



NEWS RELEASE

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ARIPPA Coal Refuse to Energy Plants Honored for Safety and Environmental Achievements

CAMP HILL, PA – The Appalachian Region Independent Power Producers Association (ARIPPA) last month recognized numerous coal refuse to energy facilities for their laudable safety and operating performance and environmental stewardship through the removal and reclamation of coal refuse piles during the 2018 calendar year. Awards are granted to plants based on collected industry data and nominations submitted by member facilities.

For the third consecutive year, American Bituminous Power Partners was the recipient of the ARIPPA Outstanding Plant Award for the bituminous region. Located in Grant Town, West Virginia, American Bituminous Power Partners removed over 577,000 tons of bituminous coal refuse and completed final reclamation of its Farmington site last year. Nearly 50 acres were also reclaimed during the 12-month period. The plant maintained an impeccable safety record and annual capacity and availability rates above 90% as well. Additionally, American Bituminous Power Partners is an avid supporter of its community by sponsoring various local school athletics and supporting local charities.

ARIPPA plant member facilities play a crucial role in environmental cleanup of legacy mine problems. Since its inception, the industry in Pennsylvania alone has removed nearly 225 million tons of coal refuse, reclaimed more than 7,200 acres of previously scarred land and restored over 1,200 miles of polluted streams. Commending such efforts, American Bituminous Power Partners and Seward Generation each received a 2018 ARIPPA Environmental Achievement Award for their reclamation efforts in West Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively.

American Bituminous Power Partners received an award for their reclamation of the Farmington site in Marion County, West Virginia. Completed in October 2018, this No-Cost Reclamation Contract project entailed removing 748,782 tons of coal refuse from the site that was used as fuel at the Grant Town power plant. Over 587,000 tons of the ash were placed on the site during the reclamation process and 48 acres of disturbed property were reclaimed all while following the stringent requirements of the contract. Per the contract requirements, American Bituminous Power Partners will continue to monitor water discharges until December of this year. This site represents one of the largest No-Cost Reclamation projects in the history of the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection's abandoned mine land program.

Seward Generation was recognized for their reclamation work on the Renton site in Plum Borough, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. The approximately 160-acre soil covered refuse pile was situated on unnamed tributaries to Little Plum Creek and Plum Creek within the Ohio River Watershed. A majority of the coal refuse removed during the project was transported to the Seward power plant and the beneficial use ash was returned to the site to achieve final reclamation. The entire site has been planted with grasses to develop an unmanaged natural habitat landuse. As a result of mining and reclamation efforts, there has been significant reductions in loadings of the acidic water entering into the underdrain system leading to the nearby treatment plant operated by Consol. Landowners may now maintain the area for future site development if desired.

Plant safety is another critical component of the coal refuse reclamation to energy process. The industry goes above and beyond to ensure that safety of employees is a top priority as it directly supports approximately 1,500 jobs. As in 2017, seven plants again did not report any recordable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) incidents last year. Recognizing their undeniable commitment to safety standards, ARIPPA presented the following facilities with the 2018 ARIPPA Plant Safety Performance Award: American Bituminous Power Partners, Cambria Cogen, Morgantown Energy Associates, Northampton Generating Company, Panther Creek Power Operating, Scrubgrass Generating and Seward Generation.

All awards were presented at the 2019 ARIPPA Annual Technical Symposium and Trade Show on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

For more information on ARIPPA, visit www.arippa.org.

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