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Above Photo Three Eagle Iron Works coal cars recovered and restored from abandoned mine shafts now on display at the entrance of Jewitt Mine. Source: Texas Westmoreland Coal.

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On the Cover Head Cemetery buried headstone found during the archeological dig. Source: Atkins North America, Inc.
As 2013 winds down, and along with it, my year as Chairman of TMRA’s Executive Committee, I would like to express my appreciation to our members, the Executive Committee, the TMRA staff, and the many volunteers that help make TMRA a great industry organization. TMRA continues to thrive in 2013 with strong performance in the areas of membership, governmental affairs, communications and outreach, education and safety. The Lignite, Uranium, and Industrial Minerals Committees have excellent representation, helping us stay abreast of issues affecting each industry. The 2013 TMRA Annual Meeting at Lost Pines in Bastrop, Texas, October 27-30, is shaping up to be a “can’t miss” event with a full slate of great speakers on the issues that face our industries. There will not only be numerous opportunities to learn, but the TMRA Planning Committee does a great job of offering a mix of fun, fellowship, and networking opportunities.

Membership is up in 2013 with the addition of 20 new members. Our executive director has done an excellent job with new member recruitment. However, it is time to take this to the next level. We once again have a fully functioning Membership Committee led by Denny Kingsley of Texas Westmoreland Coal’s Jewett Mine, and he and his team have developed a ten-point membership strategy that was presented to the Executive Committee Sep. 12. The strategy is packed with innovative ideas to recruit new members as well as retain current members through an array of new benefits. It will be exciting to watch the membership strategy unfold.

The 83rd Texas Legislature has come and gone, and our TMRA member industries fared well. I recently used the word “luck” in connection with this outcome, and my dear friend, Mr. Gene Jernigan, politely corrected me, as is often the case. He used the phrase “boots on the ground” by our TMRA members and staff as a more accurate reason for the successful session. I have since discarded my theory and adopted Mr. Jernigan’s description, and if you as a TMRA faithful had some involvement with the session, please accept the Executive Committee’s thanks for a job well done! And by the way, I hope you were able to attend the TMRA-sponsored Sine Die event.

We are not only reaching teachers and students through the TMRA Teacher Workshops, but our Communications Committee is using the workshops to make great strides in getting the TMRA message out to wider audiences through articles and interviews with the media. The communications team also works diligently to produce this quarterly magazine, Texas Mining, and strives to offer the “stories behind the story” of Texas mining – in this case, offering interesting examples of historical preservation happening at mine sites all around the state. Also in the works is a makeover of the TMRA website expected to be live by year’s end.
including the Sabine Mine in 2012 and the Three Oaks Mine this summer. These well-attended events are designed to share safety measures and successes/shortfalls between member companies. The agendas include a variety of speakers on safety-related topics, and a field tour of the mine to discuss and share safety-related measures being implemented. The Three Oaks Safety Field Day included Mark Lipe who discussed leadership strategies, Mike Hull on human performance improvement, Josh Savit on predictive compliance and Dave Friedman on ear plug technology. With safety being the responsibility of everyone, the Executive Committee encourages our TMRA members to get involved and be represented on our Safety Committee.

In my first Chairman’s Letter in December 2012, I stated that the 2013 Annual Meeting would be back at the beautiful Hyatt Lost Pines Resort in Bastrop, Texas, and my hope is that TMRA’s leadership team will be viewed as having been responsive and accountable to our members. The Lost Pines Resort is a fantastic venue, and it will be a great event that you don’t want to miss.

As I move into the position of past chairman of TMRA, it continues to be an honor and a pleasure to be a part of the TMRA leadership team. We have a great executive director and staff, an Executive Committee that is decisive and gets things done, and a host of great members. I encourage you to get involved and be a part of TMRA’s role in the advancement of Texas mining; you will be glad you did.

Greg
Typically, the summer following a legislative session finds workloads slowing down a bit; this couldn’t be further from the truth for the work of TMRA.

One recent project involved filing an amicus brief with the Texas Supreme Court on behalf of one of our members. An amicus brief is a document outlining the way in which a court ruling will impact a certain constituency, and in this case, it could potentially impact the TMRA membership. The case in question involves illegal trespassing on mine/private property and fatalities that occurred as a result. In a very unfortunate accident, a vehicle driver trespassing on private land crashed his vehicle while transporting individuals across the border, and three people lost their lives. The surviving families in Mexico filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the ranch and the company. The trial court ruled in favor of our member, which was then overturned by the appeals court in San Antonio. The Texas Supreme Court will ultimately rule. The ramifications of this court decision will have a huge impact on all private landowners, including mining companies in Texas. The fact that the deceased were illegal is not nearly as significant as the mere premise that a landowner might bear the burden of a trespasser being harmed on private land because of the trespasser’s negligence and recklessness.

In other news, I presented on a panel at the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts’ 2013 Texas Groundwater Summit in August. The panel was titled, “Water Use and Mining”. It was the perfect opportunity to educate district board members from all over Texas on the mining industry, and also dispel blatant misinformation espoused by groups such as the Sierra Club. An environmental attorney, well-known for suing TMRA members, was also on the panel. I was proud to be there to properly represent our industry and report documented facts regarding the water consumption in each segment of the mining industry. I will continue to take advantage of every available opportunity to share our positive and accurate stories.

The weather is slowly changing and the suffocating heat of summer has given way to cooler mornings and flights of white wings. It’s my absolute favorite time of the year. As you read this column, bow season has started and most weekends will find me in the brush of South Texas. For the Annual Meeting, we have an incredible line-up of presenters, the comfort of being back at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort, a fabulous golf course, and many of your old friends and colleagues waiting to see you again.

If you are a new TMRA member, a support member who has never attended, or have not attended in a few years, I encourage you to consider coming this year. One of the greatest benefits of membership is your unlimited access to the decision makers in the mining industry. The Annual Meeting is the time to do this. Come, have a good time, and get to know these folks!

Cheers, Trey

“Like” Lyle Larson

Rep. Lyle Larson, R-San Antonio, TX, posted this image on Facebook Sep. 20 with the caption: “Visiting the Cloud Peak Cordero Rojo mine in Gillette, Wyoming. Standing on 40 percent of the nation’s coal supply in the Powder River Basin, which could power the nation for 250 years.”

Help us “Like” Lyle Larson by liking his Facebook page.

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Rediscovering a Lost Community

By Scott Mills, Environmental Mining Manager, Luminant, Meg Cruse, Senior Program Manager, and Brandy Harris, Senior Historian, Atkins North America, Inc.

For more than 30 years, Luminant has conducted cultural resource investigations at its lignite mines across Central and East Texas to recover, record and preserve the rich Texas history that is part of its lands. At Luminant’s Robertson County Kosse Mine, Atkins North America, Luminant’s cultural resources consultant, has recorded more than 370 archaeological sites. One such site is the Headsville community. At Headsville, the Luminant and Atkins partnership rediscovered a lost community and enabled it to live again in the historical record.

The remains of the farming community of Headsville were discovered in 2010 as crews surveyed the area for future mining and noticed a partially buried gristmill and cotton gin. Luminant brought in Atkins to learn more about the old town. During the summer of 2010, the Atkins cultural resources team pieced together details about the town and its place in local history.

Luminant and Atkins received the Texas Historical Commission Award of Merit in 2011 for their work in preserving Texas cultural and historical resources at the Headsville site. This site and several others at Kosse Mine are also eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, or have been designated as State Antiquities Landmarks.

A Town Uncovered

The community of Headsville was originally settled by members of the James A. Head family in the 1840s. Like many other Anglo-Texas communities that developed outside of regions characterized by plantation agriculture, early residents of Headsville were attracted by cheap, abundant land and engaged in subsistence agriculture for survival. Historical and archival research revealed that during its peak in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the community included a gristmill, a cotton gin, two stores, a church, a blacksmith shop, cemeteries and several residences. By the 1920s, the town was abandoned and quickly disappeared from the landscape.

Atkins archaeologists conducted a series of archaeological testing and data-recovery investigations at the site. At the same time, staff historians initiated intensive archival and historical records research for several sites associated with the former settlement. These investigations facilitated the development of a detailed history of the community and allowed comparison of its history to others of similar size and scale within the state.

Grist for the Mill

The archaeological investigations at the Headsville cotton gin and gristmill uncovered several structural foundations of brick, limestone and mortar. They are the remains of the power plant used to run the gin components, as well as auxiliary implements. The foundations include a steam engine mounting pier, a boiler and firebox...
foundation, and a driveline mount. The remnants of a cotton bale press were also found.

Evidence pertaining to grist-milling at the Headsville cotton gin is sparse. However, archival research indicates that the site’s first industrial function was the custom grinding of corn. The Robertson County industrial census of 1880 indicates that a total of 280,800 pounds of cornmeal was ground at the Headsville mill owned by A. L. Bryan. The grain was ground under steam power by a single grist stone, and the product was worth $3,200.

**Rise and Fall**

By examining the archaeological and historic materials the former residents left behind when they migrated to other parts of the state, the researchers discovered significant information about the formation and character of the community and the lifestyle of its former occupants. They were also able to recreate the history of the settlement and demonstrate the reasons for the rise and fall of this East Texas farming community.

The researcher discovered that Headsville had many similarities with other rural Texas towns. It was founded by a related group of Anglo immigrants from the southern United States who shared similar beliefs and traditions. At its peak, it had limited commercial and industrial development.

Though descendants of the original settlers lived in the area as late as the 1920s, Headsville followed a common pattern of rural decline. The community rapidly disappeared during the early decades of the 20th century as an emphasis on commercial agriculture and improved technology—both in transit and agricultural production and processing—shifted settlement to communities with railroad access and more efficient crop-processing facilities. As with many other Texas towns, the fluctuation in agricultural markets and the lack of railroad access brought about Headsville’s fall.

**Distinctions**

Headsville was distinct, though, in several important ways. First, it was primarily made up of landowning farmers who worked their own lands. The farmers did not employ enslaved labor prior to the Civil War, nor was the area characterized by African-American tenant farming in the late 19th century.

A second unusual feature was the presence of a significant pottery production industry in the area. This industry attracted a blend of skilled artisans to the region, and their presence may have encouraged land speculators to invest in and promote the area during the late 19th century.

Finally, the community was distinct in that it developed a particular identity that far outlasted its physical existence. Archival research indicates that even when residents were forced to relocate during the early 20th century, many returned to be buried there, suggesting they identified as community members and saw the area as home even when it was no longer economically viable.

**Other Kosse Preservation**

In addition to the investigations conducted at the Headsville gristmill and cotton gin, which represented a unique example of rural industrial archaeology, the Atkins staff has conducted archaeological and archival investigations at several other domestic, industrial and cemetery sites in the area. Investigations at these sites, which included the homesteads of 19th-century community members, several pottery kilns, a possible kaolin quarry, the Head Cemetery and the Adams Family Cemetery, resulted in the documentation of the history of a distinct community with a unique pattern of economic and social development.

In the relocation of the Head Cemetery and Adams Cemetery, Luminant and Atkins excavated and reinterred the remains of more than 120 burials in compliance with the Texas Health and Safety Code, the Texas Administrative Code and the National Historic Preservation Act, and in keeping with Luminant’s respect for the heritage on its mining sites.

Because of the investigations at Kosse Mine, the stories of Headsville and other sites have been discovered, preserving the unique history of Texas and its people.

**Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to thank Luminant’s Sid Stroud, environmental mining manager, and Ricky Goodwin, regional project director at Kosse Mine, as well as the Atkins field and laboratory staff for their dedication to excellence.
Texas Westmoreland Coal Restores Coal Cars

Texas Westmoreland Coal Company’s Jewett Mine, a subsidiary of the Westmoreland Coal Company, operates a 35,000-acre surface mine complex located between Dallas and Houston. It supplies lignite coal under a lignite supply contract to the adjacent Limestone Electric Generating Station owned by NRG Texas. Westmoreland Coal Company’s operations include sub-bituminous coal mining in Montana and Wyoming, lignite mining operations in Montana, North Dakota and Texas, and ownership of a coal-fired power plant in North Carolina. Northwestern Resources Company, a subsidiary of Montana Power, was initially contracted to provide mining services at the Jewett Mine with mining operations beginning in 1985.

In 2001, Westmoreland Coal Company purchased the Jewett Mine operation. Lignite mining began in Leon County north of Jewett in the early 1900s as underground mining. The lignite from these underground mines was utilized by the University of Texas, Texas A&M, the Texas prison system and Texaco. The five underground mines, two named the Beargrass Mines and three named the Evansville Mines, were located within the current Jewett Mine permit boundary and operated by the Houston County Coal and Manufacturing Company of Crockett, Texas. The Evansville complex, whose mine opened in 1907, was the most extensively documented. By 1931, however, all of the mines had been abandoned.

Northwestern Resources Co. began mining through part of the abandoned mines in 1998 and unearthed the remains of coal cars that had been submerged in water for decades in the tunnels of the underground workings. As mining progressed through these abandoned mines, the remains of several other old coal cars were recovered. Northwestern Resources Co. contacted the Texas Historical Commission and received permission to preserve and reconstruct a car from the pieces that had been found. The cars were taken to the Texas A&M University Nautical Archaeology Conservation Research...
Lab in College Station to be restored to their original condition. The Research Lab typically specializes in the restoration of nautical artifacts such as shipwrecks, but it was determined that the restoration and preservation methods used on the wood and metal from ancient shipwrecks would work on the wood and metal of the coal car.

**Sabine Mining Company Preserves Cemetery and Caddoan Ceremonial Center**

The Sabine Mining Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of The North American Coal Corporation, was incorporated in 1981 to design, develop, construct, equip, and operate a surface lignite mine called the South Hallsville No. 1 Mine. The mine is located approximately five miles south of Hallsville, Texas, in Harrison and Rusk counties. Construction of the mine facilities began in 1982, erection of the draglines began in 1983, and the first lignite was mined in August 1984. In 1998, Sabine expanded its mining operations to include the Marshall South Area, making the total mine site 44,401 acres. In 2011, Sabine received an additional permit to expand its operations to include the 20,377-acre Rusk Permit Area. Altogether, the permitted areas of the South Hallsville No. 1 Mine include approximately 64,778 acres.

Sabine continually strives to increase productivity and improve the cost-effective approach to its business. Sabine employees exhibit outstanding dedication to safety, the environment, and cost control through innovative approaches and continuous change and improvements. As a result of this dedication, Sabine will see continued suc-

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**Top left:** Crain cemetery Roden T. Crain monument. Source: The Sabine Mining Company  **Bottom left:** Crain cemetery rock wall gravesite. Source: The Sabine Mining Company  **Bottom right:** Cattle pen. Source: The San Miguel Electric Cooperative.

Early Ranching at San Miguel Lignite Mine

San Miguel is a Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation organized for the sole purpose of owning and operating a mine-mouth, lignite-fired generating plant and associated mining facilities in Atascosa and McMullen Counties south of San Antonio. Power produced from San Miguel’s plant is furnished exclusively to Brazos Electric Power Cooperative, headquartered in Waco, and South Texas Elec-
they had to travel by rail or boat in the warm weather. Any rail cars yards for southern cattle. Southern cattle could not travel over land, states. Some of the restrictions included maintaining separate stock were restrictions on cattle shipped from these quarantined southern er T ennessee, and southeastern Kentucky (Pasquill, 2012). There Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, part of North Carolina, south- as, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, Historic Landmark website). In 2006, the U.S. Department of Agriculture celebrated 100 years of the National Cattle Fever Tick Eradication Program. According to the USDA website, in the 1880s the fever tick wiped out 90 percent of the cattle herds in the affected areas and changed history. To stop the spread of the fever tick, which carried the disease called Texas fever, the historic cattle drives were ended. Longhorns and other native southwestern cattle were immune; however, they carried Texas fever ticks. R.J. Kleberg, the ranch manager, allowed 25,000 King Ranch cattle to be dipped. By 1898, the quarantine was lifted for cattle treated with the dip (Texas Historic Landmark website). According to the USDA website, by 1943 the fever ticks were eradicated except for a zone along the Rio Grande River where Texas adjoins Mexico. According to the USDA website, this zone is the only place in the United States where cattle fever ticks are still found. There are still some vats in use in south Texas and over 3,000 vats for use on the Mexican side of the border (USDA website). Since 1935, the USDA has been supervising the operation of dipping vats on both sides of the Texas-Mexico border in order to prevent a rein- troduction of cattle fever. Within the permit boundary of the San Miguel Lignite Mine, there is a historic vat constructed of concrete that dates back to the Fever Tick Eradication program. The vat and the remains of the associated pens are located near La Parita Creek. The pens, vat, and the associated ranch headquarters have been fenced off so that they are protected from mining disturbance. These sites are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Reference

Uranium Energy Corp. Conducts Digs to Test for Historic Debris

Uranium Energy Corp (NYSE MKT: UEC) is a U.S. based uranium production, development and exploration company operating North America’s newest emerging uranium mine. The company’s operations are managed by professionals with a recognized
profile for excellence in their industry, a profile based on many
decades of hands-on experience in the key facets of uranium ex-
ploration, development and mining. The company controls one of
the largest databases of historic uranium exploration and develop-
ment in the country. Using this knowledge base, the company has
acquired and is advancing exploration properties of merit through-
out the southwestern United States. The company’s fully licensed
and permitted Hobson processing facility is central to all of its
projects in South Texas, including the Palangana in-situ recovery
mine, which is in production, and the Goliad in-situ recovery pro-
ject which is fully permitted for production and is in the initial
stages of mine construction.

The company was incorporated in October 2004 and acquired
its first mineral asset, Goliad, in late 2005. Permitting for Goliad
commenced in 2006 with final permits being received in Decem-
ber 2012. In the interim, the company bought all the Texas assets
from Uranium One which included Hobson and Palangana and
other leased properties in December 2009. The development and
construction of the initial wellfield and satellite recovery facility at
Palangana commenced in January 2010. Certain reclamation li-
abilities were also acquired from Uranium One and its predecessor
mining ventures which the company addressed immediately and re-
stored successfully.

The company commenced ISR production of uranium at its
wholly-owned Palangana Mine in December of 2010 with further
processing at its Hobson Facility in Karnes County where the ura-
nium is further processed, filtered, dried, and drummed for the nu-
clear electrical industry. This arrangement represents the business
model of hub and spoke concept that allows the company to explore,
permit, and then mine from remote areas in South Texas with fur-
ther processing at the Hobson central facility. Other projects in the
pipeline include the Goliad Project (fully permitted), Burke-Hollow,
Salvo, Channen, and Nichols; all of which are in the exploration
and/or permitting phases.

UEC’s projects in Duval, Goliad and Bee Counties have under-
gone third party archeological assessments. These assessments in-
clude dig tests where ground visibility decreases, where actual ar-
tifacts are found on the surface, and anywhere else a potential for
shallow buried cultural deposits exist. In all assessments, each proj-
ec lacked historic debris that would contribute to a National Reg-
ister of Historic Places or State Antiquities Landmark eligibility, so
there was no historical preservation required.

UEC works with a third party to conduct an archeological as-
essment on all projects planned for future production. If histori-
cal artifacts were to be found, a consultation with the Texas His-
torical Commission and the landowner(s) would ensue to create
a preservation plan. All archeological assessments are reported to
the Texas Historical Commission for review and comment, despite
actual findings.
AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company

Celebrates a Powerful History and Century of Service

By Scott McCloud, Marketing Manager, AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company

Formed as Southwestern Gas and Electric Company on June 29, 1912, AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPCO) is 100 years old, has undergone a name change twice, and no longer provides gas, water, ice or transportation services. Today, the company provides electricity to 474,000 customers in three states, including 180,000 in Northwest Louisiana (six parishes), 114,000 in western Arkansas, and 180,000 in East and North Texas.

The Early Days: Gas, Water, Ice and Streetcars

The original Southwestern Gas and Electric Company was the product of a merger between three utilities: Shreveport Gas, Electric Light and Power Company; Caddo Gas and Oil Company; and Texarkana Gas and Electric Company. These utilities were owned by a trio of brothers, Rufus, Henry and Charles Dawes, and, in 1912, they consolidated their holdings into one company: Southwestern Gas and Electric Company was born.

The Dawes retained control of Southwestern Gas and Electric Company until 1925 when it was sold to Middle West Utilities. The largest of Middle West’s many holding companies was Central and South West (CSW). Southwestern Gas and Electric Company became part of CSW, which also controlled Central Power and Light Co., Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and West Texas Utilities.

Through the 1930s and early 1940s, the company was involved in other operations such as ice, water and streetcars, before divesting of these interests in the late 1940s. The company got out of the gas business in 1943.

AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company’s service territory continued to expand, and the company’s original power plant units, including the 10 MW “giant” of its day, Arsenal Hill in Louisiana, were inadequate to meet the growing need. The company built natural gas-fired plants and added multiple generating units.

Central and South West (CSW). Southwestern Gas and Electric Company became part of CSW, which also controlled Central Power and Light Co., Public Service Company of Oklahoma, and West Texas Utilities.

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Caddo Temple Mound, with a modern house built on top, at the Pine Tree Mound site. Source: Prewitt and Associates

Historical Preservation

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Caddo Temple Mound, with a modern house built on top, at the Pine Tree Mound site. Source: Prewitt and Associates
in various locations in the 1940s and 1950s, including Knox Lee Power Plant on Cherokee Lake near Longview, Texas, and the Lieberman Power Plant on Caddo Lake at Mooringsport, La.

In 1958, after 46 years as Southwestern Gas and Electric Company, a new corporate name was adopted – Southwestern Electric Power Company.

**Natural Gas Shortage Leads to Coal Production**

By the early 1970s, natural gas shortages hit and long-term contracts couldn’t be found. The advantages of coal were obvious – inexpensive, abundant and available in the United States. Southwestern Electric Power Company would go on to build two coal plants in the late 1970s and early 1980s at Flint Creek in Northwest Arkansas and Welsh in East Texas.

Continued customer growth created the need for additional plants. The fuel to fire these plants was found right in the company’s own back yard – lignite. The Pirkey Plant in East Texas was completed in 1985, and the Dolet Hills Power Plant in Louisiana went online in 1986. Southwestern Electric Power Company built Dolet Hills, while Central Louisiana Electric Company (Cleco) operates the plant, and both Southwestern Electric Power Company and Cleco are partners with two other companies that share in the power produced from its single 640 MW unit.

**A New Century Focused on Reliable, Affordable Electricity**

The company’s name changed again with the American Electric Power merger of 2000 to reflect the company as it is known today: AEP Southwestern Electric Power Company, or more commonly as SWEPCO.

Increased electricity usage and strong customer growth prompted a return to the plant-building business again, as three new proposed plants were announced in 2006 that added some 1,400 MWs to the system by December 2012. SWEPCO installed a simple-cycle gas combustion turbine peaking generation unit in July 2007 at the Harry Matson Power Plant in Tontitown, Ark., near Fayetteville and completed the 508 MW combined-cycle gas J. Lamar Stall unit in Shreveport in June 2010 at the site of the company’s oldest plant, Arsenal Hill. And, commercial operation began on an advanced clean coal combustion plant using ultracritical technology at the John W. Turk, Jr. Power Plant at Fulton, Ark., near Hope in Hempstead County on December 20, 2012. All three plants are named for former SWEPCO presidents.

The company received Texas Public Utilities Commission approval and transferred 7,000 retail electric customers in five counties in the Texas Panhandle from AEP Texas to SWEPCO in 2007. The change was made because these customers were located in the same regional reliability council as the rest of SWEPCO’s East Texas customers, the Southwest Power Pool. These new customers immediately saw lower electric prices, with an estimated annual savings of about 15 to 20 percent depending on usage.

Additionally, SWEPCO finalized the purchase of Valley Electric Membership Corporation in October 2010. These 30,000 customers in eight Northern and Central Louisiana parishes also enjoy electric rate savings of about 20 percent. Adding Valley’s service area greatly expands SWEPCO’s geographic footprint in Louisiana and brings economic growth opportunities with the company’s lower rates along the Interstate 49 and Toledo Bend corridors.

**SWEPCO Today**

SWEPCO values its most cherished assets – its customers and its employees. When the company was first formed, it had 125 employees and served only the communities of Shreveport, Bossier City and Texarkana, with a combined population of 42,000. Today, SWEPCO serves more than 200 communities on its lines, representing a diverse 33,000-square-mile service area of North and Central Louisiana, North and East Texas, and Western Arkansas with a population of two million. There are 1,640 company employees supplying electricity to more than 522,000 customers (182,000 in Texas), 5,000 miles of transmission lines, and about 25,500 miles of distribution power lines.

SWEPCO most recently purchased more than 469 MW of long-term renewable power capacity from wind farms in Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, which will slightly lower the company’s overall cost to customers starting in 2013. SWEPCO is proud of its 100-year commitment to reliable service at affordable prices for its customers, and will continue to be a powerful company in the Ark-La-Tex region.

SWEPCO is also proud to have been a partner in the successful preservation of the Nadaco Caddo Pine Tree Mound Site. The company purchased the tract of land and then donated the site to the Archeological Conservancy for preservation.
This past summer, more than 130 Texas science teachers took part in one of five workshops organized and hosted by TMRA and its members. The goal of the workshop series, which includes coal, industrial minerals and uranium workshops, is to provide educators with fact-based information about Texas’ mining industry and the science behind it. All workshop participants receive state-approved professional development credits, which are aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for grades four through 12.

“Teachers often come to our workshops with a negative view of mining, but once they see the operations and tour the reclamation areas they are impressed with the industry’s commitment to providing...”

Teachers from all over Texas participated in an industrial minerals mining workshop co-hosted by the Texas Mining and Reclamation Association and Texas Christian University. This photo was taken at Capitol Aggregates’ quarry near Marble Falls, Texas. Source: TMRA
much-needed resources while, at the same time, protecting the environment,” said Francye Hutchins, TMRA’s education director. “During the workshops, teachers often remark how impressed they are with the dedication of the mining employees.”

One of those teachers, Jennifer Touchstone, couldn’t agree more. Touchstone, a teacher new to the Humble Independent School District in Humble, Texas, participated in Westmoreland Coal’s Jewett Coal Mine Workshop in Jewett, Texas. “It was surprising to learn how well-regulated everything is, about all the conservation efforts, and about the millions spent to improve the water and land,” said Touchstone.

Not only were the teachers impressed by their workshop experience, but the media took note as well. Through an aggressive media relations campaign, TMRA was able to secure coverage throughout the state that included The Jewett Messenger, The Corpus Christi Caller, The Magnolia Tribune, Longview News-Journal, The Marshall News Messenger, The Statesman/Round Rock Leader, Wharton Journal Spectator, and on KIII-TV among others.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**
The TMRA Teacher Workshop Program just received a $3,500 grant to help fund:

- Educational materials
- Student scholarships
- K-12 science, engineering and mining programs
- Rock and mineral displays
- Mining career-focused field trips

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**Thanks to all TMRA members who made the following workshops a success!**

**Coal Workshops**
- North American Coal’s Sabine Mine
  - 23 teacher participants

- Texas Westmoreland Coal’s Jewett Mine
  - 21 teacher participants

**Luminant’s Big Brown Mine**
- 23 teacher participants

**Industrial Minerals Workshop**
- 24 teacher participants

  Tours:
  - Acme Brick’s plant - Elgin
  - Capitol Aggregates quarry
  - Lhoist

  In addition, teachers visited hot-mix and ready mix plants and a dimensional stone plant.

**Uranium Workshop**
- 29 teacher participants

  Tours:
  - Mestena’s mine and plant operations and the South Texas Nuclear Project’s power plant

To learn more about future teacher workshops, visit [www.tmra.com](http://www.tmra.com).
Safety Field Day Enhances Understanding of Human Performance and Safety Technology

By Douglas C. Larch CMSP, Safety Manager, Luminant Three Oaks Mine

On August 8, 2013, a group of 20 safety-minded members met at the Luminant Three Oaks Mine for a one-day safety seminar and tour. The day began promptly at 8 a.m. and was kicked off by TMRA’s safety committee chair. The group received their required MSHA part 48.31 safety training, otherwise known as “Site Specific.” Once the group completed the basic tour requirements and all pertinent site questions were asked, the day was set to begin. The conference portion of the course consisted of four presenters who brought a special message that resonated with the attendees.

Leadership Strategies
Mark Lipe MSHA EFS

The seminar portion of the day was keynoted by Mr. Mark Lipe from MSHA Education and Field Services. Mark spoke from the heart about supervision and safety. His message was simple: “do the right things.” As Mark continued, he spoke about accountability and responsibility. Everyone could be seen busily taking notes from his presentation.

Human Performance Improvement
Mike Hull

Mike Hull, operational excellence manager for Luminant Mining, spoke about Human Performance Improvement or “HPI.” Mike gave an overview of what HPI is and how it can be used. In addition, he also introduced the tools associated with this concept and invited the group to attend upcoming workshops for more information.

Predictive Compliance
Josh Savit

Josh Savit from Predictive Compliance came and spoke to the group about the company’s innovative citation tracking software. Josh demonstrated features such as violation calculations and modeling. He spoke about the new MSHA Pattern of Violations rule 30 CFR Part 104.

3M Earfit Live Demo
Dave Friedman

Dave Friedman, Luminant industrial hygienist from Dallas, demonstrated some new technology with regard to how well car
plugs fit. Dave spoke about the MSHA part 62 hearing conservation requirements and administrative plans. With the Earfit system, Dave demonstrated how to choose an earplug and ensure a proper fit.

After the seminar portion of the field day and a BBQ lunch provided by South Side in Elgin, the attendees went out to the field to look at an active coal mine operation. They observed the pit and loading operations as well as the coal handling facility and reclamation areas.
Around the State

Member News

Capitol Aggregates Breaks Ground on CO2 Technology
As Published in RockProducts.com

September 30, 2013 – Capitol Aggregates and Skyonic hosted a groundbreaking event for the installation of CO2 capture technology at Capitol’s cement mill in San Antonio. Once fully operational in 2014, the plant, which is the first of its kind in the United States, is expected to capture 300,000 tons of CO2 annually through the direct capture of 75,000 tons and additional 225,000 tons that will be offset by the production of green products. The plant is expected to turn a profit within three years from the sale of the products including sodium bicarbonate, HCl and bleach.

Greg Hale, president of Capitol Aggregates, spoke at the event, as well as Joe Jones, founder and CEO of Skyonic. Other speakers included Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff. “The beginning of construction is a major milestone on the road to commercialization,” said Hale.

“When Skyonic began operating its demonstration plant at Capitol Aggregates several years ago, we were excited about the prospect of producing more sustainable cement. Now that the project has reached a commercial-scale, we couldn’t be happier to have such a revolutionary process at our cement factory.” Skyonic has operated a demonstration-scale plant at the Capitol Aggregates site since 2010, with on-going support from the San Antonio community. The commercial-scale Capitol SkyMine plant will employ roughly 35 people and is expected to create more than 200 jobs through the plant’s construction and on-going operations.

“I applaud the Zachry Corporation and Skyonic for setting the standard with the first commercial carbon capture plant of its kind,” Mayor Julian Castro said. “This project is another example of how San Antonio is becoming a leader in combining green technology and job creation.”

Skyonic’s electrolytic carbon capture technology, SkyMine, will selectively capture CO2, acid gases and heavy metals from the flue gas of the Capitol Aggregates plant, where the Capitol SkyMine plant will be retrofitted. The captured pollutants will be mineralized into products, including sodium bicarbonate, which are stored, transported and sold as safe, stable solids, eliminating many of the costs and concerns associated with other forms of carbon capture.

The sodium bicarbonate, as well as the hydrochloric acid and bleach that is also produced, can be sold at a profit. By producing valuable products using low-cost chemical inputs and operating at energy-efficient conditions, SkyMine captures CO2 at a substantially lower operating cost than other carbon capture technologies and allows industrial emitters to turn a profit from reduced emissions.

“Industrial manufacturing is a cornerstone of the global economy and we’re doing our part to making the process more lucrative for industries and cleaner for the environment,” said Jones. “Our partners and investors have played an important role in getting to this commercialization stage, and we’re all looking forward to starting construction and making our first plant a stand-out success.”

Dallas – July 17, 2013 – Cultivating interest in environmental education, more than 100 rare carnivorous pitcher plants from Luminant’s Big Brown Turlington Mine are finding a second life at the Dallas Arboretum. The recently donated plants will be featured in the new Rory Meyers Children’s Adventure Garden and are helping plant the seed of environmental awareness and stewardship with future generations.

“When rare plants can thrive in acidic wetlands or bogs and receive most of their nutrients from capturing and digesting insects. With the chance to reach more than...
100,000 preschool through secondary students, the pitcher plants will be featured in a new interactive bog ecosystem display in the children’s garden. Set to open this September, the eight-acre garden will feature 150 outdoor and indoor exhibits, each designed around a key science theme.

“Luminant’s stewardship efforts are unparalleled – they knew what they had on the land, knew what needed to be protected and recognized the educational value in the plants,” said Tucker Reed, Dallas Arboretum horticulture manager. “We only have about 15 counties in the state with pitcher plants, so for many visitors this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view and learn about this rare plant species.”

This project is just one of many that illustrate the company’s continued dedication to environmental excellence. View a video here highlighting the pitcher plant donation and visit our Environmental Stewardship and Environmental Education fact sheets to learn more about Luminant’s environmental legacy.

**HOLT CAT® Breaks Ground at San Antonio Headquarters Campus for Largest Expansion in Holt History**

San Antonio, Texas — October 2, 2013 — HOLT CAT® (holtcat.com), the Caterpillar® Equipment and Engine dealer for South, Central, North and North East Texas hosted a groundbreaking celebrating with state and local dignitaries, employees and veterans for the largest expansion in HOLT history at its headquarters campus on 3302 South WW White Road, constructed in 1957. The new $11 million, 40,000 square-foot (which is approximately the size of ten basketball courts) Super Bay facility will better accommodate growth in the heavy equipment service industry providing additional shop space for machine repair for the San Antonio and Eagle Ford Shale regions.

With more than 17 percent of HOLT employees having served or currently serving in the armed forces, HOLT chose to recognize this monumental expansion by honoring all American veterans, and especially those within the company. HOLT CAT specifically recruits from the armed forces and supports many veteran and military-based organizations across the state. According to the company, veterans bring skills, character and training that are highly sought-after and valuable to the HOLT family business. HOLT has approximately 330 veterans among the company's ranks, 65 of whom served in Viet Nam and one of whom served as far back as the Korean War.

The new heavy equipment repair facility will be fully climate controlled and have an air exhaust system to exchange the air when needed; it will feature 8 super bays with monitored oil dispensing and four 10 ton and four 15 ton cranes. President and Chief Operating Officer of HOLT, Allyn Archer, believes this investment will enable the company to grow services, and be a great recruitment tool. “We are always in need of more technicians, and this facility will give employees the best work environment possible, with the latest tools and support equipment.”

There will also be several energy efficiency and cost-savings features with solar panels on the roof, automated control of HVAC systems and lighting controls with motion sensors. Overall, the building is designed with sustainability in mind to provide a more productive and fulfilling work environment for technicians. “We try to incorporate sustainability features into every new facility and work environment. Being energy efficient and providing our employees with a great work facility just makes good business sense,” said Dave Harris, Executive Vice President and General Manager. In total, HOLT CAT has committed more than $80 million in facility upgrades, new buildings and expansions across the state of Texas in the past two years.
Chairman Brian W. Shaw
Dr. Shaw was appointed by Governor Perry to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in 2007 and became Chairman in 2009. He is an associate professor in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department of Texas A&M University (TAMU) with many of his courses focused on air pollution engineering. The majority of his research at TAMU concentrates on air pollution, air pollution abatement, dispersion model development, and emission factor development. Chairman Shaw has been a vocal proponent of our industries for many years.

Bill O’Neal
Headquartered at Panola College where he has taught history for over 40 years, Mr. O’Neal was named Texas State Historian by Governor Perry in 2012. He has published almost 40 books, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Wild West Historical Association and was named best living fiction writer by True West Magazine. As our luncheon speaker, expect a little mining history intertwined with interesting and entertaining stories of our State’s WILD past.
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