

The Cope...



INCMA's Monthly Newsletter

November 2020

INCMA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

INCMA's Environmental Committee met virtually on Tuesday Oct. 27th. Members discussed reuse issues including a possible effort by AFS to develop a national sand database. Members also discussed IDEM inspections, coating concerns, NESHAP RTR deadlines, and more. If you would like a copy of the minutes, please email INCMAoffice@ameritech.net

COVID-19 RESOURCES

In addition to the many resource lists out there, [INCMA has a resource list available online](#) that includes links to other organization's resource lists as well. A few of the site links are below:

- [AFS Resources](#)
- [IMA Resources](#)
- [IN State Government](#)
- [IN Dept. of Workforce Development](#)
- [CDC Resources](#)

OSHA ISSUES **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** **CONFIRMING N95 MASK PROTECTION**

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has published a set of [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) on how N95 respirators effectively protect wearers from coronavirus exposure.

OSHA is aware of incorrect claims stating that N95 respirators filter does not capture particles as small as the virus that causes the coronavirus. OSHA's new FAQ explains why an N95 respirator is effective at protecting users from the virus. Visit the [AFS website](#) and/or OSHA's [COVID-19 webpage](#) for further information and resources about the coronavirus.



COAL BURNING UTILITIES VS DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Indiana has roughly 8.6 GW of coal-fired power plant capacity operating in areas facing potentially high water stress levels. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the state consumed more coal than any other in the U.S. except for Texas, using the fuel to generate about 59% of its net electricity generation. A 2019 report from the Indiana Climate Change Impacts Assessment led by researchers at Purdue University warned that

power plants taking in water from rivers and streams to use in plant cooling towers may have to reduce their power generation as climate change increases the temperature of local water sources. Drier summers, another symptom of climate change, can also drive limited water availability, hampering the coal fleet's ability to operate. Transporting coal is also often done by barge, and too much or too little water can hamper efforts to move or use the fuel. In 2019, record levels of flooding in the Mississippi stymied river transport for months, and too little water could pose similar risks in some areas [Click here for the full article.](#)

MAPPING WATERS OF THE U.S. (WOTUS)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal agencies are [developing a national map](#) that shows which streams and wetlands are regulated by the Clean Water Act. Several national data sets exist for wetlands and waterways, but it is the agency's position that none depicts accurately the boundaries of

federal regulatory authority

MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATIONS FOR EMPLOYEES

Five pharmaceutical companies are in final stages of accelerated clinical studies for a COVID-19 vaccine. At this time, there is no reliable estimate regarding when any of these vaccine candidates will be approved by the FDA for general distribution. In the meantime, employers are already asking whether it will be lawful to establish mandatory vaccination policies for their employees. [Read the full article discussing the issue from Ice Miller!](#)

FACTORIES GAIN JOBS in October

Manufacturing [gained 38,000 jobs](#) in October, according to data released recently by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Despite these gains, the sector is [still down 621,000 jobs](#) since February.

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