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ARIPPA PERIODIC MEDIA NEWS – 11-1-22

(News clips from the previous month)

CFB, COAL REFUSE, ENERGY INDUSTRY

[How waste from old coal mine is powering a Bitcoin mine in a Pennsylvania town](#) - It could be part of the future of digital currency, it could be a new way to clean up the environment, or it could be both. At the Panther Creek plant in Carbon County, Pennsylvania, the waste from old coal mines is being used to power a Bitcoin mine.

[In 2021 U.S. natural gas-fired power generation declined for the first time in four years](#) - According to our recently released Natural Gas Annual, natural gas consumption in all sectors in the United States was effectively flat between 2020 and 2021, down by only 0.5 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d).

[U.S. coal-fired generation declining after brief rise last year](#) - We expect 6% less U.S. coal-fired generation in 2022 than in 2021, according to our latest Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO).

[Energy security, not climate change, is driving clean energy investment, IEA chief says](#) - International Energy Agency Executive Director Fatih Birol told CNBC Thursday that the main driver of clean energy investment was energy security rather than climate change.

[PJM CEO Asthana Opens 2022 Annual Meeting](#) - PJM President and CEO Manu Asthana stressed the importance of stakeholder collaboration to prepare for changes in the energy industry in his keynote address Monday at the 2022 PJM Annual Meeting of Members, being held in Cambridge, Maryland.

[World is in its 'first truly global energy crisis'](#) - IEA's Birol - Tightening markets for liquefied natural gas (LNG) worldwide and major oil producers cutting supply have put the world in the middle of "the first truly global energy crisis", the head of the International Energy Agency (IEA) said on Tuesday.

[PJM capacity proposal: fuel for the ongoing market 'crisis,' or a needed step to limit overprocurement?](#) - The PJM Power Providers Group, a trade group for power plant owners also known as P3, on Friday urged the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reject the PJM Interconnection's proposal to revise key inputs to its capacity market.

[Clean coal? South Ogden company envisions global transformation](#) - It's not exactly a green revolution, but the CEO of a new Utah company says there's plenty of societal value in making a variety of far-less-polluting uses of coal and coal waste.

[ISO-NE, ERCOT, MISO face possible capacity shortfalls in extreme winter weather: FERC](#) - New England has adequate power supplies for normal winter weather, but could face shortfalls if there is a long cold stretch because of its limited ability to import natural gas, according to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's annual winter energy market and reliability assessment released Thursday.

[How a transformer shortage threatens the grid](#) - A high-voltage grid transformer as big as a railroad boxcar sits on the loading dock of a factory here, ready to push power across transmission lines as an indispensable part of the nation's electric grid.

[Heating costs this winter are already scaring U.S. families](#) - Across the U.S., families are looking to the winter with dread as energy costs soar and fuel supplies tighten.

[WVU rare earth element recovery effort pushing ahead after encouraging result](#) - The federal government is betting that the many millions of dollars it's investing in turning mine waste into clean energy technology will pay off in a big way.

[Energy agency: CO2 emissions rise in 2022, but more slowly](#) - The International Energy Agency said Wednesday that it expects carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels to rise again this year, but by much less than in 2021 due to the growth in renewable power and electric cars.

[Coal shipments to U.S. power plants fell by more than half between 2010 and 2021](#) - U.S. power plants received 449 million short tons (MMst) of coal in 2021, less than half of the 957 MMst they received in 2010. Coal shipments to U.S. power plants declined over the past decade as coal-fired generation in the country fell and coal-fired power plants shut down.

[More interregional transmission could prevent East Coast blackouts, lower costs: NRDC report](#) - Building more interregional transmission capacity could reduce potential power outages during extreme weather while saving money, according to a study released Monday by the Natural Resources Defense Council.

[Coaltrain Energy agrees to pay \\$4M to settle FERC allegations the company manipulated PJM's market](#) - Coaltrain Energy agreed to pay \$4 million to settle allegations that company traders manipulated the PJM Interconnection's market by making improper "up to congestion" trades, according to a settlement agreement approved last week by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

[State PUCs should re-examine planning, procurement costs in wake of Inflation Reduction Act: report](#) - State public utility commissions should re-examine cost assumptions in planning and procurement processes that were made before the tax credit-laden Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law in August, according to a report released Thursday by Energy Innovation Policy & Technology.

[Bullish outlook for winter 2022-23 US power burn adds fuel to gas price rally](#) - The continued retirement of coal-fired power across the US in 2022 is promising to make generators more reliant on natural gas this winter.

[States press FERC for independent monitors on transmission planning, spending as Southern Co. balks](#) - The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission should require the creation of independent transmission monitors, or ITMs, to help oversee transmission planning and spending, state and consumer advocates said Thursday during a technical conference on managing transmission costs.

[At \\$297 million rate hearing, power companies are pressed on how they managed coal supplies](#) - On the second day of a hearing about a \$297 million power company rate increase request, Public Service Commission Chairwoman Charlotte Lane asked a question that got right at the heart of the matter.

[ERCOT electricity prices vary more with changes in wind power than with electricity demand](#) - In the Short-Term Energy Outlook Supplement released on October 4, we analyzed how variability in electricity demand and wind generation affects hourly electricity prices in Texas's wholesale power market under summer peak-day conditions, when summer electricity demand is highest.

[Can Power Plant Wastewater Be Valuable?](#) - The rise and rapid adoption of the circular economy—a systems solution framework that seeks to keep materials, products, and services in circulation for as long as possible—is triggering an interesting shift in how wastewater is being viewed.

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: FEDERAL

[Senate panel eyes Nov. hearing for FERC chair renomination](#) - The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee is eyeing Nov. 15 for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chair Richard Glick's confirmation hearing, two people familiar with the timing told E&E News.

[Inside EPA's climate strategy for power plants](#) - EPA's game plan to comprehensively attack pollution from the coal-fired power industry began to take shape almost immediately following President Joe Biden's inauguration, recently released records show.

[Lobbying over WOTUS rewrite ramps up](#) - Lobbies for farmers, miners, homebuilders, golf course managers and a slew of other powerful interests are trying to sway the White House in hopes of shaping a controversial Clean Water Act rule.

[Biden to release 15M barrels from oil reserve, more possible](#) - President Joe Biden will announce the release of 15 million barrels of oil from the U.S. strategic reserve Wednesday as part of a response to recent production cuts announced by OPEC+ nations, and he will say more oil sales are possible this winter, as his administration rushes to be seen as pulling out all the stops ahead of next month's midterm elections.

[What upcoming US elections could mean for the Inflation Reduction Act, FERC and US energy policy](#) - Democrats are fresh off a big clean energy policy win, leveraging control of Congress to pass the Inflation Reduction Act and its \$369 billion in incentives for renewables, energy storage, electric vehicles and more. But with most political odds makers expecting Republicans to retake the House in next month's midterms, and some seeing chances for the Senate as well, there is now speculation that Republicans may attempt to weaken the landmark law.

[Supreme Court appears to back EPA in WOTUS war](#) - The Supreme Court on Monday appeared reluctant to wrest wetlands permitting power from EPA in a dispute that had been expected to significantly narrow the scope of the Clean Water Act.

[Justices ponder Clean Water Act's application to wetlands in Jackson's first oral argument](#) - The Supreme Court returned to the bench on Monday for the start of its new term. The justices did not waste any time in getting down to business, hearing argument in a long-running dispute over an Idaho couple's efforts to build a home on land that they own – but which the Environmental Protection Agency has deemed a “wetland.”

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES: STATE

[Supreme Court declines to take up Pennsylvania legislative map challenge](#) - The United States Supreme Court has decided not to hear a case involving the drawing of Pennsylvania's State House and Senate Districts.

[Supreme Court of Virginia Upholds Decision on Dominion Carbon Market Charge](#) - Utility regulators met state legal requirements in approving a charge added to Dominion Energy Virginia bills to pay for participation in a regional carbon market, the Supreme Court of Virginia ruled Thursday.

[PUC Elects Commissioner Stephen M. DeFrank as Vice Chairman](#) - Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) Chairman Gladys Brown Dutrieuille today announced the Commissioners' election of Stephen M. DeFrank as Vice Chairman, effective immediately.

[Pa. lawmakers send Wolf large package of energy tax credits](#) - State lawmakers have voted for an array of tax credits, including a massive incentive designed to help Pennsylvania land one of the hydrogen energy hubs being funded with federal subsidies.

[Pa. election 2022: How redistricting could alter control of the legislature and other changes to watch Nov. 8](#) - It's showtime for Pennsylvania's brand-new legislative districts.

[PUC Welcomes New Commissioners and Thanks Senate for Confirmation Votes](#) - The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) today welcomed the return of Commissioner John F. Coleman Jr. and the arrival of Commissioners Stephen M. DeFrank and Kathryn L. Zarfuss to the PUC – returning the PUC to a full five-member panel.

[Federal Office Of Surface Mining Recognizes DEP Anthracite Outdoor Adventure - Bear Valley Mine Reclamation Project In Northumberland County With National Award](#) - On October 18, the federal Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement announced the winners of its 2022 Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Reclamation Awards.

[Mine-scarred Land and Orange Rivers—a Story of Land Degradation and Reclamation in Pennsylvania](#) - Over 5,000 abandoned underground mines dot the landscape in Pennsylvania. And although these underground channels are near invisible from the surface, there is one identifying factor you can't miss.

[Coal communities in Pennsylvania and other Appalachian states receiving nearly \\$47 million for revitalization](#) - Dozens of projects in communities affected by coal-related job losses are receiving nearly \$47 million from the Appalachian Regional Commission.

[Pennsylvania Coal Companies Showcase Employee Safety Records and Mine Reclamation Enhancements](#) - The Pennsylvania Coal Alliance has recognized the efforts of its member companies who prioritize the safety of its employees and the commitment to reclaiming coal mine sites throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

[CTC wins \\$1.9M to study extracting key elements from Pa.'s coal byproducts](#) - The United States has been precariously dependent on foreign countries for rare-earth elements used in the electronics that power virtually all aspects of American life – but those same elements can be found in common coal byproducts throughout Pennsylvania, Concurrent Technologies Corp. officials said Thursday.

[DEP Begins Accepting Applications For \\$103.4 Million In Abandoned Mine Reclamation Grants Starting Oct. 24](#) - The Department of Environmental Protection will begin accepting applications for abandoned mine reclamation and mine drainage treatment project grants on October 24. The deadline for applications is January 13.

[Severe Weather Drives Record High Number of Power Outage Events in Pennsylvania According to New PUC Report](#) - A total of 63 “reportable outage events” during 2021 disrupted electric service to residents and businesses across Pennsylvania – all related to the impact of weather on the state’s power grid – marking a substantial increase over previous years and marking the highest number of incidents since the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) began collecting this type of reliability data in 1993.

[State Rep. Tony DeLuca dead at 85](#) - State Rep. Anthony M. “Tony” DeLuca, D-Penn Hills, the longest serving current member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives died Sunday, Oct. 9, 2022, at home after a brief battle with lymphoma.

[DEP Awards \\$3 Million to Restore Watersheds Statewide by Reducing Water Pollution](#) - The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today awarded \$3 million in grant funding to local governments and organizations to restore the health of local watersheds around the state by reducing water pollution.

[Legal challenges to RGGI are keeping millions in carbon allowances from flowing to Pennsylvania](#) - Pennsylvania is missing out on millions of dollars in revenue from carbon-allowance auctions that are part of a multi-state initiative to combat climate change as legal challenges to the commonwealth’s involvement in the initiative continue.

[State government should refocus its efforts on environmental justice](#) - At a joint hearing before the House Democratic Policy Committee and the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus, testifiers pointed to specific ways state government can refocus its efforts on environmental justice and racial equity in order to help communities.

[Pa. election 2022: Where governor candidates Mastriano, Shapiro stand on energy and the environment](#) - In Pennsylvania, it’s usually not a question of whether a statewide candidate is supportive of the oil and gas industry but to what extent.

[Virginia governor calls for easing clean energy goals, injecting competition into utility sector](#) - Virginia should revisit its renewable energy requirements and utility regulators should have increased leeway in deferring those mandates, according to recommendations in an energy plan released Monday by Gov. Glenn Youngkin, R.

[Pa. needs to finish emissions regulations for oil and gas sites by December or face sanctions, EPA says](#) - Pennsylvania is up against a clock to finish emissions regulations for oil and gas sites.

[Max Baer, Pennsylvania Supreme Court’s chief justice, dies](#) - Max Baer, the chief justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, has died only months before he was set to retire, the court confirmed Saturday. He was 74.