IDEM ENVIRONMENTAL FEE UPDATE
IDEM recently sent out a letter to all permit holders impacted by the recent air permit fee increase. The letter provides a brief description of the types of sources impacted and also includes a reference table for the new fees. A copy of the letter is available by clicking here.

The second phase of rulemaking for permit fees associated with waste and water programs will soon be released but is currently still under review by the state Office of Management & Budget.

AFS COMMENTS ON NESHAP MACT STDS
AFS submitted comments to EPA on Sept. 24th in support of EPA's effort to codify its reversal of their policy for “once in always in” for facilities subject to NESHAP MACT standards. The revised policy will provide regulatory flexibility for facilities that reduce their potential to emit HAPS without weakening environmental protections. A copy of the brief comments are available here.

EPA PUBLISHES RESIDUAL RISK AND TECHNOLOGY RULE
EPA published a proposed rule on Oct. 9th regarding the iron and steel foundries residual risk and technology rule. The proposed rule covers both major sources and area sources. The AFS Air Quality Committee is in the process of developing comments on the proposed rule and would appreciate any input that foundries may have. Because EPA concluded that the residual risk was acceptable with an ample margin of safety and no new or improved practices, processes or control technologies were identified, EPA has not proposed any new regulatory controls. The AFS comments will focus on supporting the general approach taken by EPA and request several regulatory clarifications. In addition to the industry comments prepared by AFS, they plan to develop model comments that others may build from to also submit to EPA. INCMA plans to submit comments as well. The comment deadline is November 25, 2019. The proposed rule is available here.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
INCMA'S 2020 LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT
INCMA will hold it's 2020 Legislative Summit on January 29th in Indpls. Please plan to attend to learn about critical foundry issues and talk with your legislative representatives.

NIPSCO LOOKS TO RENEWABLES
NIPSCO is looking to make what one industry observer described as potentially one of the biggest solar energy procurements “in America, if not the world.” The Merrillville-based utility issued a request for proposals as it looks to retire coal-fired electricity generation by 2028 and replace it with wind, solar and other cleaner and lower-cost energy sources. NIPSCO, which is the largest natural gas provider and the second-largest electricity provider headquartered in Indiana, is pursuing a goal of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 90% by 2030. Please click here for the full article.

WHY CAN'T MANUFACTURING SELL ITSELF TO MILLENNIALS?
INDUSTRYWEEK - The pace at which manufacturing workers are retiring is much faster than the rate at which millennials and young people are entering the manufacturing workforce. There is also a large difference between what older generations and younger generations think of manufacturing. So how can the industry better attract younger people to fill the gaps left behind by baby boomers? Manufacturers and industry leaders say technology, employee engagement and industry exposure will help revamp manufacturing into an attractive career path for millennials. Read the full article here.

TOUGH SEPTEMBER
Manufacturing employment dropped in Sept. losing 2,000 jobs. Motor vehicles and parts saw 4,100 lost jobs, while computer and electronic products gained 3,800 jobs.

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