

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
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Environment & Energy

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Highlights

Leading the News

Election 2017: Offshore Drilling Opponent Wins Virginia Governor Race

By Amena H. Saiyid, Paul Shukovsky, Gerald B. Silverman, Alex Ebert, John Herzfeld, Paul Shukovsky and Tripp Baltz

Opponents of offshore oil and gas drilling scored a victory with the election Nov. 7 of Democrat Ralph Northam to be Virginia's next governor.

Senate to Start Debate on EPA Air Pick, Teeing Up Final Vote

By Abby Smith

Senators are expected to soon begin debate on President Donald Trump's pick to head the EPA's air office, teeing up a confirmation vote as soon as this week.

Trump Nominee Drops Paganism Claim, Says Climate Change Is Real

By Ari Natter

An environmental nominee of President Donald Trump who had dismissed the threat of climate change and labeled carbon dioxide plant food, abandoned those positions Nov. 8 under questioning from Senate Democrats.

EU Seeks to Cut Cars' Carbon Dioxide Emissions 30 Percent By 2030

By Stephen Gardner

BMW Group, Daimler, and other carmakers in the European Union would be required to improve the fuel economy of their vehicles or increase the proportion of electric cars they produce to meet 2030 carbon dioxide reduction targets proposed by the European Commission Nov. 8.

High-Voltage Transmission Lines Coming, Mexico's Energy Ministry Says

By *Emily Pickrell*

A much-awaited bidding process for Mexico's first private auction on a \$1.2 billion high-voltage line will take place in the first quarter of 2018, after a year of delays, according to a senior energy minister.

Today's News

Passive Investing Giants Get More Active on Climate, Diversity

By *Andrea Vittorio*

State Street Corp., Vanguard Group, and other big passive investment managers' increasingly vocal stance on issues such as climate change and diversity shows in the way they vote.

Bill Aims to Make Energy Regulator Lead Agency in Hydro Reviews

By *Rebecca Kern*

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission would take the lead role in coordinating the interagency licensing process for hydropower projects in a bill that is up for a vote on the House floor Nov. 8.

How Coal Giant Peabody's Ideas Ended Up in Trump's Coal Study

By *Ari Natter*

Days after Energy Secretary Rick Perry requested a study on how to help coal-fired power plants, a lobbyist for the largest U.S. coal producer contacted the department to offer his advice. Many of those ideas became part of the department's efforts to help companies who provide the fuel source.

California Limits Farmers' Pesticide Use Near Schools

By Carolyn Whetzel

California farmers can't spray pesticides near schools and daycare centers during weekdays under new restrictions the state adopted Nov. 7.

Arkansas Plant Board Votes in Favor of In-Season Dicamba Ban

By *Lydia Mulvany*

Arkansas is one step closer to banning agricultural use of the weedkiller dicamba during the summer growing season following approval by the Arkansas Plant Board.

Bill to Boost Federal Oil and Gas Production Advances

By Alan Kovski

A bill that would promote wider offshore oil and gas drilling and a greater state role in onshore oil and gas permitting advanced out of the House Natural Resources Committee Nov. 8 on a mostly party-line vote of 19-14.

Wisconsin's 'Prove it First' Mining Ban Headed for Repeal

By Stephen Joyce

Highland Copper Co. Inc., Komatsu Mining Corp. and other global mining equipment and development firms could benefit from the Wisconsin Legislature's approval of a bill repealing a 20-year mining moratorium.

Microgrid Industry Seeks Regulations in Order to Grow

By Adrienne Appel

The business of building microgrids is ready to grow but is being held back by a lack of state rules and guidance about how utilities should relate to microgrids, business sources said.

Pollution Claims Against Rug Makers Batted to State Court

By Steven M. Sellers

Water pollution claims against many of the nation's carpet manufacturers belong in Alabama state court, a federal court in Alabama ruled Nov. 7.

Icahn Subpoenaed by U.S. Over Biofuel Policy While Trump Adviser

By Miles Weiss and Jennifer A. Dlouhy

Federal investigators have issued subpoenas for information on Carl Icahn's efforts to change biofuel policy while serving as an informal adviser to President Donald Trump, according to regulatory filings.

Ford Seals Big Deal for Chinese Electric Cars in Time for Trump

By Bloomberg News

Ford Motor Co. is going all-in on electric cars in China, the world's largest market

for battery-powered vehicles, and it wants President Donald Trump to know about it.

EPA Seeks to Take Coal Ash Decisions Out of Court's Hands

By *Sylvia Carignan*

Utilities unhappy with EPA's coal ash regulations are pleased the agency wants to consider some rule changes and take the matter out of court.



California to Tackle Shrinking Salton Sea With \$383M Plan

By *Carolyn Whetzel*

California has signed off on a \$383 million *plan* to build wetlands and control dust along the Salton Sea's shrinking shoreline over the next 10 years.

Beijing Beaten as Pollution in Indian Capital Goes Off the Chart

By Iain Marlow and Anindya Upadhyay

Thick toxic smog enveloped New Delhi for a second straight day on Nov, 8, forcing schools to shut down, halting traffic on highways, and sending residents scurrying to buy air purifiers and filtration masks.

EU Climate Chief Calls for Carbon-Market Reform Deal This Week

By Ewa Krukowska and Jonathan Stearns

The European Union should reach an agreement on an overhaul of the world's biggest carbon market this week to prove leadership in combating emissions at the United Nations climate talks, according to EU Climate and Energy Commissioner Miguel Arias Canete.

Russia Seeks Technology as Condition for Bayer-Monsanto Deal

By Irina Reznik and Anatoly Medetsky

Russia delayed the approval of Bayer AG's takeover of Monsanto Co. until the merged company agrees to share technology and data with the country, the first time authorities have demanded corporate secrets in exchange for access to the local market.

France Says Cutting Nuclear Reliance Could Take Extra 10 Years

By Francois de Beaupuy

France may delay its goal of reducing nuclear power to half of electricity output by five to 10 years because it needs more time to develop renewable energy, Ecology Minister Nicolas Hulot said.

Copper Consumption to Get Boost as World Wagers on Electric Cars

By Archana Chaudhary and Swansy Afonso

Demand for copper globally is set to jump 22 percent in as soon as five years on increasing usage of the metal in electric vehicles, solar and wind power sectors, according to Indian billionaire Kumar Mangalam Birla's Hindalco Industries Ltd.

No Sales Growth? No Problem! Utilities See Money in

Grid Repairs

By Mark Chediak

Faced with stagnant sales, big power companies say they can still grow in the U.S. by investing billions in upgrading their grids to accommodate renewables and protect against extreme weather events.

As Trump Steps Back from UN Climate Talks, Coke and HP Move In

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

On the fringes of the ongoing global climate summit in Bonn, U.S. leaders will once again demonstrate their commitment to the issue, with a packed agenda of film screenings, panel discussions and cocktail parties where they will highlight the country's carbon dioxide cuts.

A Year After Trump's Election, Coal's Still Losing to Renewables

By Brian Eckhouse and Tim Loh

It's been a year since President Donald Trump's election and his *pledges* to transform the energy markets haven't exactly come to pass.

Chlorine's Deadly Hazards Fuel Stock Rally as Supply Tightens

By *Jack Kaskey*

Armies used chlorine as a weapon in World War I. Thousands of lives are put at risk every time a railroad tank car rolls through a city carrying the chemical. It's among the biggest fears of safety regulators.

Lead Paint Nuisance Ruling Could Have Big Impact

By *Peter Hayes*

Sherwin-Williams Co., NL Industries Inc. and ConAgra Grocery Products Co. are expected to learn before Thanksgiving whether a California trial court validly ordered the manufacturers to pay \$1.15 billion to remove or abate lead paint hazards from hundreds of thousands of California homes.

Tuesday Night Wrapup

Olive Oil, Quinoa Among Repeat Offenders on Pesticide Watch List

By *Tiffany Stecker*

The FDA is looking at more than two dozen imported foods that might warrant "special attention" from inspectors because they contain pesticide residues in excess of U.S. limits, many of which have drawn agency scrutiny before.

Trump Administration Drops Call for New WTO Pesticide Standards

By *Bryce Baschuk*

The Trump administration dropped its bid for a World Trade Organization accord to harmonize international pesticide residue standards for food imports.

Shareholders Sue to Access GM Records on

Emissions Compliance

By *Yin Wilczek*

Shareholders are suing General Motors Co. to access documents they say may shed light on whether directors allowed the company to illegally evade emissions standards.

Flood Insurance Reauthorization Stalls at House Rules Panel

By *Brandon Ross*

House Rules Committee action on a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program was postponed Nov. 7 and an aide told Bloomberg Government that the measure is now unlikely to be taken up this week.

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