



2015 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011 Phone: (717) 763-7635, Fax: (717) 763-7455, Email: [office@arippa.org](mailto:office@arippa.org)

## ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 4-1-17

[Commentary: Nuclear plants need to be part of Pa. energy mix](#) - The General Assembly should pass legislation to save Pennsylvania's nuclear power plants from premature retirement. We can't afford to write off nine nuclear units that play a crucial role in the sustainability of the state's electric system.

[Bipartisan RECLAIM Act of 2017 Introduced for 115th Congress](#) - Recently, Congressional leaders united across the aisle and the Capitol Dome to reintroduce the bipartisan RECLAIM Act. The legislation aims to accelerate \$1 billion in available funding in the Abandoned Mine Reclamation (AML) Fund over the next five years to revitalize coal communities hit hardest by the downturn of the coal industry.

[Electric grid operator questions reliability amid shift to gas-powered generation](#) - The world's largest wholesale electricity market, which includes Pennsylvania, gets its power from a half dozen fuel sources, but its operator asks now whether growing dependence on natural gas fuel could weaken reliability.

[As coal and nuclear plants shutter, PJM eyes energy grid's future](#) - The Pennsylvania-based manager of a 13-state electrical grid that serves some 65 million people has released a new report examining the changing nature of electricity production in the U.S. -- namely declines in coal input and increases in natural gas and renewables -- and what future impacts those shifts might have on the system.

[What to Know About Trump's Order to Dismantle the Clean Power Plan](#) - President Trump signed an executive order Tuesday that calls on Scott Pruitt, the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to take steps to dismantle the Clean Power Plan, a set of rules regulating energy plants powered by fossil fuels.

[Westinghouse files for bankruptcy, in a blow to nuclear power industry](#) - Westinghouse, one of the most storied names in the nuclear energy business, filed for bankruptcy Wednesday, dealing a blow to the nuclear power industry and raising questions about the fate of four reactors under construction in the United States.

[PJM market monitor intervenes in Illinois ZEC lawsuit](#) - PJM Interconnection's independent market monitor is opposing a new Illinois law that relies on a zero emissions credit program, or ZEC, to provide ratepayer-funded subsidies to keep two money-losing Exelon nuclear plants from closing.

[Trump, in break from other world leaders, digs in on coal](#) - Declaring an end to what he's called "the war on coal," President Donald Trump signed an executive order Tuesday that eliminates numerous restrictions on fossil fuel production, breaking with leaders across the globe who have embraced cleaner energy sources.

[Two Ohio coal-fired plants to close, deepening industry decline](#) - Electricity company Dayton Power & Light said Monday it would shut down two coal-fired power plants in southern Ohio next year for economic reasons, a setback for the ailing coal industry but a victory for environmental activists.

[Realistic energy options: The answer isn't blowing in the wind](#) - Urban voters may like the idea of using more wind and solar energy, but the push for large-scale renewables is creating land-use conflicts in rural regions from Maryland to California and Ontario to Loch Ness.

[Senate Takes No Action Yet On Nomination Of Patrick McDonnell As DEP Secretary](#) - The Senate this week again failed to take any action on the nomination of Patrick McDonnell to serve as Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection.

[Who Wins and Loses in Trump's Proposed Budget](#) - President Trump released a partial outline of his 2018 budget on Thursday, proposing billions of dollars in spending cuts to most government agencies to pay for large increases in military and homeland security spending, resulting in a 1.2 percent cut in discretionary spending over all.

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approves new Wildlife Action Plan for Pennsylvania](#) - An updated blueprint for continued management and protection of Pennsylvania's fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need has been approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

[Cutting emissions could cost trillions](#) - Drastically cutting greenhouse gas emissions by mid-century could come at a great cost in treasure and jobs to Pennsylvania and the nation, according to a new report by an international economic consultant group.

[Trump EPA cuts could have even bigger trickle-down impact on Pa., N.J.](#) - President Trump's proposal to slash 31 percent of the Environmental Protection Agency's budget could eventually be magnified in a sort of double whammy to clean air and water safeguards in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

[Wolf Administration Reacts to Proposed EPA Cuts, Noting Immediate and Devastating Effects if Enacted](#) - In a letter to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Acting Secretary Patrick McDonnell outlined what the impacts of substantial cuts to the EPA would mean for the citizens and business of Pennsylvania.

[Burns: DEP constructing plant to treat acid mine drainage in Cambria County](#) - State Rep. Frank Burns, D-Cambria, announced that the state Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Abandoned Mines Reclamation will build a plant in Cresson to process and clean acid mine drainage.

[PJM monitor rails against threat of 'contagious' subsidies](#) - The ombudsman for the nation's largest electricity market railed against state-approved subsidies for existing nuclear plants within PJM Interconnection, saying the payments "threaten the foundations" of the grid operator's capacity market and the overall competitiveness of the PJM markets.

[Trump seeks to ax Appalachia economic programs, causing worry in coal country](#) - President Donald Trump has proposed eliminating funding for economic development programs supporting laid-off coal miners and others in Appalachia, stirring fears in a region that supported him of another letdown on the heels of the coal industry's collapse.

[Connecticut to sue EPA over pollution from Brunner Island power plant](#) - The state of Connecticut is suing the federal Environmental Protection Agency for what it says is the agency's inaction in addressing air pollution from the Brunner Island power plant.

[Strategies for Enhanced SCR Performance](#) - As a result of the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) and the Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), utilities such as Duke Energy are faced with the need to achieve further reductions in annual and ozone-season NOx emissions.

[Beaver Valley hangs in the balance of nuclear subsidy efforts in two states](#) - One way or another, come next year, FirstEnergy Corp. is getting rid of the Beaver Valley nuclear power station.

[How EPA cuts could impact Pennsylvania](#) - With the Trump administration proposing to cut the EPA's budget by about 25 percent, according to recently leaked documents, state environmental budgets could be impacted as well.

[Environmental budget cuts get pushback in Pennsylvania](#) - A federal official's warning that Pennsylvania is not adequately enforcing safe drinking water standards after years of budget cuts has prompted a bipartisan environmental council to advise lawmakers to boost funding to protect the environment.

[Casey, Democratic colleagues want Miners Protection Act tied to Trump nominee's waiver](#) - As retired coal miners begin receiving termination notices for their health-care benefits, a group of Senate Democrats, including U.S. Sen. Bob Casey, are trying to leverage a possible Trump administration official's nomination to get the Miners Protection Act approved.

[Trump orders review of Obama rule protecting small streams](#) - President Donald Trump has signed an executive order mandating a review of an Obama-era rule aimed at protecting small streams and wetlands from development and pollution, fulfilling a campaign promise while earning the ire of environmental groups.