



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to
North America's Energy & Agriculture Heartland

NEWS RELEASES

[Montana: Group discusses improving Highway 2 infrastructure](#)

Highway 2 Association advocates for highway improvements on the east-west corridor across northern Montana. The Association is also very active in encouraging communication between U.S. And Canada border officials at the border and for the importance of 24 hour commercial border crossings.

Montana is an important part of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance region. Did you know that Montana exported more in 2009 domestically to the other nine states in the region (\$4.92 billion including \$1.79 billion by truck) than it does to the rest of the world (\$1.09 billion by all modes of transportation)?



[Keynote Address: Governor Edward G. Rendell, State of Pennsylvania ~ Texas Transportation Forum ~ January 4, 2011 \(Video\)](#)

This was a highlight of the Texas Transportation Forum. Every transportation advocate would benefit from watching this video.

['Amarran' recursos para carretera](#)

Beneficio. El proyecto de Ports to Plains es una realidad para Coahuila, indicó Carlos Román Cepeda. Carlos Román Cepeda González, representante de la Secretaría de Fomento Económico del Gobierno del Estado, dijo que ya están asegurados los recursos federales para la construcción de la primera etapa de la carretera San Pedro-Cuatrociénegas y la aduana en Ciudad Acuña, como parte de los compromisos de Coahuila en el convenio de Ports to Plains...

Upcoming Ports-to-Plains Alliance Activities

- February 3, 2010 - Nebraska Economic Developers Association (NEDA) Legislative Day, Lincoln, NE
- February 8-10 -- PTP Alliance Staff in Washington DC
- February 10, 2011 -- Hearing on LB 84, Transportation Funding, Lincoln, NE
- February 16-18 -- PTP Trade Task Force, San Angelo, TX
- April 7-8 -- PTP Energy Summit, Broomfield, CO
- May 1-3, 2011 - Williston Basin Petroleum Conference, Regina, SK
- May 2-6 -- Ports-to-Plains Fly-in, Washington, DC (Mark Your Calendar Now)



TRANSPORTATION

[Testimony Of The Honorable Susan Martinovich](#)

This testimony is an excellent presentation of the importance of the transportation system. Ms. Martinovich addresses transportation in four major points Construction Jobs, Transportation is vital to the U.S. economy, Sustaining an Export-led Recovery, and Infrastructure Investment Deficit.

[Interview: John Mica says Transportation Bill Needs "Alternate Means of Financing" \(Podcast\)](#)

[Study: Roads are safer in urban areas](#)

[TxDOT Executive Director and Deputy Director Submit Letter of Retirement](#)

[TxDOT takes only glancing blow from House budget](#)

[Texas Rep. Pickett files two plans to reduce highway fund diversions](#)

[Facebook, YouTube Campaign Urges Americans to Tell Congress about Transportation Needs](#)

[Analysis: Mexican truckers would be a boon to Texas business, but unions say it will cost jobs](#)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

[The Great Plains: An Old Frontier May Hold The Secret to Recovery](#)

Could the next zone of opportunity exist in the middle of the country? Census unemployment figures seem to signify this notion, especially in the Great Plains.

State-wise, November 2010 unemployment rates were lowest in North Dakota at 3.6%; South Dakota at 4.6%; Nebraska at 4.9%; Kansas at 6.5%; and Iowa at 6.8%.

Compare these numbers to the ever-growing Sunbelt states where unemployment is at its most dismal with Arizona at 9.6%, California at 12.4%, and Nevada at a depressing 14%....



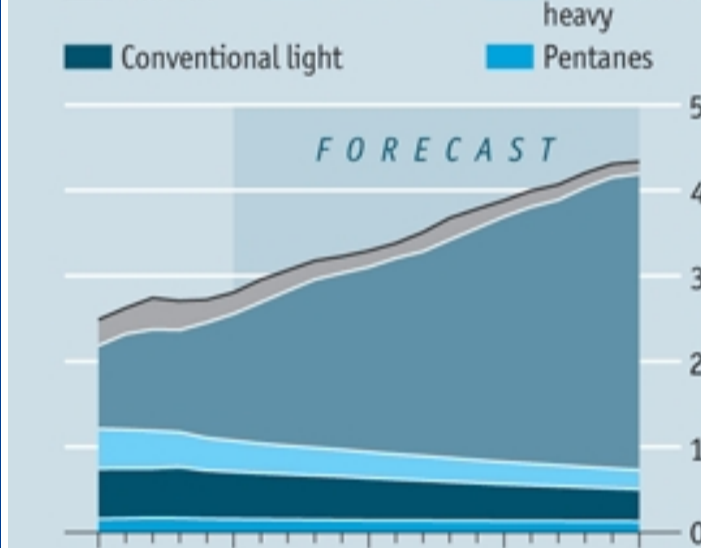
Governor Jorge Torres Lopez inaugurates the third Madas Bendix plant in Ciudad Acuña

[Inaugura el gobernador Jorge Torres López la tercera planta de Bendix-Madasa en Ciudad Acuña](#)

Alberta's wedge

Canadian crude-oil production, m barrels per day

Atlantic Tar sands Conventional heavy Conventional light Pentanes



Source: Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers

ENERGY

[Canada's tar sands: Muck and brass](#)

The reference to tar sands is usually a strong indicator of a biased story on oil production in Alberta, Canada. This story, however, is more balanced.

[A Great Plains pipeline debate](#)

[The fluid behind the frac](#)

[Affordable energy needed for economic resurgence \(Editorial\)](#)

[The Bakken factor: Could this oil reserve become that reliable bridge to a sustainable energy future?](#)

[Toward a 21st-Century Regulatory System](#)

ENERGY SUMMIT

PORTS-TO-PLAINS

Mark Your Calendar
2nd

Annual

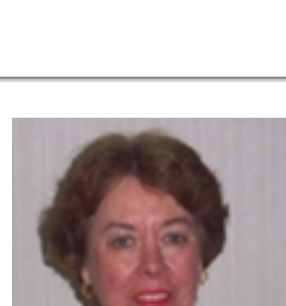
PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE ENERGY SUMMIT

April 7-8, 2011
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, Colorado

Board Member Spotlight

[Gaynelle Riffe](#)

[Stratford, Texas](#)
[Sherman County](#)



Gaynelle Riffe

Gaynelle Riffe is a founding board member for Ports-to-Plains and also served as secretary for the organization for many years. She works diligently to develop local community support throughout the corridor. Gaynelle is also a leader in **SPiRiT**, the Southwest Passage Initiative for Regional and Interstate Transportation, a coalition between New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

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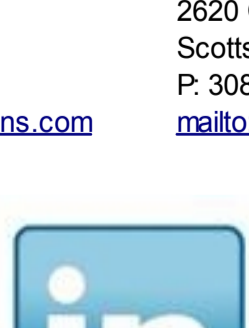
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