

## IP JONES OPENS CONFERENCE WITH M.O.R.E. FUND, CCS FOCUS

CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN AND Boilermakers International President Newton B. Jones focused his opening remarks on two key topics: the union's new M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund and carbon capture and storage.

Jones told the conference M.O.R.E is the union's strategic plan to deal with lost work opportunities. "There is no greater issue impacting us today than the dramatic shift away from coal over the past 10 years," he said. To address that shift, he explained that M.O.R.E. — which stands for Marketing, Organizing, Recruitment and Employment — will raise as much as \$25 million annually.

The fund will provide assets to expand into industries and geographic areas where Boilermakers need a greater presence and to grow the membership to enhance workforce availability. He added that Bank of Labor is also considering a similar type of fund that would involve construction unions investing collateral in the bank to promote lending for energy projects using union labor.

Jones also spoke about the need to embrace carbon capture and storage technology as essential to mitigate climate change impacts. He introduced a new video, "CCS: Bridge to a Cleaner Energy Future" (at [CleanerFutureCCS.org](http://CleanerFutureCCS.org)), produced by the Boilermakers to promote greater understanding and acceptance of CCS technologies.



### MACGREGOR GIVES UPDATE ON GROUND-BREAKING REFINERY PROJECT

IAN MACGREGOR, PRESIDENT and CEO of North West Refinery, provided an update on the Sturgeon Refinery project in Alberta that processes bitumen into diesel fuel while emitting less CO<sub>2</sub> than the light crude refining process.

"This is the first refinery with carbon capture designed in from the get-go," he said. Captured CO<sub>2</sub> will be used for enhanced oil recovery and will be transported via the Alberta Carbon Trunk Line, another enterprise that he is involved with in Canada's oil sands region.

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MacGregor said the project is nearing completion of start-up for Phase 1 and has employed more than 5,000 union tradesmen and women working more than 50 million man-hours.

#### **GEPHARDT ANNOUNCES PUSH FOR NEW CLEAN AIR ACT**

The conference keynote speaker, former House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt (MO-3rd), spoke about the need to treat climate change seriously, whether or not people are convinced of the science. He described the “zig zag” shifting of the federal government’s approach to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, energy and the environment, considering the starkly different policies of the Obama administration and the Trump administration.

Gephardt announced that he is working with stakeholders in government, business, labor, the environment and other parties to develop and promote a 50-year environmental and energy plan that would provide more certainty for policy and regulations going forward. The plan, which has not yet been named, will be announced in September or October. Gephardt said the United States needs to take the

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**– Dick Gephardt**

lead on dealing with climate change, noting that the U.S. and other wealthy countries will face major issues if the more than 3 billion people in the world living in poverty don’t get access to affordable, clean energy. “If we want to live in a world that is safe for us, then we need solve the emissions challenge [and share that technology with other countries.]”

Following Gephardt’s speech, conference chairman and International President Newton B. Jones presented him with an honorary Boilermaker membership with Local 27 in St. Louis.





### **ULLICO HEAD: RECRUITING MEMBERS, MORE WORK, IS EVERYONE'S RECIPE FOR SUCCESS**

"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE employment that fixes America," said Ed Smith, president and CEO of Ullico, Inc. "When our members and people are working; when they have good paychecks, we all win."

Smith praised the forward-thinking M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund, stressing the need to market the union and recruit more members — especially younger members.

"Recruiting new members and getting more work opportunities is the exact recipe for success for contractors and for your union," he said.

Smith went on to discuss Ullico's "J for Jobs" fund and how it ties to Bank of Labor and the Boilermakers' National Funds. He explained that J For Jobs provides construction loans and requires that projects be 100 percent union. The Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust invested in J for Jobs, which has returned more than \$10 million to the trust. In addition, the projects financed through J for Jobs have an escrow of \$45 million, which Ullico has set up at Bank of Labor, which, in turn benefits Boilermakers and other unions receiving financing through Bank of Labor for union halls and training centers.

Smith said: "That's the power and the leverage of using union members' money and your employers' money to not only protect your pension and grow your pension, bring work for your members and your contractors, but also to leverage it even more through Bank of Labor so Bank of Labor can loan the money out to further strengthen the labor movement."



### **ALLAM CYCLE KEY TO CREATING POWER WITH CAPTURED CO2**

AS NET POWER continues testing at its zero-emissions LaPorte, Texas, plant, the power generation industry moves closer to what Damian Beauchamp, principal and chemist at 8 Rivers Capital, LLC, describes as a "paradigm shift." The plant actually runs on its own captured CO2.

"For far too long, renewables have been trying to [mitigate climate change] alone," Beauchamp said. "We decided to address the problem not with renewables but with something that's better for the worker, the customer and the climate. We decided to combine all three."

Beauchamp explained that electricity generation at NET Power can use natural gas or coal as a core new process called the Allam Cycle. Inexpensive fossil fuels are converted into power, while capturing CO2. The CO2 is recycled back into a power generation source for the plant and is captured for use in enhanced oil recovery or conversion to "value-added products" (such as concrete, ethylene and urea) that can be sold.

"This has superior total economic advantage to any existing fossil-fuel fired generation that currently exists, while inherently capturing all the CO2 at no additional cost," Beauchamp said.

The Texas NET Power plant has successfully completed testing on combustion and is expected to go online in 2020.

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## **TURBULENT INDUSTRY MAKES FOR UNIQUE LABOR SHORTAGE CHALLENGES**

DR. PETER PHILIPS, professor of economics at the University of Utah, gave an overview of how extreme turbulence in the construction industry, which has long existed and is unique to the industry, impacts labor shortages during “boom” and “bust” periods. He explained that Boilermakers have adapted to the volatile supply and demand and overcome labor shortages through flexibility in hours, creating a system of ‘travelers’ to cover work everywhere, marketing to bring union workers back who have left after labor

downturns, combining union and non-union workers, superior training and apprenticeship programs, using helpers to address cost and demand needs, practicing top-down organizing, and anticipating outages.

“The chemical plants and refiners cannot talk to one another about when their outages will take place. But they can talk to the union. That puts the union in position to think about how to most efficiently allocate workers across those outages,” Philips said. “That is one of your core competencies.”

Philips stressed the importance of taking advantage of today’s economic stability, ahead of an impending economic downturn.

“You’ve got to meet the needs of owners and contractors,” he said. “You’ve got to use the resources that are flowing your way now as the pool of funds to finance the reforms you need to make now for the problems of the future — to recharge your apprenticeship program, to refill that missing generation of 30-year-old Boilermakers, to recruit new contractors and take your industry into new sectors of the economy. It’s easier to do now than it will be during the next downturn.” ▲

## **CHARLES W. JONES AWARD PRESENTED TO LOCAL 26**



LOCAL LODGE 26, Savannah, Georgia, was presented with the Charles W. Jones Award, which honors the local lodge demonstrating the highest use of specified MOST programs during the preceding year. International President Newton B. Jones presented the award to L-26 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Johnathon Bates. Recently, L-26 Boilermakers and other craft were praised for achieving 53 million man-hours with no lost-time injuries at Vogtle nuclear plant’s units 3 & 4 in southeast Georgia.

*Pictured left to right: MOST Administrator Mark Garrett, IVP Southeast Warren Fairley, L-26 BM-ST Johnathon Bates and IP Newton B. Jones.*