



A PUBLICATION OF THE AFFILIATED CONSTRUCTION TRADES

A Division of the WV State Building Trades, AFL-CIO | Bill Hutchinson, *President* | Dave Efaw, *Secretary-Treasurer* | Steve White, *Director*

Two PSC Hearings Held on Moundsville Power Job

Two hearings before the state's Public Service Commission have moved the \$615 million Moundsville Power project closer to reality.

The first was held November 19 in Marshall County and was for local public comment.

More than 100 attended; all in support, all from the crafts.

ACT attorney Vince Trivelli presented much of the public comment on behalf of those present explaining the overwhelming support for the project, the local jobs it would create, and the positive impact it would have on the community.

The hearing took place after a site tour by Commissioners and staff to better understand the project.

The second hearing was held in Charleston on December 9 at the PSC headquarters.

The purpose was to finalize the application for a siting certificate.

Two large three ring binders made up the application which included ev-

idence on the agreement to use local
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ACT attorney Vince Trivelli (standing, center) speaks on behalf of more than 100 union construction workers who came to support the Moundsville Power project at a November 19 public hearing.

Prevailing Wage Repeal Possible

Upcoming Legislative Session Challenging

With a new republican majority in both the state House of Delegates and Senate, leaders of the State Building Trades are trying to better understand what the future of construction workers and their families will look like.

Issues that would harm both labor and local communities, like passage of the so-called Right-to-Work law or repeal of the state prevailing wage law, are of great concern.

"Frankly the dust is still settling from the election and we have not had a chance to discuss these issues with the new leadership," said Dave

Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer of the WV State Building Trades.

However news reports on a wide variety of agenda topics including prevailing wage repeal and passage of so-called right-to-work are plentiful.

"We have heard from quite a few contractors that they share our concern especially about the prevailing wage law," said Efaw.

The law makes sure construction wages normally paid in a community are part of public construction contracts.

The result means public projects don't push wages down and contrac-

tors compete on productivity, schedule, management and quality.

Without prevailing wage laws wages are always lowered because companies from outside the area try to import low-wage workers and undercut community standards.

"There is not one credible study that can show the elimination of prevailing wage saves the taxpayer a dime," said Efaw.

"But lower wages, less training, the elimination of benefits and increased accidents are all documented outcomes for states without a prevailing wage law."

Efaw points out there are a number of areas the Trades hope to work with the new majority.

Funding for infrastructure, especially roads and bridges, is critically needed.

"We hope to find areas of common ground – like making sure we have more investment in Marcellus Shale to create jobs we need in West Virginia," said Efaw.

Having a skilled and drug-free workforce is another area where improvements are needed.

The legislative session starts on January 14 and will last 60 days. ■

Carpenters/Millwrights in New Council Keystone + Mountain + Lakes Regional Council to Open New Office in Charleston

As of early this year the Carpenters and Millwrights in West Virginia are now part of a new council known as the Keystone + Mountain + Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters.

As part of a reorganizing effort the Council is opening a new office in Charleston.

The building has been purchased and some basic renovations are about to begin.

"We want to have a presence near the Capitol," said Bill Waterkotte, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the

Council.

Waterkotte is based in Pittsburgh and is in charge of Western Pennsylvania, all of West Virginia and the western portion of Maryland. Mark Estlack remains the West Virginia director.

According to Waterkotte his focus is on jobs.

"Now is the time to grow our organization by increasing our membership, increasing our market share and growing our contractor base," wrote Waterkotte. ■



This building, just a few blocks away from West Virginia's capitol complex in Charleston, will soon be a new office of the Keystone + Mountain + Lakes Regional Council of Carpenters.

Heavy Duty Equipment Operator Apprenticeship Opportunities Operating Engineers Local #132

Where to apply: all WorkForce West Virginia Centers

When to apply: January 5th through January 16th, 2015

Hours to apply: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday

Minimum qualifications:

- Must be at least 18 years of age, have high school diploma or GED and have a valid WV driver's license.
- Must be physically able to perform the work of the trade. A drug test will be required.
- Must meet 10th grade level on TABE test administered by WorkForce WV.
- Must be a resident of WV for at least one year prior to making application.

For more information call 304-273-4852 or 1-800-376-4852

The recruitment, selection, employment, and training of apprentices shall be without discrimination because of age, race, color, religion, national origin or sex and will conform to ADA regulations.

The sponsor will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunities in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under title 29 of the code of federal regulations, part 30.

Hearings

Continued from Page 1

union construction workers, details about environmental permits, power agreement, pipelines, wetlands, and much more.

Again, there was no opposition to the project which can now expect to get the green light from the PSC in the near future.

The company still has about one year of work before ground can be broken however.

Engineering, financing, and a variety of permits still must be resolved.

The next milestone is the selection of a contractor which according to company witness John Black would be in early January.

Black also took pleasure in pointing out that more than 430 letters in support of the project had been sent to the PSC with none in opposition.

Black referred to the Memorandum agreement with the Trades and stated the company's strong commitment to use local union construction workers.

The Memorandum Agreement Moundsville has with the Trades requires the successful bidder to work out a project labor agreement.

The project did run into trouble earlier this year when one of three Marshall County Commissioners voiced opposition to the property tax arrangement sought by the company.

However two commissioners, Don Mason and Brian Schambach, remained strong project supporters and ultimately out voted the opposition.

The company will pay \$1 million per year in property tax, much more than the \$2500 collected currently.

The plant will have two gas fired turbines able to use up to 25 percent ethane as fuel.

There will also be a steam recovery unit to use heat from the turbines. The facility will be able to generate up to 529 megawatts of electricity.

"Everyone is excited about this project and appreciates the great partnership opportunity Moundsville has given us," said Tom Gray, President of the Upper Ohio Valley Building Trades Council. ■

OSHA Announces New Requirements for Reporting Fatalities and Severe Injuries

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration recently announced a final rule requiring employers to notify OSHA when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye.

The rule will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015, for workplaces under federal OSHA jurisdiction.

“The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 4,405 workers were killed on the job in 2013. We can and must

do more to keep America’s workers safe and healthy,” said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. “Workplace injuries and fatalities are absolutely preventable, and these new requirements will help OSHA focus its resources and hold employers accountable for preventing them.”

Under the revised rule, employers will be required to notify OSHA of work-related fatalities within eight hours, and work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations or

losses of an eye within 24 hours.

Previously, OSHA’s regulations required an employer to report only work-related fatalities and in-patient hospitalizations of three or more employees. Reporting single hospitalizations, amputations or loss of an eye was not required under the previous rule.

All employers covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, even those who are exempt from maintaining injury and illness re-

ports, are required to comply with OSHA’s new severe injury and illness reporting requirements.

The new rule maintains the exemption for any employer with 10 or fewer employees, regardless of their industry classification, from the requirement to routinely keep records of worker injuries and illnesses.

For more information about the new rule, visit OSHA’s website at <http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014>. ■

Apprenticeship Open for Bricklayers DC

The Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers District Council of West Virginia Apprenticeship Program has a year round application process.

Those interested in applying can go to any WorkForce WV Job Service office on the Third Friday of each month.

The Western Maryland One Stop Job Center will also process applications Monday through Friday.

Both agencies are open 8:00am to noon and 1:00pm to 4pm.

The program teaches brick and block laying, as well as all aspects of the trade.

It takes 6,000 hours of on-the job training plus related classroom training to complete the program.

Apprentices begin with an eight week training session at the Council’s statewide facility located in Ritchie County.

During the training session apprentices from out-of-the area are provided local housing.

For the remainder of their apprenticeship they attend monthly meetings closer to their home area.

The program provides opportunities for those who reside in any West Virginia County as well as the counties of Allegheny, Garrett and Wash-

ington, MD.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and be physically able to perform the work of the trade.

All applicants will take a standard written aptitude test at the WV Job Service or the Western Maryland One Stop Job Center.

In order to be accepted you must provide copies of your birth certificate, high school diploma or equivalent. A copy of your driver’s license will also be required.

Only copies will be accepted please do not bring originals.

A drug test will be required at a later date.

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

The Bricklayers Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunities in apprenticeship and training and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 30.

For more information contact Apprenticeship Coordinator Brian Greynolds at 304-363-9250 or bricklayerwv@gmail.com. ■

Parkersburg Iron Workers 787 JAC Take Apprenticeship Applications Wednesdays

Iron Workers Local 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) takes applications for their program each Wednesday (excluding holidays).

Those interested must fill out the application at 303 Erickson Boulevard, Parkersburg in person, during regular business hours; 8:00 am – noon and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm.

Applicants must provide proof they are at least 18 years old, capable of performing work of the Iron Worker trade, be a High School Graduate or have an equivalent cer-

tificate, have a valid driver’s license, and pass an aptitude test given by the Parkersburg Workforce office.

In addition an applicant must live within Local 787’s area for at least one year prior to applying. Local 787’s area in Ohio includes the counties of Athens, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, and Washington; in West Virginia Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Jackson, Lewis, Mason, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Upshur, Wirt and Wood Counties.

If selected a candidate must pass a

substance abuse test.

The Iron Workers Joint Apprenticeship Training Program teaches in the classroom as well as on the job. Classes are held evenings and Saturdays, allowing on-the-job learning while getting paid.

The goal is to educate new workers how to safely and efficiently perform all aspects of the trade including structural, ornamental, and reinforcing iron work, as well as mathematics, welding, and rigging.

The Apprenticeship is a four year

program with starting wages set at 50% of Journeyman scale with full benefits. Increases are given every six months until training is complete.

Applications will be kept on file for a year. No applicant will be rejected because of race, color, religion, national origin or sex. Iron Workers Local 787 JAC will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunities in apprenticeship.

For more information contact Brad Winans, Apprenticeship Coordinator, at 304-485-6231. ■

First Class to Start in February New Construction Management Program

A new 12 credit education program about construction project management is about to be launched.

Starting in February 2015 at West Virginia University in Parkersburg, the first class of 15 people will begin.

The program is designed to provide construction project management training to experienced tradespersons, allowing them to be more effective in planning, organizing, executing and controlling large commercial and industrial projects.

Upon successfully completing the program, students will receive a Construction Management Coordination Credit Certificate (CMCCC) from West Virginia University and will be qualified to test for the Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) from the Project Management Institute.

Subject matter will be focused on project management techniques, communication, coordination, scheduling, safety and quality.

The program is comprised of three

classes that will be held on Thursday evenings from 6-10PM. Each class extends for 11 weeks as follows:

- Class I February 5, 2015 through April 16, 2015
- Class II May 28, 2015 through August 6, 2015
- Class III September 3, 2015 through November 12, 2015

All classes for the pilot program will be held at WVUP in Parkersburg, WV.

Through a grant program this pilot is being offered at a reduced cost of \$1464.00 (\$488 per class) tuition plus \$732 for books (\$2196 total tuition plus books regardless of state residency).

An updated and compatible laptop computer will be required.

The CMCCC pilot program is being offered to experienced construction tradesmen and women. Seats in the program are limited to 15, and a commitment from the student to attend the classes is essential.

Students interested in completing

the program should first seek support from their employer or local building trades union, then submit their resume and a letter of recommendation to the Parkersburg-Marietta Contractors Association office no later than December 31, 2014.

After selections are made the first week of January 2015, the students will be contacted by the selection committee.

There is no application fee.

Submit via mail or email to:

Parkersburg-Marietta
Contractors Association
Attn: CMCCC Pilot Program
2905 Emerson Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26104
dls@gopmca.com

For more information contact
Clint Suggs at csuggs@gopmca.com
or call 304-485-6485. ■

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Project BEST Breakfast



More than 400 guests filled Glessner Auditorium, Wilson Lodge at beautiful Oglebay Park in Wheeling, WV on December 3rd celebrating the Annual Project BEST Holiday Breakfast. Awards were distributed to construction customers who utilized participating Project BEST contractors, and scholarship monies were awarded to 10 area colleges and universities. BEST is a labor-management cooperative program that has been promoting excellence in construction since 1971.

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Monday and Friday 8:30am-5:00pm, Wednesday 8:30am-5:30pm.