

IN THE PIPELINE

NUCA OF NM NEWS

March 2008

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OSHA News

As you know, members of NUCA of NM and NUCA have been discussing the proposed changes to the OSHA Confined Space Regulations. If you would like to view NUCA's position paper, please contact the association office at 505 888 0752.

Eye on New Mexico



Get the most from your association:
GET INVOLVED!



President's Message

by Boyd Dunham

I can not believe March Madness is upon us. This month is going to be exciting. The first event for our district setup is on March 27, 2008 at the Ramada Palms de Las Cruces. This is going to be "come and have a drink on us" event to draw in the local contractors. This is for Potential new members as well as our current members in the area. This is our first location and first attempt of the district in the Southern part of the state. We need all the support we can get. So if you know of a potential member or have a satellite office in the area, please get them involved. If you have any questions please contact Jane or myself. The following day on March 28 our Safety Committee is conducting the Next Step Program.

I would also like to mention that Dan East of Cone Construction is running for New Mexico's 3rd District Congressional Seat. We are working on a possible event with ABC for a Fund Raiser. This is a little slow as there are a lot of rules and regulations that we need to follow. If you talk with Dan or see him please give him your support. Stay tuned for more details.

Governor Richardson signed Executive Order (EO) 2007-049 on 10/25/07 that provides for an incremental plan for all Executive Branch State Agencies (EBSA) to assist the State in expanding health coverage to more New Mexicans. EBSA includes Energy and Natural Resources, higher education facilities such as colleges and universities, armories, etc. Facilities that fall into the category of an Executive Branch State Agency have begun including the entire EO, or applicable parts, in bid specifications.

The EO requires that an EBSA with a State contract solicited and awarded after 1/1/08 with a contractor that has 6 or more employees:

1. Effective 7/1/08 with an expected contract value of \$1 million and over; and
2. Effective 7/1/09 with an expected contract value of \$500,000 and over; and
3. Effective 7/1/10 with an expected contract value of \$250,000 and over shall require the contractor to offer health coverage to their New Mexico employees.

AG Gary King has been requested to provide an opinion on the legality of the EO. The opinion can take three months to a year, but King is hopeful he will have an answer within three months. We will keep you posted.

[Click here to read the Executive Order](#)

Bingaman Signs onto SRFLetter

After contacting Senator Bingaman and Senator Domenici regarding NUCA's Legislative Alert, which requested both senators to stand up for increased SRF funding by signing the Jack Reed (D-RI)/Susan Collins (R-Maine)/George Voinovich (R-OH) letter to Senators Kent Conrad (D-ND) and Judd Gregg (R- NH) of the Senate Budget Committee, Senator Bingaman signed onto the letter.

The letter requested \$1.35 billion and \$850 million, respectively, for the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs in the FY2009 budget resolution. In the end, 45 senators signed the letter. NUCA and the Clean Water Council will lead similar efforts in the near future as the funding process moves from the House and Senate Budget Committees to the Interior and Environment Subcommittees of the House and Senate Appropriation committees.

[Read Letter](#)

Safety

The 2007 William H. Feather Award application is due by no later than March 11, 2008.

The Feather Award was created in 1978 to commemorate the outstanding contributions of the founding chairman of NUCA's Safety Committee, William H. Feather, and to recognize the remarkable achievements in safety accomplished by NUCA members each year. Feather Awards are bestowed upon companies that have the best safety records in seven categories according to total man-hours worked. Winners in each category are selected based on injury frequency data, a short safety management statement and company safety program information.

If your company is accustomed to a culture of safe work practices, and this commitment is reflected in a strong safety record for the year, we encourage you to submit an application for this prestigious award.

The winners are recognized during the Awards Dinner at NUCA's Annual Spring Meetings & Washington Summit. Please contact either George Kennedy (518) 885-2560 or Courtney Croll (703) 358-9300 with any questions.

Don't let your company's impressive safety accomplishments go unnoticed!

[2007 William H. Feather Application](#)

NUCA is now accepting applications for its Safety Instructor Train-the-Trainer Program. To qualify for the program, applicants must have experience in the construction industry, be an OSHA instructor or possess a strong knowledge of OSHA standards, have had prior experience instructing classes or groups, and be willing to make a commitment to the industry. Additionally, the applicant must be sponsored by and work for a NUCA member in good standing. (Instructors for fire departments and other municipal rescue teams are eligible and do not have to be NUCA members.) The instructor programs that are currently being offered annually are for the NUCA Excavation Safety and Competent Person Training Program and the NUCA Confined Space Entry Training Program. This year's NUCA Instructor Train-the-Trainer Program will be held April 21-25, 2008, at the Lakeland Fire Department Training Center in Lakeland, Florida.

[Click here for an application form and information on the application process.](#)

Toolbox Talks are available on a CD from the Chapter office, or you can download them straight from the NUCA web page (must sign in as a member to access this information).

Main topics cover:

DRIVING

EQUIPMENT/TOOLS

GENERAL SAFETY

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

WEATHER AND ENVIRONMENT

You can even access a file that tells you how to present a ToolBox Talk to your company. Most files are available in English and Spanish. Call the Association office to find out how to get your company into the habit of presenting ToolBox Talks for Safety.

If you come across a safety issue that you think should be shared with other NUCA of NM members, please forward it to the NUCA of NM Office and it will be distributed to all members. Email nucanm@nucanm.org

Next Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008 at 8am at the Association office -
104 Sin Nombre Ct. NE

NMRCGA



What is the NMRCGA?

NMRCGA stands for the New Mexico Regional Common Ground Alliance which is an approved charter of the National Common Ground Alliance.

NMRCGA is a multi-stakeholder organization at the forefront of identifying and promoting best practices and sharing knowledge to prevent damage to underground facilities throughout New Mexico.

By working together, we can better protect our state's underground facilities as well as the lives of those who live or work near them and those who operate them. Water, gas, electricity and telecommunications are vital to our everyday lives. Protecting the underground facilities that ensure we have these resources is our shared responsibility.

The 3rd Annual New Mexico Regional Common Ground Alliance EXPO is scheduled for September 25-26, 2008.

What does this EXPO have for you?

- | It's the only local EXPO geared towards Damage Prevention.
- | There are certified classes for contractors such as The Next Step Program, NUCA's Competent Person Excavation Certification Training.
- | Vendors that you do business will showcase in the vendor hall.
- | New Technology information.
- | Up-To-Date industry trends and changes
- | Certified Locator Class (open to anyone)
- | Professional Speakers

Pillar Sponsors include:

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Exhibitor and Participant registration packages available soon.

Learn More...

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2008 Sponsors:

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- | HD Supply Waterworks

March Dates

- | 03/05/08 - Membership Committee
- | 03/07/08 NMRCGA Planning Committee 9am
- | 03/12/08 Safety Committee
- | 03/15/08 Planning Committee 8:00 am
- | 03/15/08 Education Committee 11:30am
- | 03/27/08 Member Reception in Las Cruces
- | 03/28/08 Next Step Training in Las Cruces

If you would like more information on the Committees please call the Association office at 505 888 0752 or email nucanm@nucanm.org

Visit the NUCA of NM Quick View Calendar

NUCA Legislative Update



CWC Picks up Another Union Alliance Group

The Clean Water Council (CWC) continues its remarkable growth in membership going into 2008. The CWC is proud to announce that the National Construction Alliance (NCA) has formally joined the ranks of the CWC, which is now 34 organizations strong. The NCA was formed in early 2006 as a 21st century solution to meet current and future workforce challenges of the construction industry. Modeled after the former National Heavy and Highway Alliance (NHHA), the NCA brings more than 50 years of experience, success and partnerships originally formed by the NHHA. The NCA includes the Laborers International Union of North America, the International Union of Operating Engineers, and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, and represents the union workforce engaged in the "basic trades," including heavy and highway, industrial, commercial, maintenance, power and capital improvement. NUCA is happy to have the NCA and its 1.8 million members join the ranks of the CWC, which now fully represents the gamut of stakeholders in the underground construction industry, including contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, engineers and labor.

The NUCA Washington Report is used with permission from the National Utility Contractors Association.

All articles provided by NUCA and
Eben Wyman
Vice President, Government Relations
Ben Gann
Government Relations Coordinator

Mark you calendars now for the 2008 NUCA Washington Summit, which will be held May 21-23, 2008 at the JW Marriott Hotel in Washington D.C.

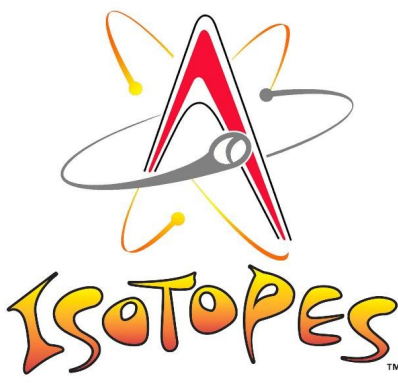
Western Summit of NM 2008 Platinum Sponsor



Thank you Western Summit of NM for your Platinum Sponsorship.

Visit the Western Summit Web Page

Isotopes



Join us for NUCA of NM night at the Albuquerque Isotopes opening home game on April 11, 2008 at 7:05pm.

Tickets are only \$11 per person and the seats are reserved for the Box Level. [Click Here to view Seating Map](#) You must register by no later than March 28th, and your tickets will be delivered or mailed to you one week prior to the game.

Register online and register early because seats are limited.

2008 Directory

The 2008 Membership Directory is going to print this week! If your information has changed since 2007 and you have not submitted a new contact form, please call the Association office at 888-0752 to make sure your information is correct.

School to World

On February 23, 2008 **Bill Alexander, AMEC, Kari Biernacki, AUI Inc., Carlos Spiess, Sundance Mechanical, Tim Gonzales, Highway Supply, and Brian Loughridge, Albuquerque Asphalt Inc.** represented NUCA of NM at the annual School to World expo.

High school students browse through dozens of booths for information on careers and opportunities. NUCA of NM was one of many trade associations represented at the Expo and talked to many students about careers in the construction industry.

The NUCA of NM booth was set up and the 1:50 scale construction site display was also set up for the students to check out. The display is now set-up and located at the NUCA of NM office, so come by and check it out!

DIGBY



DIGBY wants to get out of his box!

Do you know of an elementary school with construction work on its campus or close by? DIGBY would love to visit with the kids and tell them all about the construction equipment and dangers of the job-site. Call the Association office to schedule a visit: 505 888 0752.

Spanish Translation

Do you need your Safety Manual or Employee handbook translated into Spanish? Laura Lynch is a professional certified translator that works with the Association and provides translation for Spanish Training. he is highly skilled in the translation of construction lingo and regional dialects. For more information, contact the Association office at 505 888 0752.

NUCA Benefit

Community Service Award NUCA's National Community Service Awards program honors the generous and creative community service projects planned and executed by NUCA member companies. All entries for projects completed in 2007 must be received (postmarked) by **March 28, 2008**. A panel of judges will then select the most outstanding projects in four categories based on the number of employees in the company. The 2007 awards will be presented at the NUCA Spring Awards Dinner (in conjunction with the annual Washington Summit) on the evening of Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at the JW Marriott Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC. All complete and timely entries will be recognized in Utility Contractor magazine. [Click Here to Download Application](#)

NUCA FOUNDATION 2008 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION DUE MAY 2 -- The NUCA Foundation for Education and Research has announced that it is now accepting applications for five 2008 college scholarships totaling \$17,500. [Click Here to download the application from the NUCA web Page](#) (you must enter your member name and password).



NUCA of NM

email: nucanm@nucanm.org

phone: 505 888 0752

web: <http://www.nucanm.org>

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