American Coal Ash Association Adopted; NAA Identity Dropped

Weber Is New CEO, Phoenix Is Symbol

WASHINGTON — The nation's leading advocate for the complete utilization of power plant ash has initiated a program to rebuild itself from within under a new name, a new leader, and a unique new symbol.

The industry's trade association is now operating under the banner of the AMERICAN COAL ASH ASSOCIATION. Its new identity was adopted at the organization's annual meeting in Orlando and replaces the well-known connotation, the National Ash Association, which had been in use since the establishment of the body in 1968.

At the same time a new symbol—a Phoenix—was selected which brings the ancient Egyptian legend into modern reality. It is designed to signify a new beginning for the agency and the wings to carry ACAA into the 21st century.

Jack Weber of Glastonbury, Connecticut, is the new chairman of the board succeeding outgoing chairman James P. Plumb of Houston (TX) Lighting and Power Company. He is the first nonutility executive to head the Association since its inception. Weber's company, Weber-McNeil Material Sales, is a coal ash marketing organization.

Alan A. Hill, Chairman of President Reagan's Council on Environmental Quality, termed the Phoenix "an appropriate symbol" in keynote remarks at the Seventh International Ash Utilization Symposium at Orlando in March. He noted "its legendary strength and versatility, its power to overcome adversity and create for itself a position of high respect and to rebuild itself from itself. All of these characteristics are evident in your industry and coal ash as one of our country's most important resources."

Other ACAA officers for the current fiscal year are incumbents Tobias Anthony, president; Allan W. Babcock, secretary; and John J. Gillis, treasurer. Members of the Executive Committee include Gerald Bowden, Public Service Gas & Electric Co; Gary Courts, Virginia Power Co; John R. Dorsett, Texas Utilities Generating Co; Ronald E. Morrison, American Electric Power Service Corp; David W. Parks, Baltimore Gas & Electric Co; Mr. Plumb, Houston Lighting & Power Co; Paul Reinhardt, Wisconsin Public Service Co; Charles Tackett, Pennsylvania Power & Light Co; Richard Waite, Utah Power & Light Co; Joseph Mullan, National Coal Association; Craig Cain, American Fly Ash Co; Barton A. Thomas, JTM Industries, Inc., and Mr. Weber.

In a recent appearance before the North Carolina Coal Institute's Summer Trade Seminar at Myrtle Beach, President Anthony set the tone of the ACAA's new resolve. He told the delegates, "we can utilize ash in an environmentally sound manner while providing a benefit to the public and we have a national commitment to the ever increasing use of these versatile resources to conserve energy to substitute for natural minerals which must be gouged out of hillsides. And, thirdly, we will provide instructions for this material's proper use."

ADOT Approves Ash In Road Structures

PHOENIX, AZ — The Arizona Department of Transportation has approved the use of fly ash as a substitute for Portland cement in concrete for overpasses and other structural applications, according to a news article appearing in the July issue of Highway & Heavy Construction.

The ADOT had studied and researched the use of ash for about 10 years. It was first approved as an option in pavement construction—three years ago it was also added as an acceptable material for use in LCB—lean concrete base. The first optional use came on a section of I-10 through Tucson on a freeway east of here.

In approving the use of fly ash, the ADOT looked at four major factors:

1. Environmental - Its use decreased the need for producers to dispose of the material;
2. Conservation - The use of fly ash conserves Portland cement;
3. Economy - Fly ash can save money for the contractor, the owner, and the taxpayers;
4. Performance - In tests, conducted in the laboratory and in the field by the ADOT and others, the performance of fly ash improved workability, sulfate resistance, and resulted in higher ultimate strength.

The article further stated — "Fly ash can play an important role in the quest for premium pavement."

And, now under the new Environmental Protection Agency guidelines, the law also requires government procurement agencies to permit the optional use of fly ash.

One of the prime Arizona highway contractors, Hall, Ball & Brosamer, used about 259,000 tons of fly ash on a section of I-10. One the firm's mixes for mainline uses 513 lb. of Portland cement and 74 lb. of fly ash—a substitution of about 12.6 percent.

Engineers on the I-10 project incorporated the use of fly ash in both the LCB and the FCP as a part of the premium pavement concept.
EXHIBIT AVAILABLE FOR SHOWS — The American Coal Ash Association’s exhibit shown above and entitled “America’s Undiscovered Resource” is available for use at trade shows and exhibit. Contact the ACRA Washington office for further details.

Bergman is New President of Allegheny Power System

NEW YORK — Klaus Berman has been selected president and chief executive officer of Allegheny Power System, Inc. and Allegheny Power Service Corporation. The appointment was effective April 1, 1985.

In his new positions, Mr. Berman succeeds Charles B. Finch who continues as Chairman of the Board of the two corporations. Mr. Finch reached normal retirement date in March.

While assistant general counsel for American Electric Power Service Corporation, Bergman played an active role in the formation of the National Ash Association in 1967 and 1968. He later served as the NAA’s first secretary.
ORLANDO, FL — President Reagan's top Environmental Quality Control Official, Alan A. Hill, told the conference participants "the Federal government is solidly behind recognition of coal ash as an important national resource and will continue to encourage its increased use as part of the promotion of a balanced energy resource system in the United States."

Chairman of President's Council on Environmental Quality. Hill said maximum utilization of coal ash "currently meets the Federal government's objective of recycling valuable resources."

"The American Coal Ash Association's influence in the recent issuance of guidelines mandating the use of coal ash in all federally-sponsored concrete products should have a significant impact on ash utilization in the future," he added.

Jack S. Segal, Deputy Director of Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy, projected coal ash production at 170 million tons a year by the year 2,000. This compares with 1984 ash production of 70 million tons.

In his remarks, Segal said, 'the coal-fired utility industry is on a sound environmental footing when it comes to the issue of solid waste disposal.' The ash by-product from coal combustion, viewed as a mineral asset, "falls comfortably below EPA's toxicity standards for waste," Segal said. "The trace metal concentrations in coal ash fall below 10% of the allowable limits and we think this is clear evidence that coal is non-hazardous and should be treated as such in future regulations."

Segal added "a step was taken in the right direction a year ago when the EPA issued guidelines for the purchase of cement and concrete containing coal ash for all Federal or federally funded projects."

Commenting on ACAA's efforts to increase ash utilization, DOE's Segal said, "from where I sit I can say without hesitation that yours is an effort that makes good sense for business, good sense for our economy, good sense for our environment, and good sense for our nation."
Gulf States Uses Ash To Control Erosion On Coal Storage

WESTLAKE, LA — Fly ash is being utilized by Gulf States Utilities Co. to control wind and rain erosion on inactive coal storage pile banks at its Nelson Station near here.

The high calcium fly ash, applied to a depth of 2-3 inches and dampened forms a crust of sufficient strength to support a person’s weight, has proven to be an excellent method of erosion control.

Fuel Handling Supervisor D.E. Simmons explained that the main problem was the loss of thousands of dollars each year in coal and additional coal pile maintenance due to frequent and heavy rains in this Gulf Coast community which has an average rainfall of 56 inches.

"There is a definite rainy season in the winter months and the long summer brings heavy tropical type downpours often accompanied by high winds," he added.

Simmons noted the water flowing through the compacted coal has a tendency to wash away the fine particles of coal leaving the remaining coal susceptible to oxygen infiltration and spontaneous combustion as the coal fines act as a sealing medium.

Initial efforts to return the eroded coal to the stockpile also proved to be a costly experience for Gulf States. The original material was transported to the pile via conveyor belt. From the stockout point, the coal was placed in storage by large rubber-tired scrapers and dozers. Because the storage pile had been built on unsta- bilized soil, the continual wet weather resulted in extremely poor traction on the perimeter of the pile. The rubber tired tractors were unable to move the flies up the coal pile slope with an incline of 15° forcing the utility to use an outside contractor with a track-type vehicle at a cost of approximately $2,500 per day.

The fuel handling supervisor noted that after one rainy season of continual contract work and its expense, we decided to try a chemical binder on the slopes. The application was not a total success, but the binder did form a ½- to ¾-inch crust over the upper portion of the slope which survived light to moderate rains only to breakdown under repeated heavy downpours.

The utility has since purchased their own tracked vehicle and altered the incline of the outslope to about 30°. The move also reduced the amount of the slope exposed to direct rainfall drastically reducing the bank erosion.

Nelson Station is utilizing sub-bituminous coal from the Powder River Basin in Wyoming. The resultant ash has a calcium oxide content of 17 to 34 percent.

The ash used in the treatment process is transported from the aerated storage silo to the coal pile by pneumatic tanker. The truck is also used to apply the ash to the outslopes.

Simmons suggests the following procedures be followed to ensure success:

- Pneumatic truck discharge should not be higher than 4 psig. Higher pressures generate fugitive dust and poses a safety hazard to operators.
- Coal pile slope should not exceed 30-35 degrees. A steeper slope causes much of the ash to flow to the bottom.
- Slopes must be dampened with water. This helps reduce the free-flowing characteristic of the aerated ash. Repeated dampening of the ash between applications is also necessary to impede flow and to react with the calcium oxide to produce a hardened crust.
- Optimum ash depth is about three inches, though experience may show that greater thickness if helpful to increase durability and strength. Longitudinal rides in excess of 2 inches eventually lead to crust failure.

The spokesman related the technique had been borrowed from procedures generally followed and employed by Basin Electric at its Laramie River Project and by Public Service of Oklahoma at its Northwestern Station.

The utility has now successfully applied ash over approximately 175,000 square feet of inactive coal pile slopes.

Utility Coal Consumption To Increase During 1985

WASHINGTON — Coal consumption will be on the rise in 1985 because of higher demand from electric utilities, according to a report from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Electric utilities, which consume about three-quarters of the nation's coal production, are expected to increase their use of coal to 677 million tons this year. This figure would represent about 54 percent of anticipated coal sales.

The growth rate in the electricity sector was put at 2.5 percent.