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DOCUMENTS: NV ENERGY FALSIFIED POLLUTION REPORTS

For years, NV Energy sent falsified air pollution reports to state regulators from its Reid Gardner Generating Station, even as residents of the nearby Moapa Indian Reservation complained that smoke and blowing coal ash from the power plant was making them sick.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz16386972>

Sacred Visions Pageant Packet and Kickoff information

Attachments: [Sacred Visions Pageant Packet. Kickoff.3.23.2013.pdf](#)



Jason Lozano - Taking Care of the Tribe Powwow - March 24th 2012

www.youtube.com

Jason Lozano's exhibition Chicken dance at the Taking Care of the Tribe Powwow in Oakland, CA.

THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE: ACTION ALERT!! (PLEASE SHARE FAR & WIDE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!!)

WE HAVE 45 DAYS (starting March 1st, 2013) To Submit Comments To Kerry/Obama With Regards To The Canadian Tar Sands Keystone XL Pipeline. After That, Nobody Will Care What You Think. The Clock Is Ticking. They *Are* Reading The Mail. It's VERY EASY to do...

By: Navneet Gupta

The Ultimate Toxic Tour of Canada's Chemical Valley #Idlenomore

March 15th 2013, 100 people from #idlenomore, Aamjiwnaang nation and solidarity activist made a 10KM walk through Sarnia and Aamjiwnaang nation. ~mike r

By: [The Indignants](#) [Photos: 70](#)

Tribe rejects payment from electricity company behind

Leaders of more than two dozen Kayapó indigenous communities have rejected a \$9 million offer from Braz...See More

California Natural Resources Agency Releases the First Four of 12 Draft Chapters of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (Video) Sierra Sun Times

A video by the Department of Water Resources describes the ecological and economic importance of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the basic elements of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The federal and state governments and public water agencies, in collaboration with environmental organizations and other groups, have been working seven years on the BDCP. The plan seeks to preserve and enhance the Delta ecosystem for fish and wildlife while increasing the reliability of the Delta as a major source of water for homes, farms, and industry. The draft plan is being released to the public in stages, several chapters at a time, through March and April. Public meetings will follow each release of chapters

Nixon-Era Law Invoked by Obama on Climate Unsettles Industry

Mark Drajem, ©2013 Bloomberg News Monday, March 18, 2013

March 15 (Bloomberg) -- President Barack Obama is preparing to tell all federal agencies for the first time that they have to consider the impact on global warming before approving major projects, from pipelines to highways.

The result could be significant delays for natural gas- export facilities, ports for coal sales to Asia, and even new forest roads, industry lobbyists warn.

“It’s got us very freaked out,” said Ross Eisenberg, vice president of the National Association of Manufacturers, a Washington-based group that represents 11,000 companies such as Exxon-Mobil Corp. and Southern Co. The standards, which constitute guidance for agencies and not new regulations, are set to be issued in the coming weeks, according to lawyers briefed by administration officials.

In taking the step, Obama would be fulfilling a vow to act alone in the face of a Republican-run House of Representatives unwilling to pass measures limiting greenhouse gases. He’d expand a Nixon-era law that was intended to force agencies to assess the effect of projects on air, water and soil pollution.

“If Congress won’t act soon to protect future generations, I will,” Obama said last month during his State of the Union address. He pledged executive actions “to reduce pollution, prepare our communities for the consequences of climate change, and speed the transition to more sustainable sources of energy.”

The president is scheduled to deliver a speech on energy today outside Chicago.

Long Delays

While some U.S. agencies already take climate change into account when assessing projects, the new guidelines would apply across-the-board to all federal reviews. Industry lobbyists say they worry that projects could be tied up in lawsuits or administrative delays.

For example, Ambre Energy Ltd. is seeking a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers to build a coal-export facility at the Port of Morrow in Oregon. Under existing rules, officials weighing approval would consider whether ships in the port would foul the water or generate air pollution locally. The Environmental Protection Agency and activist groups say that review should be broadened to account for the greenhouse gases emitted when exported coal is burned in power plants in Asia.

Similar analyses could be made for the oil sands that would be transported in TransCanada Corp.’s Keystone XL pipeline, and leases to drill for oil, gas and coal on federal lands, such as those for Arch Coal Inc. and Peabody Energy Corp.

Targeting Keystone

If the new White House guidance is structured correctly, it will require just those kinds of **lifecycle reviews**, said Bill Snape, senior counsel at the Center for Biological Diversity in Washington. The environmental group has sued to press for this approach, and Snape says lawsuits along this line are certain if the administration approves the Keystone pipeline, which would transport oil from Canada’s tar sands to the U.S. Gulf Coast.

“The real danger is the delays,” said Eisenberg of the manufacturers’ group. “I don’t think the answer is ever going to be ‘no,’ but it can confound things.”

Lawyers and lobbyists are now waiting for the White House’s Council on Environmental Quality to issue the long bottled-up standards for how agencies should address climate change under the National Environmental Policy Act, signed into law by President Richard Nixon in 1970.

NEPA requires federal agencies to consider and publish the environmental impact of their actions before making decisions. Those reviews don’t mandate a specific course of action. They

do provide a chance for citizens and environmentalists to weigh in before regulators decide on an action -- and to challenge those reviews in court if it's cleared.

'Major Shakeup'

"Each agency currently differs in how their NEPA reviews consider the climate change impacts of projects, as well as how climate change impacts such as extreme weather will affect projects," Taryn Tuss, a Council on Environmental Quality spokeswoman, said in an e-mail.

"CEQ is working to incorporate the public input we received on the draft guidance, and will release updated guidance when it is completed."

The new standards will be "a major shakeup in how agencies conduct NEPA" reviews, said Brendan Cummings, senior counsel for the Center for Biological Diversity in San Francisco.

The White House is looking at requiring consideration of both the increase in greenhouse gases and a project's vulnerability to flooding, drought or other extreme weather that might result from global warming, according to an initial proposal it issued in 2010. Those full reports would be required for projects with 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions or more per year, the equivalent of burning about 100 rail cars of coal.

Federal Lands

The initial draft exempted federal land and resource decisions from the guidance, although CEQ said it was assessing how to handle those cases. Federal lands could be included in the final standards.

The White House guidance itself won't force any projects to be stopped outright. Instead, it's likely to prompt lawsuits against federal projects on these grounds, and increase the probability that courts will step in and order extensive reviews as part of the "adequate analysis" required in the law, said George Mannina, an attorney at Nossaman LLP in Washington.

"The question is: Where does this analysis take us?" he said. "Adequate analysis may be much broader than the agency and applicant might consider."

While the Obama administration's guidance could be easily rescinded by the next administration, the court rulings that stem from these cases will live on as precedents, Mannina said.

'Inaccurate Modeling'

Lobbying groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, American Petroleum Institute and the National Mining Association weighed in with the White House against including climate in NEPA, a law initially aimed at chemical leaks or air pollution.

"Not only will this result in additional delay of the NEPA process, but will result in speculative and inaccurate modeling that will have direct impacts on approval of specific projects," the National Mining Association in Washington wrote in comments to the White House in 2010.

The group represents Arch Coal and Peabody, both based in St. Louis. Leases that the Department of Interior issued for those companies to mine for coal in Wyoming are facing lawsuits from environmental groups, arguing that the agency didn't adequately tally up the effect on global warming from burning that coal.

Given Obama's pledge to address global warming, "this is a massive contradiction," said Jeremy Nichols, director of climate at WildEarth Guardians in Denver, which filed lawsuits against the leases.

Protecting Environment

Arch Coal referred questions to the mining group.

Beth Sutton, a Peabody spokeswoman, said in an e-mail, "We believe the current regulatory approach to surface mine permits is appropriate and protects the environment."

Since CEQ first announced its proposal, more than three dozen federal approvals were challenged on climate grounds, including a highway project in North Carolina, a methane-venting plan for a coal mine in Colorado, and a research facility in California, according to a chart compiled by the Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University.

The next target is TransCanada's application to build the 1,661-mile (2,673-kilometer) Keystone pipeline. The Sierra Club and 350.org drew 35,000 people to Washington last month to urge Obama to reject the pipeline. Meanwhile, the NEPA review by the State Department included an initial analysis of carbon released when the tar sands are refined into gasoline and used in vehicles.

'Ground Zero'

It stopped short, however, of saying the project would result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. With or without the pipeline, the oil sands will be mined and used as fuel, the report said. That finding is likely to be disputed in court if the Obama administration clears the project.

"Keystone is ground zero," said Snape, of the Center for Biological Diversity. "Clearly this will come into play, and it will be litigated."

Any actions by the administration now on global warming would pick up on a mixed record over the past four years.

While Obama failed to get Congress to pass cap-and-trade legislation, the EPA reversed course from the previous administration and ruled that carbon-dioxide emissions endanger public health, opening the way for the agency to regulate it.

Using that finding, the agency raised mileage standards for automobiles and proposed rules for new power plants that would essentially outlaw the construction of new coal-fired power plants that don't have expensive carbon-capture technology.

Environmentalists such as the Natural Resources Defense Council say the most important action next will be the EPA's rules for existing power plants, the single biggest source of carbon-dioxide emissions. The NEPA standards are separate from those rules, and will affect how the federal government itself is furthering global warming.

"Agencies do a pretty poor job of looking at climate change impacts," Rebecca Judd, a legislative counsel at the environmental legal group Earthjustice in Washington. "A thorough guidance would help alleviate that."

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The Death of the PC

The days of paying for costly software upgrades are numbered. The PC will soon be obsolete. And BusinessWeek reports 70% of Americans are already using the technology that will replace it. Merrill Lynch calls it "a \$160 billion tsunami." Computing giants including IBM, Yahoo!, and Amazon are racing to be the first to cash in on this PC-killing revolution. Yet, a small group of little-known companies have a huge head start. Get the full details on these companies, and the technology that is destroying the PC, in a free video from The Motley Fool. Enter (*Go to*) your email address below to view this stunning video.

[Earthquakes turn water into gold](#)

Becky Oskin, NBC News

Earthquakes have the Midas touch, a new study claims.

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All MW2013 Sessions will be held at The Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel. The Hotel is located on the Willamette riverfront, walking distance from Portland State University and convenient to great dining, shopping, and museums.

MW2013 has negotiated a special rate of \$179 [single or double]. The "cut-off date" for accepting reservations in this guest room block is Tuesday, March 25, 2013. Reservation requests received after 5:00 p.m. local time at the Hotel on the cut-off date will be accepted at Hotel's prevailing rate, based on room type availability.

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Nancy & Rich, Co-chairs, Museums and the Web

Federal Water Tap, March 18: Lower Runoff Forecast for Western U.S. Rivers

Flushed

The numbers dribbled out in a weekly Bureau of Reclamation update. Then they were splashed on a regional map. The conclusion is the same: the [Colorado River runoff forecast is dry and getting drier](#).

In fact, that is the case for most of the states west of the Rocky Mountains. They rely on a deep snowpack and manmade reservoirs to get them through long, dry summers. But February, according to the National Water and Climate Center, was a cruel month. For nearly every river basin, the [streamflow forecast declined in March](#). Same story for reservoirs: every state that reported data is [at or below average capacity](#).

“What fell in the West didn’t really amount to much,” said hydrologist Tom Perkins, talking about February snows. “New Mexico, Utah and Colorado are especially vulnerable, because their reservoirs are at low levels due to sustained drought conditions.”

A New Permit for an Existing Tar Sands Pipeline

A Canadian energy company applied to the U.S. State Department for [a permit to double the capacity of an existing pipeline from Canada’s tar sands](#). Enbridge Energy requests that it be allowed to operate the Alberta Clipper line at its design capacity of 880,000 barrels per day. The line, which ends in northern Wisconsin and began operation in 2010, now carries 450,000 barrels per day.

Meanwhile, the EPA is [requiring Enbridge to do more dredging in Michigan’s Kalamazoo River](#), where an Enbridge pipeline burst in 2010 and spilled more than 3.2 million liters (843,000 gallons). Oil still mingles with sediments in the river bed. In addition to dredging, Enbridge must install sediment traps, monitor the river surface for sheens or globs of oil, and submit data on air, water and sediment resources to the EPA.

Sequester Effects

Now more than two weeks old, the effects of the everyone-takes-a-hit budget cuts known as the “sequester” are emerging. The U.S. Geological Survey said it would discontinue up to 375 streamflow gauges. These are part of a national network funded by the Army Corps of Engineers and operated by the USGS. Richard Kane of the USGS told Circle of Blue that the two agencies are discussing which gauges are vital and which are to be sent to the chopping block.

Water Infrastructure Financing Hearing

A crew of representatives from federal and local government and from the private sector told a House Appropriations subcommittee that [the nation needs to invest in water infrastructure](#). The best way to do that is being debated.

One of the witnesses, from the Government Accountability Office, presented [an analysis of three financing models](#): a clean water trust fund, a national infrastructure bank, and public-private partnerships. All three have their supporters and all three have key challenges, respectively: administration, project eligibility and priority, and contracting.

Play It Again, Jim

He said it before, and he repeated it last week. In his annual national security briefing, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper once again told a select Senate committee that [water, energy, and food crises abroad deserve attention from the U.S. government](#).

Clean Water Act in Court

The Environmental Protection Agency appeared in a federal appeals court on Thursday to defend its decision to retroactively revoke mining permit it approved. *Greenwire* reports that [the case could help define the limits of the Clean Water Act](#) and that leaders of other regulated industries are concerned about the precedent. A U.S. district judge ruled against the EPA last year.

New Mexico Public Meetings

The Bureau of Reclamation will hold [five public meetings in New Mexico in April](#) to discuss the Pojoaque Basin Regional Water Supply Project, which will convey, treat and store water for residents in the basin, north of Santa Fe.

The meetings will follow a [historic water rights agreement](#) for the basin, signed last week by the U.S. Department of the Interior, and state and pueblo officials, the *Santa Fe New Mexican* reports.

Yuba restoration project aims to help salmon

Matthew Renda, The Union

A local environmental stewardship organization has reported successful results from an experimental river restoration project conducted at the Lower Yuba River. The Hammon Bar Riparian Enhancement Project — administered by the South Yuba River Citizens League on a 5-acre parcel of riverfront land owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management — is an attempt to restore the banks of the Yuba River to the condition that preceded the large-scale mining operations in the late 19th century and early 20th century that wrought enormous alterations on the landscape. One of the major alterations was to the riparian habitat flanking the ...

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California Historical Society 678 Mission St San Francisco, CA 94105 \$5
General Admission, \$20 Book + Admission

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Cities Weigh Taking Electricity Business From Private Utilities

By DIANE CARDWELL

Municipalities are showing an interest in creating their own utilities, reflecting concerns about climate change and responses to power disruptions.

[Graphic: Private vs. Government Utilities](#)

Sacred Visions Pageant Packet and Kickoff information

Attachments: [Sacred Visions Pageant Packet. Kickoff.3.23.2013.pdf](#)

Vol. 77/No. 10 March 18, 2013 The Militant

Gov't cuts, tax hikes put crisis on workers' backs

Sharp fall in capital expenditures in U.S. as percentage of gross domestic product reflects employers' shrinking investment in new buildings and equipment to expand production and hiring. Government cuts and tax hikes are among rulers' reactions to financial and fiscal crises precipitated by world capitalism's contraction in production, trade and jobs.

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

The so-called budget sequester cutting \$85 billion from federal expenditures took effect March 1. This starts a 10-year plan to reduce government spending by \$1.2 trillion, a course Congress set in motion in 2011.

The “automatic” budget cuts come just months after the government raised payroll taxes from 4.2 to 6.2 percent, back to the levels they were before 2011, a measure which cuts particularly deep into the income of workers. Meanwhile, cuts in social services and other items that above all affect working people are also being carried out at the state and local level across the country.

The propertied rulers' “fiscal crisis,” like their banking and financial crises, are consequences of a contraction in production, employment and trade that is worldwide in scope and flows from the normal workings of capitalism. Despite record-low interest rates in the U.S. over the past several years, ostensibly designed to “stimulate” economic growth, companies are investing less and less in production-expanding equipment and hiring (see chart on front page).

With no way to reverse the contraction, bosses are going after our wages and working conditions on the job as they cut social services and implement regressive tax measures, all aimed at foisting maximum burden for the crisis of capitalism on the backs of working people.

Nearly four years into the “recovery” since the last recession, workers face persistently high unemployment and declining real wages. Compared to five years ago there are 3.5 million fewer

construction and manufacturing jobs, and those forced to accept part-time hours has jumped by more than 3 million to 7.8 million workers.

In countries hardest hit by the economic contraction, such as Greece, Spain and Portugal, government austerity measures targeting working people have gone the furthest.

In response to the 2 percent increase in payroll taxes that took effect Jan. 1, restaurants, including major chains from Burger King to McDonalds and major retailers like Walmart have been “lowering forecasts and adjusting sales and marketing strategies, expecting consumers with smaller paychecks to dine out less and trade down to less expensive purchases,” reported the *Wall Street Journal*.

“During the recession, we saw people trading down from Wal-Mart to the dollar stores,” Brian Yarbrough of the Edward Jones investment firm told the *Journal*. “That hasn’t reversed; people haven’t traded back up and have stayed with the dollar stores.”

Prior to the March 1 “sequestration” deadline, Obama in a public media blitz warned about dire consequences if this agreement goes through. In an appearance at the Newport News Shipbuilding Company in Virginia Feb. 26 he said this is “a dumb way of doing things” that will “weaken the economy and military readiness.”

During his election campaign, the president blamed Republican obstruction in Congress for the approaching March 1 deadline for the budget cuts, asserting it’s not something he proposed. But it was in fact initiated by the White House in the final deal reached with Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell in 2011.

The White House proposed that part of the cuts be replaced with tax increases, which Senate Republicans Feb. 28 voted against. An alternative Republican proposal to keep the cuts in place but give Obama more flexibility to decide where to slash was also voted down. Then, when Congress left town for the weekend Obama signed the sequestration deal as it stood into law.

With the law now in effect rhetoric has cooled in the White House and Congress on the plan’s catastrophic impact. Over the coming months, however, growing numbers of workers will feel its effect.

Unpaid furloughs of federal workers could begin in April. Those unemployed for more than six months could see their payments cut by as much as 11 percent. “Texas expects to see its education aid slashed hundreds of millions of dollars, which could force local school districts to fire teachers,” reports the *New York Times*.

Targets Medicare

The \$85 billion in cuts includes \$42.67 billion from military spending, \$31.32 billion from nondefense programs, and \$11.35 billion from Medicare payments to doctors and hospitals. Budget cuts are also in store for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the National Institutes of Health, reports Medscape Medical News. This will affect the availability of drug addiction services and HIV testing.

Both Democratic and Republican legislators have in their sights substantial cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid—won through social struggles by working people in the 1930s and '60s. There's "a long-term problem in terms of our health care costs and programs like Medicare," stated Obama the day he signed the sequestration law. "I'm prepared to take on the problem where it exists on entitlements, and do some things that my own party really doesn't like."

One immediate proposal under discussion is to cut annual cost-of-living adjustments to Social Security payments through using a different inflation index, the "chained CPI." This "translates into a cut in benefits of 3 percent for those who have been retired 10 years, 6 percent after 20 years, and 9 percent after 30 years," reported the Huffington Post website.

National Water Center

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is building the United States' first federal water-resources facility at the University of Alabama. The \$US 23.5 million center, [The Crimson White](#) reported, will house research centers, engineering studios, situation rooms, and an auditorium to improve water forecasts and broader scientific understanding.

**5 ways to be
IDLE NO MORE**

1. **learn your** culture & language, your **TRIBAL IDENTITY**
2. **educate yourself** on the issues we face
3. **attend** rallies, marches & other **action**
4. challenge stereotypes by making right **choices**
5. spread the word by **sharing this ;)**

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**I AM NO LONGER ACCEPTING
THE THINGS I CANNOT CHANGE**
**I AM CHANGING THE THINGS
I CANNOT ACCEPT**

R I S E