reno, Nev. MSHA Joint Western Regional Mine Safety and Health Conference Key industry and government officials will explore the latest in mine safety and health improvement techniques. More information is available at: [MSHA Joint Western Safety Conference](#).

October 28-30 Lexington, Ky., 34th Kentucky Mineral Law Conference sponsored by the Energy and Mineral

Law Foundation. Watch for more information at [www.emlf.org](#).

November 2-6 Anchorage, Alaska, Alaska Miners Association Annual Convention and Trade Show More information is available at [www.alaskaminers.org](#).

November 5-6 Westminster, Colo. Mine Closure, Financial Assurance, and Final Reclamation Hosted by the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, the forum is intended to give a broad overview of mine closure topics and issues and to assist in present day closures, planning for closures that may not occur for years or even decades, and designing mines that have yet to begin development. More information is available at [Mine Closure Forum](#).

November 30-December 4 Reno, Nev., Northwest Mining Association 2009 Annual Meeting and Exposition More information, including online registration, is available at: <http://www.nwma.org/convention.asp>.

February 4-6, 2010 Captiva Island, Fla., Winter Workshops on Energy Law sponsored by the Energy and Mineral Law Foundation. Watch for more information at [www.emlf.org](#).

February 9-10, 2010 Denver, Colo., 112th National Western Mining Conference Sponsored by the Colorado Mining Association. More information is available at [www.coloradomining.org](#).

May 9-11, 2010 Amelia Island, Fla., Energy & Mineral Law Foundation Annual Institute Sponsored by the Energy and Mineral Law Foundation. Watch for more information at [www.emlf.org](#).

EIA data show uptick in second quarter uranium production

Recent data released by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) track an increase in domestic uranium concentrate production of 12 percent from the previous quarter, but down 8 percent from the second quarter of 2008. EIA's preliminary 2009 second quarter *Domestic Uranium Production Report - Quarterly* also charts a 1 percent decrease in uranium production in 2009 year-to-date compared with the level reached in 2008.

According to the report, U.S. uranium concentrate production totaled 1.863 million pounds so far in 2009, compared with 1.884 million pounds produced at this time in 2008. The report noted that one uranium producing mill and four *in-situ*-leach plants were operational in the U.S. in the second quarter of 2009, one less than the previous quarter.

The U.S. continues to rely on imports to provide close to 90 percent of the uranium needed to power America's nuclear reactor fleet, which produces 20 percent of the nation's electricity.

The EIA report can be accessed at: [EIA Report](#).

Production of Uranium Concentrate in the U.S. (thousand pounds U ₃ O ₈), 2009		
First Quarter	Second Quarter	Percent Change
880.0	982.8	12%

source: EIA *Domestic Uranium Production Report* – Second Quarter 2009

Synthetic jet fuels win final certification for commercial aviation use

ASTM International, an international standards board for fuels and chemicals, earlier this month gave final approval for the use of synthetic jet fuels in commercial airline flights, paving the way for domestic coal-to-liquid fuels to begin providing an important new source of clean, affordable aviation fuels.

ASTM International's Petroleum Products Committee on Aug. 5 unanimously agreed to modify specifications for commercial aviation jet fuel to include up to a 50 percent blend of synthetic fuel.

The committee's decision follows a decision in June by an ASTM subcommittee that had voted to allow synthetic fuel use in commercial flights. The final approval covers the use of fuels made from gasified coal, gasified biomass or natural gas using the Fischer-Tropsch process in all commercial flights.

"The unanimous passage of this specification is significant for all consumers of jet fuel," said Air Transport Association President and CEO James May.

"For the airline industry specifically, this brings us one step closer to our aim of widespread production of cleaner, alternative fuels that will help the industry meet its environmental goals while enhancing the security and competitiveness of its energy supply."

More information coal-to-liquid fuels is available at: www.futurecoalfuels.org.

Mining Market Snapshot

Coal Figures	Cumulative year to date	Change over last year
Week ended August 15, 2009		
EIA Coal Production (000 tons)	677,850	-6.2%
Edison Electric Institute Electricity Output (GWh)	2,490,498	-4.4%
American Iron and Steel Institute Raw Steel Production (000 tons)	35,228	-49.6%
Metal Figures		
Copper Prices (\$/mt - week avg. Grade A Cash) 8/14/09		\$6,232.90
Gold Prices (\$/troy ounce - week avg. London Final) 8/14/09		\$948.40
Source: NMA Weekly Statistical Summary/Platts Metals Week		

Newsbits

Tickets are now available for the "Friends of America" pro-jobs Labor Day rally, set for Sept. 7 in Holden, W.Va. The rally will be held on a reclaimed mine and will be emceed by **Ted Nugent**, featuring musical

performances by **Hank Williams Jr.**, **John Rich** and many others, as well as commentary by Fox News personality **Sean Hannity**. Free tickets are available at: [Friends of America Rally](#).



Mining Week is published as a service to members of the National Mining Association, Gary Goldberg, chairman, Hal Quinn, president and publisher.

Staff

Carol Raulston,
Senior Vice President, Communications
Corey Henry
Leslie Coleman Luke Popovich

NMA Mining Week

Executive and editorial offices: Communications Department, 101 Constitution Ave., NW Suite 500E, Washington, D.C. 20001, telephone 202/463-2600. www.nma.org, fax: 202/463-2614. Change of e-mail address should be directed to mphelleps@nma.org.