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A Division of the WV State Building Trades, AFL-CIO | Chuck Parker, *President* | Dave Efaw, *Secretary-Treasurer* | Steve White, *Director*

WV Crafts Donate Supplies

With supplies like N95 respirators, TYVEK suits and other personal protective equipment in short supply for hospitals and emergency services, a number of craft unions and apprenticeship programs have stepped up to help.

Painters District Council 53 is among those that have responded to the crisis.

"We were able to deliver 800 TYVEK suits, 500 pairs of latex gloves, 150 N95 respirators, 20 face shields with 100 replacement shields and some full and half face respirators to local health care facilities," said Dan Poling, Business Manager for Painters DC 53.

The West Virginia Appalachian Laborers' District Council donated personal protective equipment to the Camden Clark Medical Center. They also sent supplies to the Wood County Sheriff's office.

This included 20 N95 respirators, nine boxes of latex gloves, six cans of

Lysol spray, three boxes of TYVEK suits, and two boxes of PPE cleaning pads.

"We very much appreciate the Laborers' generosity which helps ensure that our team at Camden Clark

remains prepared to manage the COVID-19 outbreak as we work to

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(From left) Jessie King Business Manager Laborers' Local 1085; Ross McPherson Administrator West Virginia Laborers' Training Center; Chris Miller, WVU Medicine/Camden Clark Hospital; and Craig Harvey Business Manager of the West Virginia Appalachian Laborers' District Council, donating PPE items for the Covid-19 situation to Camden Clark Hospital/WVU Medicine.

DOL: No IRAPs for Construction Industry

New federal regulations expanding apprenticeship have fortunately exempted the construction industry, leaving in place higher quality standards.

On March 10 the US Department of Labor finalized their rule on Industry-Ready Apprenticeship Programs (IRAPs). The purpose of the new designation is to expand apprenticeship into industry sectors that traditionally have not used the training method.

The IRAP initiative is a watered-down version of traditional apprenticeship aimed at getting started. Many in the construction industry

were concerned the new initiative would be allowed for craft apprenticeship and lower existing standards.

According to a US DOL press release the new rule "offers employers, community colleges, and others a flexible, innovative way to quickly expand apprenticeship in telecommunica-

"We believe in helping other industries start apprenticeship programs but didn't want to see our programs hurt in the process."

Dave Efaw

*WV State Building Trades
Secretary-Treasurer*

tions, health care, cybersecurity, and other sectors where apprenticeships currently are not widely available."

"That's good news for the Trades," said Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer of the WV State Building Trades. "We believe in helping other industries start apprentice-

ship programs but didn't want to see our programs hurt in the process."

On June 15, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order on Expanding Apprenticeships in America. This led to the Secretary of Labor proposing regulations promoting the development of apprenticeship programs.

The Secretary of Labor also established a Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion that included representatives of the Trades.

On June 25, 2019, the US DOL issued proposed rules on the IRAP program which exempted craft ap-

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\$100+ Million in Wages, Benefits

Longview Power 2 Gets PSC Siting Permit

Longview Power 2, a gas fired and solar addition to the Monongalia County coal-fired electric plant, received a siting certificate from the Public Service Commission (PSC) on April 3.

The \$1.1 billion, 1,200-megawatt combined cycle gas unit will be located near the existing 710-megawatt coal unit.

A 70-megawatt solar field will also be installed with most of the solar panels to be in Pennsylvania.

According to Longview's application, being adjacent to the existing

Longview coal fired plant makes the project more efficient because they are using existing infrastructure like water, steam, personnel and operations facilities.

The PSC held first held a public hearing on January 6 in Morgantown. The Trades supporting the project were well represented.

Next was an evidentiary hearing on January 30 in Charleston.

The Trades intervened in support of the project and had attorney Vince Trivelli participate in the hearing.

Trivelli submitted testimony from

ACT Director Steve White about an agreement with Longview to use local union construction workers to build the project.

In addition, Trivelli offered a report from Marshall University that showed the positive economic impact of using local union construction workers.

More than \$100 million in wages to construction workers is expected from the project. When that is spent in the local economy more jobs are created.

"The economic impact from

construction is huge," said White. "When you look at \$100 million in paychecks over a few years' time and how that boosts the local economy the result is astounding."

The project still has many hurdles to overcome.

A very long list of permits and plans must still be finalized ranging from state water and air permits to wildlife management and emergency plans.

These documents need to be filed at the PSC 30 days before construction is to commence. ■

Pinnacle Wind Repower Project Delayed

A major project to upgrade existing wind turbines at the Pinnacle Wind project has been delayed due to the Covid-19 virus.

Pinnacle, built in 2011, is a 55MW wind facility. A \$60 million repowering project scheduled to begin this spring would have replaced the 23 existing turbines with newer technology and improve efficiency by 15

percent.

According to project developers Clearway Energy, the Mineral County project has been 'paused' because of several factors relating to the virus.

Uncertainty about the delivery and commissioning of turbines led to a lack of guarantee to put the project in operation by the end of the year. That would jeopardize federal wind

production tax credits.

An extension of the federal tax credits did not make it into the most recent federal stimulus package. Additional tax relief is possible but uncertain.

"The Pinnacle re-power is still a great project and hopefully we will know more by the end of the year," said Natalie Stone, Executive Secre-

tary of the North Central WV Building Trades Council.

Clearway Energy and the Trades have entered into an agreement to use local union construction workers for the project. Bechtel and Reed Construction are partnered as the contractors.

A March 2021 start date is the current estimate. ■

Iron Workers 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee Accepting Applications

The Iron Workers Local 787 Joint Apprenticeship Committee will be accepting applications for the Iron Workers Apprenticeship Program during regular business hours, Monday thru Friday (except holidays), from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

The apprenticeship program usually takes three years to complete. Apprentices earn-while-they-learn with on the job training and attend unpaid classroom sessions throughout the year. Upon completion an apprentice will learn all aspects of the trade including structural steel placement, welding, reinforcing rods, ornamental and more.

You must fill the application out

in person at the Iron Workers Union Hall, 303 Erickson Blvd. Parkersburg, West Virginia. Bring copies of related documents described below.

The following are the minimum requirements. Lack of any one of these will automatically disqualify the applicant.

- Must be at least 18 years old (Proof required).
- Must be capable of doing work of the Iron Worker trade.
- Must be a High School Graduate or have equivalent certificate (GED/TASC).
- Must have a valid Driver's License.
- Must score a passing grade on the TABE test given by Work-

force WV after your application is submitted.

- Must live in the jurisdictional area of Iron Workers Local 787, Parkersburg, West Virginia, for at least one (1) year previous to applying.

If selected for the Apprenticeship Program, the candidate must submit to and pass the Substance Abuse Test offered by the Parkersburg-Marietta Contractors and Trades Educational and Development Fund.

The Iron Workers Local 787 JAC will pay the cost of the test.

The jurisdictional area covered by Local 787 is as follows:

OHIO: Athens, Meigs, Morgan, Noble, and Washington Counties.

WEST VIRGINIA: Boone, Braxton, Calhoun, Clay, Doddridge, Fayette, Gilmer, Greenbrier, Jackson, Kanawha, Lewis, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, McDowell, Mercer, Mingo, Monroe, Nicholas, Pleasants, Pocahontas, Putnam, Raleigh, Ritchie, Roane, Summers, Upshur, Webster, Wirt, Wood, and Wyoming Counties, and the southern portion of Randolph County.

No Applicant will be rejected because of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.

Iron Workers Local 787 will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunities in apprenticeship.

For more information go to <https://ironworkers787.org/> ■

Building Trades Endorsements for 2020

Bold = Building Trades member

<u>1st Congressional District</u>	1st	Jack Wood (D)	34th	Mark Hurt (D)	49th	Josh Maxwell (D)
David McKinley (R)	2nd	Phillip Diserio (D)	35th	Margaret Staggers (D)	50th	Robin Righter (D)
<u>Governor</u>	3rd	Shawn Fluharty (D)		Brent Boggs (D)	51st	Mike Mannypenny (D)
Ben Salango (D)	4th	Erikka Storch (R)		Kathy Ferguson (D)		Michael Angelucci (D)
<u>State Treasurer</u>	5th	Christian Turak (D)		Patti Hamilton (D)		Joey Garcia (D)
John Perdue (D)	6th	Lisa Zukoff (D)		Doug Skaff Jr. (D)		Guy Ward (R)
<u>Attorney General</u>	7th	Dave Pethtel (D)	36th	Rusty Williams (D)		Barbara Fleischauer (D)
Isaac Sponaugle (D)	8th	Kerry Murphy (R)		Amanda Estep-Burton (D)		Evan Hansen (D)
<u>Supreme Court</u>	9th	Vernon Criss (R)		Larry Rowe (D)		Rodney Pyles (D)
John Hutchinson	10th	Trish Pritchard (D)	37th	Mike Pushkin (D)		Danielle Walker (D)
Richard Neely	11th	Luke Winters (D)	39th	Dana Ferrell (R)		John Williams (D)
Joanna Tabit	12th	Mark Pauley (D)	42nd	David "Woody" Holmes (D)	52nd	Justin Hough (R)
<u>Secretary of State</u>	13th	Scott Brewer (D)		Cindy Lavender-Bowe (D)	53rd	Cory Chase (D)
Natalie Tennant (D)	14th	Brian Scott (R)	43rd	Jeff Campbell (D)	58th	George Miller (R)
<u>State Auditor</u>	15th	Tess Jackson (D)		Bill Hartman (D)	60th	Brad Noll (D)
Mary Ann Claytor (D)	16th	Mark Bates (R)		Cody Thompson (D)	61st	Jason Barrett (D)
<u>Agriculture Commissioner</u>	17th	Sean Hornbuckle (D)	44th	Robin Cutlip (D)	62nd	Debi Carroll (D)
Bob Beach (D)	18th	Chad Lovejoy (D)	45th	Gary Connell (R)	63rd	Daniel Bennett (D)
<u>State Senate</u>	19th	Matthew Rohrbach (D)	47th	Ed Larry (D)	65th	Sammi Brown (D)
1st Randy Swartzmiller (D)	20th	Paul Ross (D)	48th	Robert Garcia (D)	66th	Storme Frame (D)
2nd Josh Gary (D)	21st	Evan Worrell (R)		Richard Iaquinta (D)	67th	John Doyle (D)
4th Bruce Ashworth (D)	22nd	Ric Griffith (D)				
5th Bob Plymale (D)	23rd	Tom Jarrell (D)				
7th Rupie Phillips (R)	24th	Nathan Brown (D)				
Ralph Rodigerio (D)	25th	Mark Dean (R)				
8th Glenn Jeffries (D)	26th	Joe Jeffries (R)				
9th David 'Bugs' Stover (R)	27th	Zack Maynard (R)				
10th Bill Laird (D)	28th	Rodney Miller (D)				
11th Denise Campbell (D)	29th	Timothy Tomblin (D)				
John Pitsenbarger (R)	30th	Tony Paynter (R)				
12th Doug Facemire (D)	31st	Ed Evans (D)				
13th Mike Caputo (D)	32nd	Tina Russell (D)				
14th David Childers (D)		Ryne Nahodi (D)				
15th Kenneth Mattson (R)		Mick Bates (D)				
16th Pete Dougherty (D)		Chris Toney (R)				
17th Andrew Robinson (D)		Randy Halsey (D)				



Dan Poling, Business Manager for Painters DC 53, makes comments during the WV AFL-CIO COPE meeting.

Primary Election Postponed until June 9

West Virginia's Primary Election has been postponed to Tuesday, June 9.

According to the Secretary of State's website due to concerns of COVID-19, all voters may apply to vote absentee in the 2020 Primary Election.

All registered voters will receive an application to request an absentee ballot for the June 9 Primary Election from their County Clerk by mail in early-to-mid April.

Absentee request forms can also be printed from GoVoteWV.com or obtained by requesting a form from

your County Clerk by email, phone, fax or in person.

Starting April 24 County Clerks will begin mailing absentee ballots to voters who have submitted applications.

In some cases, voters had already received an absentee ballot for the May Primary. Those ballots are still valid.

Voter registration will continue until May 19.

Starting May 27 through June 6 early voting will take place.

Absentee ballots must be post-marked by June 9 and if delivered by

hand must be at the County Clerks office by June 8.

For the Tuesday, June 9 voting in-person, voting locations may differ

from regular polling locations during the COVID-19 pandemic; contact your County Clerk for more information. ■

ABSENTEE BALLOT, VOTING DATES

Thru June 3: Voters may apply for absentee ballot

April 24: County Clerks begin mailing absentee ballots

May 19: Voter Registration Deadline

May 27–June 6: Early Voting In-Person

June 3: Absentee Application must be received by County Clerk

June 9: Absentee Ballot must be postmarked by this date

June 9: Primary Election Day



CPWR Guidance on COVID-19
27 March 2020

Check back here often for updates to this information:
<https://www.cpw.com/covid-19>

In response to the construction industry's questions regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, the following are **steps workers should be taking now**:

- Don't go to work if you are feeling sick.
- Don't go to work if you have a fever.
- Don't go to work if you have a cough or shortness of breath.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Don't shake hands when greeting others.
- Avoid large gatherings or meetings of 10 people or more.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others on job sites and in gatherings, meetings, and training sessions.
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissues if you cough or sneeze or do so into your elbow.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When hand washing isn't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.
- Clean your hands frequently, including before and after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Bring food and water bottles from home to the job site and do not share.
- Drive to worksites or parking areas by yourself—no passengers or carpooling.
- Wipe down interiors and door handles of machines or construction vehicles, and the handles of equipment and tools that are shared, with disinfectant prior to entering. CDC has issued disinfection recommendations here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>.

Construction industry **employers** should develop a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control plan, which includes control measures, symptom checking, social distancing, hygiene and decontamination procedures, and training. Training should cover the hazards and control measures including social distancing, handwashing facilities on site, and how high-touch surfaces are disinfected. An exposure control plan and the following recommendations should be followed before any onsite worker is found to have COVID-19 because many people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic and can potentially spread disease.

Recommendations:

- Designate a site-specific COVID-19 officer at every job site.
- Plan for office staff to have the ability to work from home.
- Conduct a Safety Stand-Down/toolbox talk/tailgate training on all job sites to explain the protective measures in place for all workers. Keep social distancing at all gatherings.
- Ask workers to self-identify symptoms of fever, coughing, or shortness of breath each day, before the shift, mid-shift, and at home. If thermometers are used on the job, they should be 'no touch' or 'no contact.'
- Create policies which encourage workers to stay at home or leave the worksite when feeling sick or when they have been in close contact with a confirmed positive case. If someone goes home from the site, the area where that person worked should be immediately disinfected.
- Create at least 6 feet of space between workers by staging/staggering crews. Modify work schedules to stagger work, provide alternating workdays or extra shifts to reduce the total number of employees on a job site at any given time.
- Workers working near or with others in close quarters, such as confined space work, should wear a NIOSH-approved respirator certified as N95 or higher implemented under a full respiratory protection program.
- Identify choke points where workers are forced to stand together, such as hallways, hoists and elevators, break areas, and buses, and control them so social distancing is maintained.
- Minimize interactions when picking up or delivering equipment or materials. Organize the placement of materials to minimize movement on the work site.
- Provide soap and running water whenever possible on all job sites for frequent handwashing. Provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers with greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol as a backup only if providing running water is impossible. Disclose reasons why running water is not possible to workers. Workers should be encouraged to leave their workstations to wash their hands before and after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after coughing, sneezing, or blowing their nose.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on job sites and in offices—such as shared tools, machines, vehicles and other equipment, handrails, doorknobs, and portable toilets—frequently, per CDC guidelines:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- Make disinfectants available to workers throughout the worksite and ensure supplies are frequently replenished.
- If you work in healthcare facilities, train your workers in Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA). For information on CPWR's ICRA training program, visit:
 - <https://www.cpw.com/training/infection-control-risk-assessment-icra>

Special guidance for **older workers and people with underlying health conditions**:

- Older adults and those with underlying health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease and those with compromised immune systems (such as lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, cancer therapy) are more at risk of becoming very sick from COVID-19. CDC has additional recommendations for these individuals here:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>.

Additional links from our federal government partners:

- OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>
- NIOSH: https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/emres/2019_ncov.html
- CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC for Employers about getting their businesses ready: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html>

Please be aware that people are vulnerable in these uncertain times. If a colleague or coworker needs mental health or substance use care, they should contact their member assistance program, employee assistance program, or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

No IRAPs

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prenticeship as was suggested by the Trades.

However, many nonunion associations started to lobby for removal of the exemption.

This led to an all-out effort by North Americas Building Trades Unions and affiliates to ask members to file comments in support of the ex-

emption.

A 60-day public comment period ending August 26, 2019 with 326,798 comments, the most ever received on a training related rule.

"Trades members across the country did a great job making their voices heard," said Efav. "It made the difference." ■



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Affiliated Construction Trades

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WV Crafts Donate

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maintain the health and wellness of the community we serve," said Mar-Jean Kennedy, VP Marketing, Development, and Strategic Initiatives at WVU Medicine Camden Clark

Medical Center.

Reports from various parts of the state show Insulators, Boilermakers, Carpenters, and Pipefitters have all done the same. ■



Insulators Local 2 based in Pittsburgh donated a load of Personal Protective Equipment. Local 2 covers the northern part of WV.