

Editor's Note

Welcome to the new format for **PowerLines** – Intermountain Power Agency's newsletter. We've gone digital with a publication that will be more frequent, quicker to read, and heavy on links so you can choose which IPA topics you would like to explore in more depth. Watch your inbox monthly for the latest information from IPA and energy news from all over.

Top of the News

Intermountain Power Agency received the State of Utah's prestigious "Earth Day Award." *Food for Thought* provides some global insights from Bill Gates. IPA has executed long term coal supply contracts with three Utah mines. Our annual report and annual operating summary video are available online. *Energy Items of Interest* include a new National Coal Council study, mapping tools from the Energy Information Administration, and a look at an amazing California construction project that used a lot of coal fly ash. And because safety is everyone's responsibility, we're including it as a regular feature in the *Top of the News* section...

SAFETY SHARE: It's not just a battery thing. [Smoke alarms wear out](#) and need complete replacement every 10 years.

Featured This Week: Earth Day Excellence

Intermountain Power Agency was honored during 2014 with the Utah Board of Oil, Gas and Mining's annual Earth Day Award. The award recognized IPA's five-year project to convert nine miles of unused railroad property near the Sunnyside coal mine in East Carbon, Utah, into recreational property for the benefit of the Carbon County community.

Completed at a cost of more than \$625,000, the project required removal of rails and ties, grading of right-



IPA Board Chair Ted Olson and General Manager Jim Hewlett receive the Earth Day Award from Utah Oil, Gas and Mining Board Chair Ruland Gill.

of-way to accommodate all terrain vehicle use, reconstruction of culverts and drainage, acquisition of privately owned land along the corridor, and extensive coordination with local, state and federal government entities.

Work commenced with the removal of rails and ties from the length of the railroad right-of-way, followed by grading. The project was interrupted in 2009 by flooding caused by extensive thunderstorms. As a result, 25 culverts were cleaned and re-engineered. Additional retaining walls were constructed along the right-of-way and a maintenance road was constructed.



IPA's "Rails to Trails" project was honored for environmental excellence.

In order to provide permanent recreational access to the area, IPA acquired 38 acres of private property along the trail and petitioned the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to re-designate the right-of-way from railroad to recreational use. The BLM activity included the completion of an environmental assessment of the finished project. The IPA Rails to Trails Project was officially deeded for recreational use in January 2014.

Food for Thought

China used more cement [in the last three years](#) than the U.S. used in the entire 20th Century. And from the same source (Bill Gates,) check out [these two videos](#) showing the magnitude of world energy poverty, and the role for fossil fuels in alleviating it.

IPA Updates

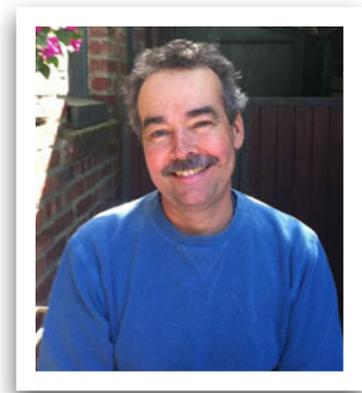
- Confirming its commitment to support the Utah coal industry, the Intermountain Power Agency has entered into two new long term coal contracts with Utah mines. A 10-year contract with Carbon County's Skyline Mine will supply the Intermountain Generating Station with 500,000 tons or more of coal each year. Sevier County's SUFCo mine received a 10-year contract for 2 million tons per year. The Intermountain Power Project typically consumes more than 5 million tons of coal each year and has a long-held policy to purchase Utah coal whenever possible.
- You can read all about IPA's 2013-14 fiscal year operations and financial performance in [the Agency's annual report](#). Performance milestones for the Intermountain Generating Station are also summarized on a [video providing an inside view](#) of the plant.

Energy Items of Interest

- The National Coal Council in January [released a new report](#) on carbon capture utilization and storage. "[Fossil Forward – Revitalizing CCS: Bringing Scale & Speed to CCS Deployment](#)" concludes that "While there have been some successes, there is a need for a substantial increase in the number of large-scale demonstration projects for both capture and storage technologies before either system approaches commercialization."
- Curious about all things energy? The U.S. Energy Information Administration maintains a powerful but accessible "[Energy Mapping System](#)" that allows you to zoom around, add and delete layers, and construct maps to illustrate whatever energy topic interests you today.
- Want to see \$6.4 billion being spent in under four minutes? Here's a cool [time lapse video](#) compressing 42,000 hours of San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge construction into a single video clip. As you watch this miracle of modern engineering come together, keep in mind that there's almost 60,000 tons of coal fly ash in that concrete.

In Memoriam

Intermountain Power Agency lost a key team member and great friend on September 30, 2014. Michael Gaines, Engineering Manager, passed away due to complications from chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He will be greatly missed by his wife of 36 years, Donna Peck-Gaines, and many other family members and friends. Michael was involved with the Intermountain Generating Station from its earliest years, first as a contractor with Black & Veatch and later as a direct employee of IPA. Donations in his memory can be made to caringbridge.org or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.



Michael Gaines, 1950 – 2014

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Learn more about Intermountain Power Agency, please visit: www.ipautah.com

PowerLines is a publication of Intermountain Power Agency. The Intermountain Power Project includes a two-unit coal-fueled generating station located near Delta, Utah, two transmission systems, a microwave communication system and a railcar service center, all built as a joint undertaking by 36 utilities in Utah and California.