



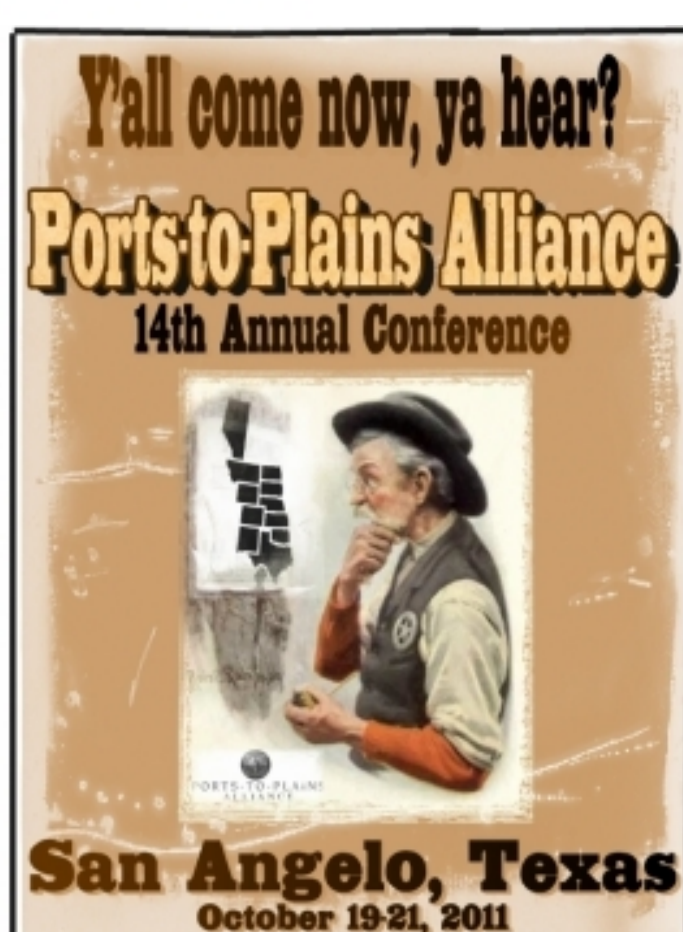
# PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

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

## NEWS RELEASES

### Ports-to-Plains Annual Meeting

It looks like a critical time is approaching in the future of transportation funding. See the article from the leadership of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. It looks as if the Administration and House are going to be close behind. One of the key events in the upcoming year will be the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Ports-to-Plains Annual Conference. **Mark your calendars now and plan to be in San Angelo, TX on October 18-21, 2011. Every member needs to attend in order to show the commitment of the Alliance to the importance of Rural Transportation.** Believe me, those supporting high speed rail, congestion relief, liveable communities and transit will be demonstrating their needs. The Ports-to-Plains Alliance needs to be a strong voice for Rural Transportation.



### Upcoming Ports-to-Plains Alliance Activities

- June 13-14 - 3rd Annual Symposium on Mileage-Based User Fees, Breckenridge, CO
- June 18-20 - Western States Transportation Alliance Annual Meeting, Bismarck, ND
- July 20 - Ports-to-Plains Alliance Board of Directors Meeting, Clayton, NM
- October 19-21 - Ports-to-Plains Annual Meeting, San Angelo, TX



## TRANSPORTATION

### [Boxer, Inhofe, Baucus, and Vitter Joint Statement on Transportation Authorization Legislation](#)

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator James Inhofe (R-OK), Ranking Member of the Committee, Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, and Senator David Vitter (R-LA), Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, issued the

following joint statement today regarding drafting legislation to reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs, entitled Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21).

### [Senate Finance Committee Weighs Several Options to Pay for Reauthorization](#)

### [Nebraska Gov. OK's sales tax for roads](#)

### [Tightening Screws on Infrastructure Spending](#)

### [Study: \\$2 trillion needed for U.S. infrastructure](#)

### [MBUFA Releases Fact Sheet on VMT User Fees](#)

### [CBO says taxing cars by the mile could raise money for highways](#)

### [Should drivers pay by the mile instead of the gallon?](#)

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### ['Reshoring' brings business back: New trend benefits local manufacturers](#)

There's nothing new about offshoring — the practice of American manufacturers sending large-volume orders overseas, where wages are a fraction of what they are in the U.S.

But a new trend that seems to be taking hold is "reshoring," where companies decide that the cost savings of going overseas isn't worth the other hassles that come with the process.



In situ operations such as Cenovus Energy's Foster Creek project in northern Alberta are the fastest-growing part of the oil sands, according to the Canadian Energy Research Institute. Photograph by: Photo courtesy Cenovus Energy

## ENERGY

### [Trillions predicted in oil sands spending](#)

The recession that clouded the future of oil sands development two years ago has lifted and clear skies beckon trillions of dollars of investment, according to a report released Monday.

Over the next 25 years, through 2035, \$2.077 trillion will be invested in building and maintaining the oil sands, according to the Canadian Energy Research Institute.

That includes \$253 billion in initial capital for construction and \$1.8 trillion for operation, maintenance and sustaining capital...

### [Environmentalists Were For Fracking Before They Were Against It](#)

## WindPower 2011

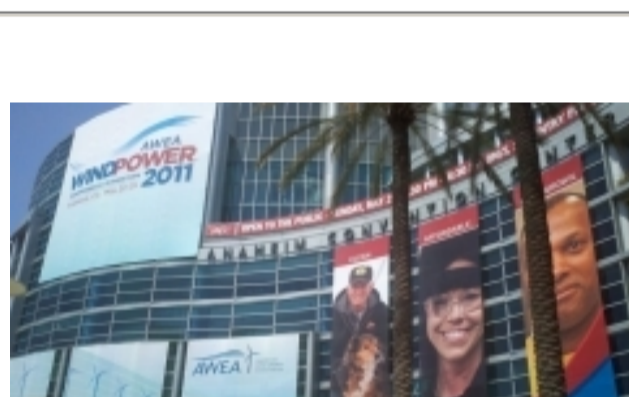
### [WindPower 2011 ... Daily Report ... May 24, 2011](#)

Ports-to-Plains Region was strongly represented in the huge trade show by companies and statewide coalitions. High Ground Texas brought together many of our members from Texas. They had a great location and thus lots of traffic.

Visited with North Dakota, Montana, Kansas, Wyoming, and Nebraska.

### [WindPower 2011 ... Daily Report ... May 23, 2011](#)

### [WindPower 2011 ... Daily Report ... May 22, 2011](#)



WindPower 2011  
Anaheim Convention Center  
Anaheim, CA

## Board Member Spotlight

[William B. \(Bill\) Crooker](#) has served on the Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors for 12 years. Bill commented that watching its expansion from a small assemblage to helping rural communities to the status of encompassing Canada and Mexico is a noteworthy feat. Bill feels much credit should be given to the administration directed by the executive personnel.



Bill Crooker  
Big Spring, Texas

In the early 1990's he was on the original team to widen US Highway 87 to a four-lane divided highway south to the Glasscock County line. He chaired the Big Spring Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee and provided preliminary data for the Highway 87 Truck Reliever route. He received the prestigious Texas Department of Transportation Road Hand Award in 2003.

Bill is a former Howard County Commissioner for Precinct #3 in Big Spring, Texas, where he retired in December 2008 after serving 40 years. In 1968, with very few citizens of Howard County registered as Republicans, he was the first Republican elected to a political office in Howard County.

Bill was born in New York City and has been a Howard County resident since 1954. He is a graduate of The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, and has over 35 years of personnel, purchasing and business management experience. He owned his own business, Mr. G's Garden Center and Christmas Store, for 10 years. He is a veteran of World War II, serving in the European Theater with the 464th Bombardier Group, 778th Squadron, 15th Air Force; was shot down over Czechoslovakia and held as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft I, Barth, Germany; and honorably discharged in 1945. He received the Prisoner of War Medal in 1988.

He is active in St Mary's Episcopal Church, having served as a Senior Warden and a lay reader. In the early 1990's, he was instrumental in the creation of a 23 county Mental Health Mental Rehabilitation Center in Howard County and served as Chairman of that Board. He was co-founder of the Big Spring Boy's Club; member of the Rotary Club; and has served as Director, President and Chairman of numerous local boards and committees.

### [Ports-to-Plains Alliance Members in the Big Spring area include:](#)

[City of Big Spring](#)

[Howard County](#)

[Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Big Spring Economic Development Corporation](#)

[View all Ports-to-Plains Alliance Members Here](#)

## PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE STAFF

Michael Reeves  
President  
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395  
Lubbock, TX 79403  
P: 806-775-2338  
F: 806-775-3981  
[michael.reeves@portstoplains.com](mailto:michael.reeves@portstoplains.com)

Joe Kiely  
Vice President of Operations  
PO Box 9  
Limon, CO 80828  
P: 303-586-1787  
F: 719-775-9073  
[joe.kiely@portstoplains.com](mailto:joe.kiely@portstoplains.com)

Duffy Hinkle  
Vice President of Membership & Marketing  
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395  
Lubbock, TX 79403  
P: 806-775-3373  
F: 806-775-3981  
[duffy.hinkle@portstoplains.com](mailto:duffy.hinkle@portstoplains.com)

Cal Klewin  
Executive Director  
Theodore Roosevelt Expressway  
PO 1306 22 E Broadway  
Williston, ND 58802  
P: 701-577-8110  
[cal@trexpressway.com](mailto:cal@trexpressway.com)

Debbie Stevenson  
Executive Assistant  
5401 N MLK Blvd. #395  
Lubbock, TX 79403  
P: 806-775-3369  
F: 806-775-3981  
[debbie.stevenson@portstoplains.com](mailto:debbie.stevenson@portstoplains.com)

John R. Hoehne  
Communications Director  
Heartland Expressway Association  
2620 College Park  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361  
P: 308-630-6555  
[mailto:cal@trexpressway.com](mailto:mailto:cal@trexpressway.com)



[www.portstoplains.com](http://www.portstoplains.com)

LEARN • PARTICIPATE • JOIN  
5401 N MLK Blvd. Unit #395 | Lubbock, TX 79403 | Ph:(806)775-3373

This email was sent to .  
To ensure that you continue receiving our emails, please add us to your address book or safe list.

[manage](#) your preferences | [opt out](#) using [TrueRemove®](#)

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list