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ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 3-1-17

[Rothfus bill would ease regulations on companies that burn waste coal to produce electricity](#) - Maybe the third time will be the charm for U.S. Rep. Keith Rothfus, who has again introduced his Satisfying Energy Needs and Saving the Environment (SENSE) Act to help companies that use waste coal to produce electricity.

[Rothfus Reintroduces SENSE Act to Save Coal Jobs and Clean Up the Environment](#) - Congressman Keith Rothfus [PA-12] today [introduced](#) the Satisfying Energy Needs and Saving the Environment (SENSE) Act, which passed the House with bi-partisan support during the 114th Congress.

[Coal Industry Casts Itself as a Clean Energy Player](#) - President Trump has questioned the science behind climate change as “a hoax” in positioning himself as a champion of coal. The three largest American coal producers are taking a different tack.

[How the Future of Medical Marijuana Is Powered by Our Coal Region Past](#) - There's a new industry on the horizon in Northumberland County. It's one that promises to be green and completely change a coal-mining community for the better.

[Vision 2017 | Companies optimistic on future of mining](#) - Local coal industry leaders are hopeful that demand continues to climb for their product.

[Trump's changes high on reclamation group's discussion topics](#) - President Trump's support of the coal mining industry and his appointment of a pro-industry Environmental Protection Agency administrator will be under discussion when abandoned mine reclamation groups convene this summer in Wilkes-Barre.

[Uncovering ghosts of region's mining era](#) - From the tall windows of the former Huber Breaker office, Michael Hewitt can see the mine-scarred lands from a bygone era.

[US reps ask Trump to back Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort](#) - A bipartisan group of Virginia's congressional delegation is asking President Donald Trump to support the regional partnership that has coordinated the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay for decades.

[State tax credits in budget crosshairs](#) - Gov. Tom Wolf wants to change state tax credits offered to businesses and other groups and slash state funding available for them by 20 percent.

[State borrowing to tackle water quality issues](#) - Amid mounting concerns about water quality, Gov. Tom Wolf wants to shore up state environmental programs by borrowing and shifting money around in next year's state budget.

[Trump signs bill undoing Obama coal mining rule](#) - President Trump on Thursday signed legislation ending a key Obama administration coal mining rule.

[Pa. funding for environmental regulation is 'unsustainable,' panel says](#) - An advisory panel issued a warning Tuesday that budget cuts to the state Department of Environmental Protection have "reached an unsustainable level."

[FirstEnergy asking for 'zero-emission' subsidies for its Ohio nuclear plants](#) - The fight over the future of Ohio's legacy power plants is about to heat up with a new wrinkle as a utility attempts to have customers subsidize the state's two nuclear power plants.

[Industry sees 'snowball effect' in N.Y., Ill. policy wins](#) - Connecticut is the latest state to debate a measure that would aid existing nuclear plants, following on the heels of subsidy programs approved in Illinois and New York.

[Coal leaders hopeful for industry resurgence](#) - A new Acosta mine is just part of a larger resurgence coming for the coal industry, a speaker said Thursday at a Somerset County Chamber of Commerce event.

[State could lose authority to monitor drinking water](#) - The Pennsylvania DEP is in danger of losing its authority to monitor for close to 100 substances that can be found in public drinking water.

[Furloughed Bailey Mine employees returning to work](#) - Some Bailey Mine employees are back at work after Consol Energy temporarily laid off 200 miners earlier this month at the complex in Greene County.

[Coldwater Heritage Partnership Announces 2017 Grant Awards](#) - The Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) announces the recipients of the 2017 Coldwater Conservation Grants Program. The program provides two grant opportunities, which help to protect and conserve the health of Pennsylvania's coldwater ecosystems.

[Lawmakers need to come together to resolve thorny budget issues](#) - Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf's latest \$32.5 billion budget proposal features a variety of cuts designed to close a \$3 billion deficit. Republican-led hearings on the proposal will begin Tuesday. Wolf, a Democrat, will have to sell his plan to the largest Republican majority in the General Assembly in more than 60 years.

[Pa. budget losers: Little for environmental protection and even less for state parks](#) - The state Department of Environmental Protection, which enforces regulations concerning clean air and water, will receive a \$1.1 million bump in state funding in Gov. Tom Wolf's 2017-18 budget, bringing the total to \$148 million compared to the current year.

[The West's largest coal-fired power plant is closing. Not even Trump can save it.](#) - As a presidential candidate, Donald Trump promised to help revive the struggling coal industry. It's looking like a tough promise to keep.

[Former EPA Chief Denies War On Coal While Sitting In Front Of A 'Coal Sucks' Poster](#) - The head of the EPA under President Barack Obama vehemently denied politicians and environmentalists waged a "war on coal."

[PJM Board Authorizes \\$1.5 Billion To Strengthen Electric Infrastructure](#) - The PJM Interconnection Board authorized more than \$1.5 billion in electric transmission projects to maintain reliable power supplies for the 65 million consumers in its 13-state and Washington, D.C. region.

[States step up campaign for repeal of water rule](#) - Increasingly impatient state utility regulators want Congress to repeal the Environmental Protection Agency's clean water rule, which significantly expands the agency's jurisdiction and would delay power plant construction and other energy development.

[Gov. Wolf's 2017 budget plan: Winners and losers](#) - Gov. Tom Wolf's third budget plan focuses on cutting costs but provide more money to public schools and put more resources into fighting heroin and opioid addictions.

[GOP House votes to reject Obama administration stream protection rule](#) - The Republican-led Congress took its first steps Wednesday to roll back environmental, financial disclosure and energy regulations put in place by the Obama administration.

[Coal Fuel Contracts: A Moving Target](#) - In recent years, coal power generators have faced increasing difficulty predicting annual fuel requirements due to more cycling and low-load operation. That presents problems for the people negotiating fuel contracts. Not all mining companies are amenable to contract changes, but some unique solutions have been developed.