

ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JULY 2017

Director's Comments:



Shortly after being sworn into office as the new Governor, Kay Ivey issued a proclamation for a statewide special election for the purpose of electing a member of the United States Senate for the remainder of the term for which Senator Jeff Sessions was elected. Alabama voters will go to the polls on August 15th for the primary, September 26th for the runoff, if necessary, and again on December 12th for the general election.

This is a very important election, as our nation still deals with an incomprehensible deficit, while struggling with ways to implement new policies for funding our crumbling infrastructure, tax reform and repealing Obamacare, along with other economic stifling regulations. We need to ensure that whoever fills the Senate spot will be able to tackle the challenges that lay ahead.

AUCA is pleased to have one of the candidates vying for the office scheduled to speak to our group at the August 3rd Tuscaloosa Lunch Meeting. Trip Pittman currently serves as a State Senator, and is the owner of Pittman Tractor Company in Baldwin County. AUCA has not endorsed Mr. Pittman, nor any other candidate in the Senate race, but feel this is a great opportunity for our members to meet firsthand with someone that is connected with our industry, and is attempting to make a difference.

We encourage our members that can make time to attend, to please do so. This is an opportunity to let your voice be heard. If you are unable to attend, but have any particular questions that you would like to have asked, please send them to me.

Tim

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Upcoming AUCA Events:

Tuscaloosa Area Lunch Meeting

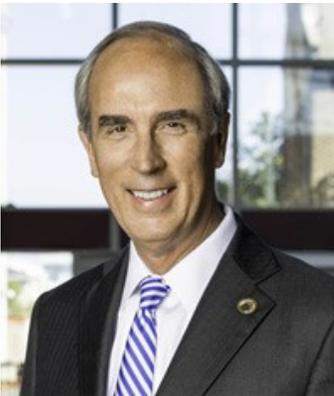
August 3, 2017

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The Levee Bar & Grill

1 Bridge Avenue, Northport, AL 35476

Guest Speaker - State Senator Trip Pittman



Mobile Area Lunch Meeting

August 17, 2017

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wintzell's Oyster House

6700 Airport Boulevard, Mobile, AL 36608

Guest Speaker - Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson

We are finalizing the date and details for the next Birmingham, and Huntsville Area Lunch Meetings. Be on the lookout for updates.

AUCA Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot

October 19, 2017

Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club - Montgomery



Upcoming Events:

MAWSS Supplier Diversity Fair

August 2, 2017

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Mobile Area Water & Sewer System
4725 Moffett Road Mobile, AL 36618**

The Mobile Water & Sewer System (MAWSS) will hold a Supplier Diversity Fair for Diverse Contractors and Suppliers who want to do business with MAWSS, August 2nd, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For More Information Contact:

Felicia Thomas

(251) 694-3194

fthomas@mawss.com



Supplier
Diversity
Fair

Inviting all Diverse Contractors and Suppliers who would like to do business with MAWSS

August 2, 2017
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mobile Area Water and Sewer System
4725 Moffett Road
Mobile, AL 36618

Contact: Felicia M. Thomas
Supplier Diversity Program Manager
251.694-3194
fthomas@mawss.com



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Construction Risk Summit

August 22, 2017

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Alabama AGC Headquarters
Birmingham**



**September 26 - 28, 2017
Embassy Suites Montgomery**

www.alabama.damagepreventionsummit.com



Upcoming Events:

The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) will be holding an Industry Forum for the I-10 Mobile River Bridge and Bayway Project in Baldwin and Mobile Counties in southwest Alabama. The Forum is scheduled to take place on August 28th with One-on-One meetings occurring on August 28th & 29th 2017 at the Mobile Convention Center. Activities during the event will include a project overview and presentation, as well as One-on-One meetings with development teams by request. [Pre-Registration is required.](#)



The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) is hosting an Industry Forum to seek feedback in refining its strategy for the innovative delivery of the proposed Mobile River Bridge and Bayway project.

INDUSTRY FORUM

MONDAY, AUGUST 28TH | 7 AM - 1 PM
Mobile Convention Center
1 S. Water St, Room 201B-D
Mobile, AL 36602

A Lunch Reception Sponsored by AGC will immediately follow the Forum.

One-on-One Meeting Dates:
August 28th-29th, 2017



News & Notes:

AUCA 2018 Board of Directors Nominations:

The AUCA Nominating Committee is seeking interested AUCA members for consideration to serve on the 2018 AUCA Board of Directors.

Nomination Forms will be sent out electronically to all member companies. Please complete and return the form to the AUCA office by fax or email no later than August 31, 2017 to indicate your willingness to serve on the AUCA Board, or to nominate an individual member you know that would make a good candidate.

The Nominating Committee will review the nomination forms of those desiring to serve on the 2018 Board at the September 13th AUCA Board Meeting. The proposed slate of nominees will be announced to the membership 30 days prior to the October 19th General Meeting, where the candidates will be voted on by the members in attendance.

New I-9 Form:

On July 17, 2017, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) released a new Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification.

Effective September 18, 2017, employers are required to begin using the revised Form in place of the current Form. It is important to remember that employers must continue following existing storage and retention rules for any previously completed Form I-9's.

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central/whats-new>

Alabama One-Call Notification System Study Commission Update:

The One-Call Study Commission met on July 6th in Montgomery. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 3, 2017 at the Alagasco Montgomery Operations Center.

The group will continue efforts to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature regarding the expedience and validity of only having a single One-Call notification system to serve the entire State of Alabama, including the appropriate governance, legislative oversight, and membership outreach practices of the organization; the adequacy of the enforcement provisions of current law; and other items related to the One-Call law that may increase the level of safety of its citizens.



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

From Bob Briant, Jr. - Chairman CWCC

House Committee Approves Drinking Water System Improvement Act, Re-authorizes Safe Drinking Water SRF

On July 27th, by a bipartisan voice vote, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce favorably reported to the House H.R.3387, the "Drinking Water System Improvement Act," which, in part, re-authorizes the Safe Drinking Water SRF. The reauthorization measure substantially increases the Drinking Water SRF program. The bill authorizes \$8 billion over a five-year period. Current funding for the Drinking Water program is approximately \$950 million annually.

This is a major step forward for this critical program as it is the first House reauthorization bill in several years to enjoy bipartisan support. In addition, it has been almost two decades since the Drinking Water Program has been reauthorized. This win is also a victory for the Clean Water Construction Coalition, who through Sante Esposito and the tireless work of Coalition representative Key Advocates, was one of the most active stakeholders in advocating Energy and Commerce Committee action on this issue.

This action will also have a ripple effect, potentially triggering action in both chambers. In the House, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will begin to develop and consider Clean Water SRF reauthorization, as the two SRFs have historically been joined in the House legislative process. Should the full House approve the bill, it will head to the Senate, where the Environment and Public Works Committee has jurisdiction over both revolving funds. After years of delay, the unified House bill will put some pressure on the upper chamber to work toward consensus in a timely manner.

H.R.3387 Highlights

The bill adds or amends several conditions on the use of DWSRF funding:

- Allows the use of those funds for siting, associated pre-construction activities, and replacing or rehabilitating aging treatment, storage, or distribution facilities of public water systems
- Extends the application of the American iron and steel requirements in section 1452(a)(4) to DWSRF funds for the life of the funding authorization in the bill
- Requires public water systems serving more than 10,000 persons to certify to their State that they have considered the costs and effectiveness of the relevant processes, materials, tech-

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Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

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- niques, and technologies used in the project or activity supported with DWSRF funds
- Increases the amount of loan subsidies available for disadvantaged communities to 35 percent and extends the repayment schedule for DWSRF loans for disadvantaged communities from 30 years to 40 years
- Prohibits the use of those funds for Clean Water Act compliance
- Amends section 1452(k)(2) of the SDWA to allow States to use a portion of their DWSRF allocation to delineate, assess, and update their source water protection plans

Lastly, the bill amends section 1452(m) of the SDWA to reauthorize \$8 billion in capitalization grants for FY 2018 through FY 2022. Specifically, it authorizes:

- \$1.2 billion in FY 2018
- \$1.4 billion in FY 2019
- \$1.6 billion in FY 2020
- \$1.8 billion in FY 2021
- \$2.0 billion in FY 2022

The Coalition will keep you updated as the bill progresses through Congress, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.



www.cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org



Health & Safety:

Provided by HB NEXT

OSHA Electronic Recordkeeping Update

Just days before the compliance deadline, OSHA delayed the date to report injuries and illnesses under its new electronic recordkeeping rule. Some are wondering if the Obama-era rule is on the chopping block.

OSHA published the final rule, Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses, on May 12, 2016. The regulation required about 466,000 employers with 20 or more workers to electronically submit summaries of their OSHA form 300A logs for 2016, which track recordable injuries and illnesses.

The original reporting deadline was July 1, 2017. Under the rule, OSHA would then post injury data from the logs on its public website.

Other provisions of the rule also prohibited employers from retaliating against workers who report injuries or illnesses, and restricted safety incentive and drug testing programs from dissuading workers from reporting injuries.

The rule took effect on Jan. 1, 2017 - in the final days of the Obama administration. OSHA said a secure website to submit injury forms would be ready in February 2017, but it never came to fruition.

New rule's future is cloudy

In the recent announcement on June 27, OSHA said it has "determined that a further delay of the compliance date is appropriate for the purpose of additional review into questions of law and policy."

The new compliance deadline: December 1, 2017

"The delay will also allow OSHA to provide employers the same four-month window for submitting data that the original rule would have provided," the safety agency said in its press release.

OSHA accepted public comments on the proposed deadline extension. The deadline for submitting comments was July 13, 2017.

With the change in administrations, OSHA may modify or revoke the controversial rule, according to attorneys at Seyfarth Shaw LLP. OSHA plans to issue a separate proposal to reconsider, revise or remove other provisions of the rule, the attorneys said.





AUCA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

HD Supply Waterworks



INTEGRITY

IN STEP WITH YOUR SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND NEEDS

WE'RE IN THE TRENCHES WITH YOU IN SUPPORT OF THE ROUTINE OR THE EMERGENCY

SERVING THE GREAT STATE OF ALABAMA



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Montgomery.....334-265-5300

Theodore251-443-1725



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**AUCA IS A MEMBER-DRIVEN, NEEDS
FOCUSED TRADE ASSOCIATION CREATED
SOLELY TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE
UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF
ALABAMA.**

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www.aluca.org**

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Training Needs**
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