

THE ACT REPORT

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 8
AUGUST 2011



A PUBLICATION OF
THE AFFILIATED
CONSTRUCTION
TRADES

ACT is a division of The West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Steve Burton, President; Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer; Steve White, Director.

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TEXAS COMPANY WON'T COMMIT TO LOCAL HIRING

DOMINION GIVES \$500 MILLION JOB TO NONUNION CONTRACTOR

Dominion Resources has selected CB&I-Lummas, a nonunion contractor from Texas, to build a \$500 million natural gas processing plant in Marshall County.

The announcement came August 2 but the decision apparently had been made weeks if not months prior.

The news comes as a blow to local union construction workers and contractors who need the jobs such a project

will create.

CB&I-Lummas has told Trades representatives they will operate "Merit Shop" meaning nonunion, although some local crafts may get work through a sub-contractor.

"How much of their workforce will come from Texas and beyond we can only guess," said Tom Gray, President of the Upper Ohio Valley Building Trades Council.

When the project was first announced earlier this year

contacts were made to Dominion to find out how contractors could get on the bid list.

ACT's Steve White worked with Gray to get a number of top quality contractors with proven records on large industrial projects to contact Dominion.

However not one union contractor was allowed to bid the project.

Instead five nonunion companies showed up on the bid list.

One huge company CB&I, which has both union and nonunion divisions, bid the project but used their nonunion company CB&I-Lummas based in Texas.

The project is expected to start in September.

The plant will be located next to the PPG plant and will take natural gas and separate out the many liquids, like propane, ethane and butane.

Called a fractionalization plant, it will be a key compo-

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STATE BUILDING TRADES ENDORSE EARL RAY TOMBLIN FOR GOVERNOR

The West Virginia State Building and Construction Trades Council has endorsed acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin for the special West Virginia gubernatorial election on October 4.

The Building Trades Executive Board voted unanimously to endorse Tomblin at their July meeting.

Prior to the vote informal meetings were held with both Tomblin, a Democrat, and Republican challenger Bill Maloney as part of the determination process for the endorsement.

Key issues discussed with the candidates include the anti-union measure called Right-to-Work, support of prevailing wage laws, Marcellus Shale jobs and the enforcement of existing labor laws.

"We clearly believe acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

is the best candidate for governor," said Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer of the State Building Trades.

"The executive board is confident Tomblin's decades of experience have prepared him well for the state's high-

est office."

"He has the ability to keep the gears of government running smoothly and ensure progress for our state," Efaw said.

Although the Trades did not support Tomblin in the

Special Primary the choice for the Special General Election was clear stated Efaw.

"We are down to two viable candidates and simply put we feel we can work with acting Governor Tomblin and his administration the best."



ACTING GOVERNOR Earl Ray Tomblin (center) talks with State Building Trades Leaders Dave Efaw (left) and Steve Burton at the August meeting of the Council's Executive Board.

PREVAILING WAGE COMPROMISE REACHED**REPEAL OF OH ANTI-LABOR LAW ON BALLOT**

Ohio voters will be asked to reject a law that significantly attacks the rights of workers as part of the November 8 ballot.

The law known as SB-5 was passed by the Ohio legislature earlier this year and drastically reduces collective bargaining rights for the 360,000 public workers in Ohio.

State employees such as police officers, firefighters and teachers will not be able to negotiate their wages under the law.

Some workers would also see an increase in health insurance costs.

"This law unfairly places the blame for state budget woes on the backs of our workers," said Dennis Duffy, Secretary-Treasurer of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council. "This is an anti-union law. It is an attack on the middle class."

A poll released on July

20 by Quinnipiac University showed that the majority of Ohio voters, 56 percent, think SB-5 should be overturned. Only 32 percent surveyed think SB-5 should be upheld.

On Thursday, July 21, Secretary of State John Husted certified the signatures for the SB-5 referendum that will put the law on the ballot.

The petition had 915,456 valid signatures, while only 231,147 were needed.

Since Husted has validated the signatures, the Ohio Ballot Board must approve the specific wording that will be on the ballot. The board is expected to meet this month.

"Building Trades locals worked hard in helping get the signatures that were needed," said Bill Hutchinson, Business Manager of the Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades Council.

"We all know that everyone should have the ability to bargain. Everyone should have a say in their contracts."

Construction workers also came under attack in Ohio

when Governor Kasich (R) submitted his budget bill.

Kasich's budget bill removed prevailing wage protections for new tax funded construction projects that cost less than \$5 million.

That meant minimum wage could be paid on these projects and would have resulted in tax funded projects

driving down living standards of thousands of construction workers and their families for millions of dollars in public construction. Existing law had exempted projects valued less than \$80,000.

Through a series of negotiations the House changed the threshold to \$3.5 million. Then, the Senate changed it

to \$125,000, \$200,000 and \$250,000 respectively over the next three years.

The thresholds for reconstruction are now \$38,000, \$60,000 and \$75,000 over those three years as well.

Limiting the extent prevailing wage protections were removed from \$5 mil-

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OHIO WORKERS RALLY against passage of SB-5, a law to take away the rights of public employees, at the State Capitol in March.

LABORERS SEEK APPRENTICE APPLICANTS

The West Virginia Construction Craft Laborers' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee accept applications year round.

Those interested can apply at any WorkForce WV Employment Services Office on the third Friday of each month.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED, a

valid driver's license and must be physically able to perform the work of the trade.

Applicants will be given a test administered by the WV Job Service office and if they pass may be interviewed.

A substance abuse test will be required at some point in the process.

Documents such as a copy of a birth certificate, a valid driver's license, transcripts of grades and proof of a high school degree or GED will be

requested at a later date.

The apprenticeship program consists of a combination of on-the-job training and hands-on classroom training.

The WV Laborers' Training Center in Mineral Wells provides 408 hours of classroom and hands-on training free of charge including meals and lodging.

Apprentices will also learn on the job in their home areas while earning a paycheck, for a total of 4000 hours, approx-

imately two years.

Upon completion of the program apprentices will have earned Journeyman status and receive a certificate from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The areas of training provide a wide variety of skills to ensure highly productive workers will have successful careers. Topics include pipelaying, mason tending, instrument reading, environmental remediation and much

more.

The recruitment, selection, employment and training of apprentices shall be without discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex.

For more information visit their web site www.wvcl.org or to receive a free brochure send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: West Virginia Laborers' Training Center, P.O. Box 6, Mineral Wells, WV 26150.

CARPENTER APPRENTICESHIP APPLICATIONS

The West Virginia Carpenter Training Center is accepting applications for apprenticeship. In order to apply, all applicants must meet the following minimum requirements.

- 1 Must be at least 18 years of age (Birth Certificate)
- 1 Must provide a copy of your Diploma or GED
- 1 Must provide proof of residence in WV for at least three (3) months (bills, statements, etc., showing WV street address with your name)
- 1 Must be able to physically

perform the work of the trade

- 1 Must have transportation to/from work
- 1 Must have a valid WV driver's license

The four year program teaches the apprentices a 'dirt to doorknobs' approach to the trade. Training covers everything from site layout, concrete forms, framing, scaffolding, blueprints, welding, interior systems, finish work, and more.

Everything you would need to know to be a productive carpenter.

What is great about an apprenticeship program is that

it doesn't cost apprentices anything. If selected to enter the program the training is paid for by the membership.

Tax payer money is seldom used.

The Carpenters Apprenticeship program has graduated scores of workers. Governed by the US Dept. of Labor, this program is the real deal.

Applications are accepted at all Workforce WV One Stop Centers (Job Service).

You can find applications for all counties of WV with the exception of Grant, Pendleton, Hardy, Mineral, Hampshire, Morgan, Berkeley, and

Jefferson counties (These counties are serviced by the Cumberland affiliate).

Applicants who meet minimum requirements listed above will be required to take the standard TABE testing at Job Service. An alcohol and drug test will be required at a later date.

The WV Carpenter Training Center will not discrimi-

nate due to race, color, religion, national origin or sex and will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 30.

For more information call 866-428-1891 or visit www.wvcarpenter.com.

SHEET METAL LOCAL #33 HAS APPRENTICE OPPORTUNITIES

West Virginia Sheet Metal Workers' Local #33 Joint Apprenticeship Training Program, Clarksburg and Charleston District, are accepting applications.

Applications will be taken at all WorkForce, WV Centers – at the Job Service Offices through August 30th 2011; Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 5pm and Friday 9am – 5pm.

Applicants must reside within the jurisdiction of Sheet Metal Workers' Local #33 Clarksburg or Charleston Districts.

Counties for the Clarksburg District include Barbour, Doddridge, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, Upshur, Webster and Wetzel.

For the Charleston District - Boone, Braxton, Clay, Fayette, Greenbrier, Kanawha,

Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Nicholas, Putnam, Raleigh, Summers, and Wyoming Counties.

Indicate which district you are applying for.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- A. Must be of legal age (18).
- B. Must be physically able to perform the work of the trade.
- C. Must have a High School education or equivalent (GED).
- D. Must have a valid driver's license.
- E. All applicants will be required to complete the TABE Test as scheduled by WorkForce, WV Centers/Job Services.

All applicants will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, national origin or sex.

For more information contact 304-422-5549 or visit www.wvjatc33.com.

TRI-STATE VOLUNTEERS BUILD GRADE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND



VOLUNTEERS ORGANIZED BY the Tri-State Building Trades Council install new playground equipment at the Buffalo Elementary School in Wayne County.

The project took place during the week of August 1 and consisted of unloading & installing new equipment, pouring concrete, spreading pea gravel and painting an existing swing set.

Members from Laborers 543, Sheet Metal Workers 24, Iron Workers 769, Insulators 80, Painters Council 53, Mid-Atlantic Carpenters, Bricklayers 5 all chipped in.

"Over a hot week these guys came when they could find some time, working early mornings and in the heat of the day and created a great place for kids to play," said Mark Johnson, Organizer for the Council.

EDWARD 'ALLEN' FISHER FORMER STATE BUILDING TRADES LEADER DIES

Edward "Allen" Fisher, Sr., former Secretary-Treasurer of the WV State Building and Construction Trades Council passed away on July 18.

Fisher was 82 and a member of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 625, Charleston for 57 years.

During his career Fisher served as Business Manager for the Local and was appointed to a variety of governmental positions during the Caperton Administration.

He retired in 1994.



Edward "Allen" Fisher, Sr.

Fisher was in office at the State Building Trades when the Affiliated Construction

Trades was formed.

He spent countless hours going to various union meetings promoting the idea which finally got approved in December of 1991.

Fisher was the Executive Director of ACT. He also helped pass contractor licensing legislation.

"Working families from the construction trades and all of West Virginia owe Allen their gratitude for the vision he had in setting up ACT and for his service in many capacities for Labor," said Steve Burton, President of the WV State Building Trades.

OHIO

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

lion projects to \$250,000 was a victory given the make-up of the House and Senate.

Other prevailing wage changes in the law include coverage exemptions and administrative procedures.

For example, it exempts the prevailing wage requirement on certain economic development programs.

It also limits the ability of those who can file a complaint to the Department of Commerce.

"If these Right Wing zealots would take the time to review history they would discover why these laws were enacted in the first place," said Duffy.

"To protect the standard of living of workers and to support the communities they live and work in."

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Trades Invited to Tailgate Party

WVU Mountaineers vs. Marshall

Sunday, September 4

Lunch Starting at 12:30 pm.

The North Central WV Building Trades Council invites all trades members and their families to a Tailgate Party on Sunday, September 4 at Mountaineer Field - Milan Puskar Stadium in Tent City - upper level.

For more information contact Natalie Stone 304-626-3882.

DOMINION

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ment to allowing more Marcellus Shale drilling.

The Marcellus gas in Northern West Virginia is called a wet gas meaning it has lots of valuable, high-BTU components.

This wet gas can't be put

directly into a pipeline because it burns too hot and ruins gas furnaces and turbines at the customer end.

So dealing with the wet gas is not only valuable, if not addressed it will create a problem for gas drillers who won't be able to put their gas into a pipeline.

Marcellus Shale has been

praised as a job creator but local crafts are now seeing this project as an attack on the standards they have created for the area over many years of hard work and cooperative effort with local contractors.

In an attempt to find a way to work out some sort of deal that would let local workers get a fair shot at working on

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the project a small delegation from the Trades will go to Texas to meet with CB&I-Lummas in mid-August.

"We have had some brief discussions but they are pretty firm they want nothing to

do with an agreement – even a simple project agreement," said Gray.

"Our goal is to get local construction workers hired and we are making every effort to make that happen."