



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

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

Presentations from Ports-to-Plains Alliance Energy Summit: April 20, 2012

The Ports-to-Plains Alliance had a great week in Washington DC during the week of April 16-20, 2012 for its annual Fly-In Event. This year the Fly-in was punctuated by our first Washington DC Energy Summit with an exclamation point.

Washington DC Fly-in

The highlight was the passage of the House Transportation Bill while the Alliance delegation was in Washington, DC. This led to the identification of the "Ports-to-Plains Alliance Effect". The Ports-to-Plains Alliance had been in Washington, DC when the Senate passed its Transportation Reauthorization bill in March and the House acted during this trip. We asked when to come back to see the final action of the Conference Committee. Soon! we indicated.

The Alliance was represented by twenty (20) participants:

- Alberta:** Dave Bronconnier, Washington, DC; Tristan Sanregret, Washington, DC
- Colorado:** Cathy Shull -- Fort Morgan; Beverly Haggard -- Lamar, Joe Kiely -- Limon; Patricia Vice, Genoa
- Montana:** Bob Sivertsen -- Havre
- Nebraska:** Deb Cottier -- Chadron, NE
- North Dakota:** Brad Bekkedahl -- Williston; Brady Pelton, Dickinson; Cal Klewin -- Bowman; Vicky Steiner, Dickinson
- South Dakota:** Blaise Emerson, Rapid City
- Texas:** Chris Cornell -- San Angelo; Duffy Hinkle -- Lubbock; Dwain Morrison, San Angelo; John Bertsch, Plainview; John Friess, Sonora; Michael Reeves -- Lubbock
- Washington, DC:** Jack Schenendorf

This Alliance delegation worked hard in making fourteen (14) House office visits in seven states, twelve (12) Senate visits in six states, participation in the Montana and Nebraska's Breakfasts, a meeting with Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works staff, participation in the monthly Consumer Energy Alliance meeting and then the Energy Summit.

The delegation also was able to take some time to observe the last flight of the Space Shuttle Discovery as it was moved from Florida to Washington DC to be displayed.

Details on the status of the [Surface Transportation Reauthorization](#) are linked in the Transportation Section below.

Energy Summit

This initial effort in Washington DC was designed to attract Congressional staffers, including those with primary duties of energy and transportation. The Summit was well received with ten (10) Congressional offices represented and a full house in the room.

The Summit was kicked off under the heading of **Oil and Gas Prices and the Consumer** by Lee Fuller, Vice President of Government Relations for the Independent Petroleum Association of America, on *Hydraulic Fracturing and Domestic Opportunities. Keystone XL Pipeline and Energy Security* was presented by Paul Elliott of TransCanada and then Fuller returned with the topic *Incentives, What Incentives?* Information on these presentations are included in the Summit Handbook which can be downloaded by [Clicking Here](#)

The second section of the Summit focused on **Electricity and the Economy**. John L. Cohen, Vice President, Government Affairs, for Alstom, Inc. presented on *Renewable Energy Production Tax Credits and Rural Communities*. The core of the message was PTC = Jobs. *Electricity and the Economy: A Co-Op's Perspective* was presented by Rick Gordon, Chairman, Tri-State Generation & Transmission. Both these presentations are available on the [PTP Blog](#). Michael Reeves, President of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance finished the section by focusing on *Policy ... Policy ... Policy*. Reeves reiterated what had been said by the previous speakers on Oil, Gas and Electricity that what business needs is a stable energy policy that it can rely upon to make business decisions.

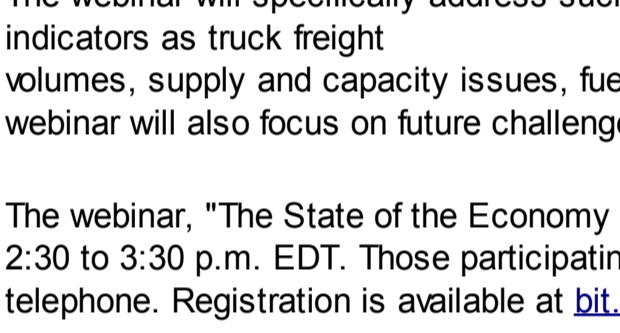
The final section of the Summit was **Energy and Transportation**. Vickie Steiner, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties described the current experience in North Dakota's Bakken as representative of *North America's Energy Corridor*. The final presentation was *Opportunity Connected to Opportunity ... Transportation, Energy and the Economy* by Joe Kiely, Vice President of Operations, Ports-to-Plains Alliance. The Ports-to-Plains region, with its natural resources including energy and agriculture, can be a catalyst for job creation. Be it energy in Alberta which heavily relies upon U.S. suppliers (click here for listing of U.S. Suppliers to the Alberta Oil Sands) or other opportunities in trade, it relies on a sound transportation system to move the economy. These two presentations are also available on the [PTP Blog](#).

Thank you to the sponsors of the Energy Summit: Conoco Phillips, Enbridge, TransCanada, Tri-State Generation and Transmission, Inc. and Valero Energy.

Alliance Activities

Upcoming Ports-to-Plains

- June 4-6 - [Transportation Logistics for the Oil & Gas Industry: Houston, TX](#)
- July 12 - Colorado Regional Ports-to-Plains Meeting, Byers, CO
- July 12-13 - Ports-to-Plains Board of Directors Meeting, Limon, CO **CHANGED DATE**
- October 2-4 - Ports-to-Plains Alliance Annual Conference, Medicine Hat, AB



TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

Status Report on the Transportation Reauthorization Bill by Jack Schenendorf

Highway bill conference committee schedules first meeting

The panel of lawmakers tapped to hammer out an agreement on a new federal transportation bill will hold its first meeting next month, a key member of the committee said Thursday.

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) said the transportation conference committee would meet Tuesday, May 8. Boxer, who is chairwoman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, shepherded the Senate's two-year, \$109 billion transportation bill through the upper chamber earlier this year...

House of Representatives Names Transportation Reauthorization Conferees

Senate Names Conferees for Transportation Reauthorization Conference Committee

RIP, 2012 Federal Transportation Bill

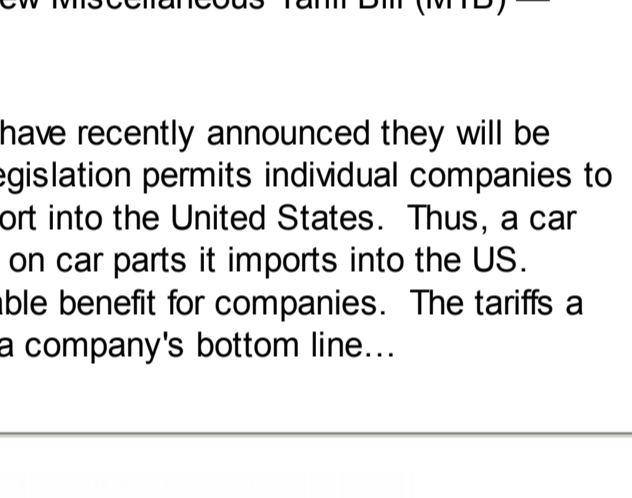
San Angelo, TX: City councilman goes to Washington to lobby for Ports to Plains

Alberta: Area officials react angrily to deadly state of Highway 63

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Upcoming Webinar on Trucking Industry Economics and Trends

The U.S. Department of Transportation and AASHTO, along with the other members of the Trucking Industry Mobility & Technology Coalition, are sponsoring a free webinar in which economic experts will discuss critical trends that are shaping the trucking industry.



The webinar will specifically address such economic indicators as truck freight volumes, supply and capacity issues, fuel prices, truck and trailer sales, employment, and wages. The webinar will also focus on future challenges facing the trucking industry.

The webinar, "The State of the Economy and Trucking Industry Issues," will take place on May 10 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. EDT. Those participating will need to have access to both the Internet and a telephone. Registration is available at bit.ly/Trucking-Webinar.

Duty Suspension Legislation

U.S. companies can seek new customs duty savings under new Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) — existing MTB duty suspensions

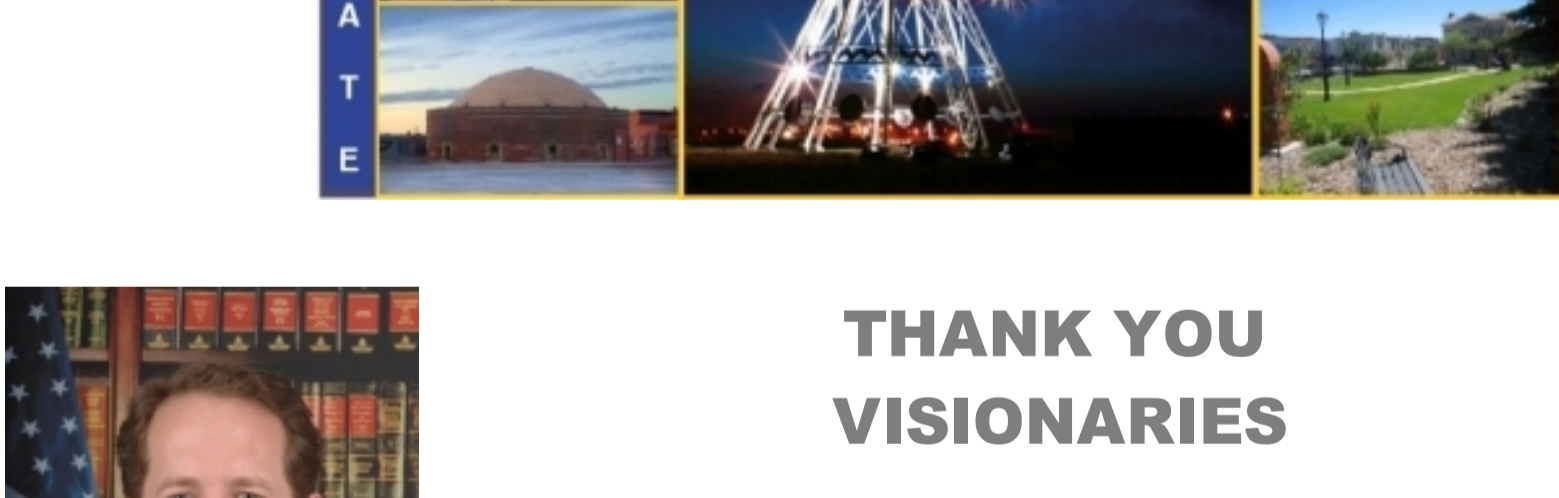
The Senate Finance and House Ways & Means Committees have recently announced they will be seeking to enact duty suspension legislation this year. This legislation permits individual companies to propose eliminating the tariffs on goods those companies import into the United States. Thus, a car company could propose a provision eliminating the tariffs paid on car parts it imports into the US. Needless to say, this can provide a very tangible and quantifiable benefit for companies. The tariffs a company eliminates have a direct and measurable benefit on a company's bottom line...



Thanks to U.S. Sponsors of the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Energy Summit on April 20, 2012 in Washington, DC

showing no statistical correlation between what U.S. consumers pay for gasoline and the amount of oil being pumped out of the ground here, some thought they had a "gotcha" moment.

Pundits and politicians alike quickly jumped on the news to thump those who argue that increased domestic oil drilling would lower prices at the pump. The left-leaning Think Progress blog piped in that with domestic oil production "at its highest level in eight years... if drilling dictated gas prices, they should already be at the \$2 Republicans promise..."



U.S. Representative
Adrian Smith
(NE)
Ports-to-Plains Alliance
Caucus Co-Chair

THANK YOU VISIONARIES

Without your leadership and support, our continued success would not be possible.

Current Members

Membership Opportunities

Congressional Ports-to-Plains Caucus Support Rural Transportation and Economic Development

Co-Chairs:

- Rep. Randy Neugebauer R-TX
- Rep. Adrian Smith R-NE
- Senator Ben Nelson D-NE
- Senator John Cornyn R-TX

Members:

- Rep. Mike Conaway R-TX
- Rep. Bob Filner D-CA
- Rep. Quico Canseco R-TX
- Rep. Pete Olson R-TX
- Rep. Cory Gardner R-CO
- Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison R-TX
- Rep. Jeff Fortenberry R-NE
- Senator Kent Conrad D-ND
- Senator Mark Udall D-CO
- Senator John Hoenen R-ND
- Rep. Rick Berg R-ND

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