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## ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 5-1-18

### CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[Area power plants see drastic drop in emissions](#) - Motorists driving Routes 56 and 422 along the Indiana-Armstrong county line can see steam rising from the Keystone Generating Station near Shelocta.

[Greenhouse gas emissions from power plants plunge, EPA report shows](#) - Greenhouse gas emissions from power plants dropped 25 percent from 2005 to 2016, according to a report Wednesday from the Environmental Protection Agency.

[PJM Files Capacity Market Proposals on Generator Subsidies](#) - PJM today requested the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to determine how the wholesale electric capacity market should address state subsidies of electric generators.

[New PJM Settlements Program Provides Members Better Market Signals](#) - Following a year-long development and testing program with stakeholder input, on April 1, PJM implemented a market settlements solution that better aligns market credits and charges with real-time grid conditions.

[Earth Conservancy working toward goal of repurposing former mine land](#) - Coal helped build the communities of the Wyoming Valley, but when the industry departed, its mines and banks of waste coal remained and sat unused.

[FirstEnergy reaches agreement with creditors of bankrupt subsidiaries](#) - FirstEnergy Corp. celebrated its first financial report without the weight of its troubled power plant division which is currently in bankruptcy.

[Winning victories for coal under Trump](#) - Few American business sectors get as strong a defense from President Trump as the coal industry, both in his rhetoric and his policy.

[Utility says power plants will stay open during bankruptcy](#) - Attorneys for FirstEnergy Solutions say the company's coal and nuclear power plants will keep producing electricity while the company undergoes reorganization under bankruptcy.

[PJM: More Than 3,600 MW Will Retire in 2018](#) - Data from regional transmission organization (RTO) PJM Interconnection shows about 630 MW of power generation will be taken offline in the grid operator's territory in April, with more than 3,600 MW scheduled to be retired this year, according to the organization's website.

[THE BIG PICTURE \[INFOGRAPHIC\]: Changing Fleets](#) - The generating fleets owned by some of the largest companies in the U.S. (ranked here by capacity in 2017) have transformed over the past four years, in some cases dramatically, as total revenues fluctuated.

[OPED: Coal emerges as power champ in cold winter](#) - It's been a rough winter for much of America. As the Department of Energy has reported, a "bomb cyclone" winter storm struck much of the eastern United States in late December and early January.

[Acid mine drainage yields valuable rare earth elements](#) - Treating the acidic byproducts of mining operations and making a profit from extracting valuable metals don't necessarily have to be mutually exclusive.

[Power to these sites: Former coal-fired plants get 'playbooks' for future](#) - They once were sources of energy, jobs and other economic activity. Now, most of the 11 shuttered coal-fired power plants in Pennsylvania are rusting hulks, awaiting their next iteration of usefulness.

[Electricity sales fell in 2017](#) - Retail electricity sales fell by 80 billion kilowatt-hours in 2017, the largest drop the industry has seen since the 2009 recession, according to the Energy Information Administration.

[Coal group CEO embraces FERC as others prod Rick Perry to go around the grid watchdog](#) - The head of a pro-coal group is rolling up his sleeves to work with federal regulators to find a way to support coal-fired power plants, even as a major utility is pleading with Energy Secretary Rick Perry to forget the regulators and use his authority to overstep them altogether.

[Save our remaining coal plants from closure](#) - We take electricity for granted until something causes us to lose power for a few hours, or perhaps even a few days. Losing power is a very inconvenient reminder of why we need an electric power grid that is both reliable — that is, having an adequate supply of electricity — and resilient — that is, responsive to extreme events that interrupt power.

[Vistra and Dynegy Complete Their Merger](#) - Vistra Energy announced they have finally completed its merger with Dynegy. The combined company now employs 6,000 people across 12 states, serves 2.7 million residential customers and 240,000 commercial and industrial customers, and holds 40,000 MW of generation capacity.

[Keep the Kiski River watershed clean](#) - Years of success in cleaning up the Kiski and Conemaugh rivers and other waterways is in danger.

[B&W Awarded Boiler Equipment Replacement Contract](#) - Babcock & Wilcox Enterprises, Inc. (NYSE:BW) announced today that its subsidiary, The Babcock & Wilcox Company (B&W), has been awarded a contract for more than \$50 million to design and supply boiler equipment for an existing North American power plant.

#### **LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL**

[Pruitt: EPA will seek 'comprehensive rule' to alter New Source Review](#) - The Environmental Protection Agency will pursue a "comprehensive rule" to alter New Source Review regulations under the Clean Air Act, Administrator Scott Pruitt told House lawmakers Thursday.

[Trump's Latest Plan For Saving Coal Comes From the Cold War](#) - Months into the Korean War, President Harry Truman capped wages and imposed price controls on the steel industry, seizing authority under a newly passed law to take action in the name of national defense.

[Capito, Manchin trying to support coal-fired power plants](#) - Sens. Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., and Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., are pushing legislation that would give tax breaks to help keep coal-fired power plants in operation.

[Trump energy advisor steps down, to return to lobbying](#) - A top White House adviser for energy and environmental policy is resigning. Michael Catanzaro will be returning to CGCN Group, the law and lobbying firm where he previously worked.

[AG's office files action to force EPA to protect coal, steel jobs](#) - Attorney General Patrick Morrisey's office has filed a petition to protect West Virginia coal jobs by demanding the federal government clarify onerous regulations that stymie the production of steel.

[Pruitt unveils controversial 'transparency' rule limiting what research EPA can use](#) - Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt moved Tuesday to limit what science can be used in writing agency regulations, a change long sought by conservatives.

[FERC chair takes up coal lobby line on plant retirements](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission could take action to keep uneconomic power plants online if it perceives an entire category of generation resources, such as coal and nuclear, could permanently retire, the agency's chairman told Congress on Tuesday.

[Presidential Memorandum for the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency](#) - Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), Public Law 88-206, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for certain common air pollutants, often referred to as "criteria pollutants," which it must review every 5 years.

[Pruitt's New Deputy: A Coal Lobbyist Steeped in Washington's Ways](#) - The Senate on Thursday confirmed the Environmental Protection Agency's second-in-command, Andrew Wheeler, a former coal lobbyist who not only shares the deregulatory zeal of Scott Pruitt, the E.P.A. chief, but also his doubtful view of climate science.

[Energy Department Calls for Smaller, Modular Coal Power Plants](#) - The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is planning to help develop smaller, modular, coal-fired power plants that are more efficient and flexible than larger facilities.

[U.S. Rep. Pat Meehan announces resignation](#) - Acknowledging that he is departing under disappointing circumstances, U.S. Rep. Pat Meehan has announced he is resigning immediately and will reimburse the funds his office paid to a former aide who alleged the lawmaker harassed her.

[Rep. Charlie Dent announces he will resign from Congress in coming weeks](#) - U.S. Rep. Charlie Dent, the Allentown Republican who has served Pennsylvania's 15th District since 2005, said Tuesday he will resign "in the coming weeks."

[EPA issues first license key to climate-friendly coal plants](#) - The Environmental Protection Agency approved the first license for a technology that is key to making coal-fired power plants more environmentally friendly.

[Power plant owners press Trump to reject bailout for coal, nuclear](#) - Power plant owners are urging President Trump to reject a plea by a Ohio power provider to save its fleet of coal and nuclear plants that are slated to shut down in the next three years, saying it would be legally wrong and jeopardize his America First agenda.

[Energy Secretary Rick Perry voices doubt on utility's plea to save coal and nuclear](#) - Energy Secretary Rick Perry voiced doubt Monday that he would approve a plea by a Ohio utility to save its coal and nuclear power plants.

[Trump says administration 'trying' to save coal, nuclear plants with emergency powers](#) - President Trump on Thursday said his administration is considering granting a request for an emergency order to save nuclear and coal power plants across the Midwest.

[White House says it's reviewing conduct of EPA chief Scott Pruitt](#) - In a marked change in tone, the White House says President Trump is not OK with recent revelations involving the embattled head of the Environmental Protection Agency.

[Trump Administration's Ambitious Energy Agenda, New Projects Will Unleash Economic Opportunities in PA](#) - At a Bismarck, North Dakota, speech in May 2016, then candidate Donald Trump outlined his "America First Energy Plan," an ambitious, reform-focused agenda that declared U.S. energy dominance a strategic economic and foreign policy goal and promised to lift restrictions on American Energy to create a flood of new jobs.

#### **LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE**

[Governor Wolf Announces Funding to Support Environmental Cleanup and Revitalization Projects at 12 Abandoned Mine Sites Across the State](#) - Today, Governor Tom Wolf announced the approval of \$25 million in funding for environmental cleanup and revitalization projects at 12 abandoned mine land (AML) locations in fourteen municipalities across Pennsylvania.

[PUC says Pennsylvania law meant to close the borders on solar credits](#) - Pennsylvania lawmakers and the governor intended to boost the development of in-state solar projects with the passage of a law last year, the Public Utility Commission said on Thursday, voting to reject a proposed interpretation that would have allowed a glut of out-of-state solar credits to continue to depress prices in Pennsylvania's market.

[Pa. wildlife agency says no to wind turbines on game lands](#) - There are more than 2,000 active oil and gas wells on Pennsylvania game lands — some inherited, some imposed, some built with the wildlife agency's consent.

[Bills setting 100 percent renewable energy goal for Pa. draws bi-partisan support](#) - Pennsylvania lawmakers are being asked to set an ambitious goal of transitioning to 100 percent renewable energy sources by 2050 in order for the state to do its part in saving the planet.

[Jockeying begins as House openings fuel leadership shuffle](#) - Changes are coming to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, due in large part to the pending departure of one of the most powerful elected officials in Harrisburg.

[Ortitay introduces legislation package to change budgeting](#) - State Rep. Jason Ortity, R-South Fayette, introduced a 38-bill package to separate the omnibus general appropriations bill into individual pieces for each agency.

[The Evolving Application of Pennsylvania's Environmental Rights Amendment](#) - As a result of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's decision in Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Foundation v. Commonwealth, Article I, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution, frequently referred to as "Environmental Rights Amendment" is being increasingly relied on by courts, state and local agencies and antidevelopment NGOs as a basis for delaying and, in some cases, preventing industrial, commercial and even residential development across the Commonwealth.

[Report: Electricity prices could increase \\$285 million if two Pa. nuke plants close](#) - A new report claims the premature retirement of both the Beaver Valley and Three Mile Island nuclear power plants could result in a \$285 million increase in electricity costs for Pennsylvania consumers.