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ARPA Member Blast April 3, 2009

ArizonaRockProducts.org

Sen. President to Address Govt. Affairs Meeting

Rusty Bowers, Director of Government Affairs for ARPA, serves on Senate President Bob Burns' "Kitchen Cabinet" advisory panel.

ARPA is hosting a Kitchen Cabinet meeting on Thursday April 23rd, and President Bob Burns has agreed to stay afterwards and address the ARPA Government Affairs Committee meeting that begins at 9:00.

Rusty served in the Legislature with Senator Burns and the Senator is the prime sponsor on key legislation that Rusty is pursuing on behalf of ARPA.

This is a great opportunity to discuss issues with the President of the Arizona State Senate. If you only attend one Government Affairs Committee meeting this year, make sure that this is the meeting!

The Meeting starts at 9:00.

Agenda

9:00 Welcome and Introductions

9:05 Senate President Bob Burns discusses Legislative Session

9:30 Rusty Bowers Discusses ARPA's Legislative Agenda including:

—Senate Bill 1183

ARPA has been working on a project to channelize the Agua Fria River in an effort to increase the value of the surrounding land, make mining operations more productive and provide additional recreation and riparian areas. The law that enables participants to form the Special Channelization District is set to expire in 2010. Senate President Burns has sponsored a bill to eliminate the expiration date.

—Senate Bill 1255 and its companion bill SB 1256

ARPA has been working with the State Mine Inspector to establish a mining reclamation fund that will provide the inspector with the resources he needs in order to properly reclaim aggregate mined lands.

—Senate Bill 1259

Changing market conditions and demand fluctuations can dramatically affect the economic viability of aggregate mines. SB 1259 allows the State Mine Inspector to consider these factors when deciding to extend the period in which to initiate reclamation of the mining property.

—Senate Bill 1260

This bill exempts certain intermittently used mines—that meet a strict set of conditions—from the reclamation provisions of state reclamation law.

—General Plan Amendment

Rusty and Senator John Nelson are working on an amendment that would provide a place for mineral planning in general plans. The amendment is ready and simply needs a germane bill to serve as a host, or a redundant bill to serve as a striker.



Have you Registered for the ARPA Conference yet?

Registration forms are available on the ARPA website. Register Today!

Upcoming Events

Here are some upcoming events that we wanted you to know about.

Tim Bee to Address Southern ARPA

The last time we met with Tim Bee, the former Senate President was running for Congress.



Governor Brewer has appointed Tim to be her representative to Southern Arizona and he will be speaking at the Southern ARPA meeting next Wednesday April 8th.

Community Excellence Awards

There is still time to get your Community Excellence Award Submittals in. For more information, please refer to the ARPA Website. The deadline is April 18th.

Card Check Seminar

On Wednesday April 8th, Kim Magyar and Jerry Morales from the law firm of Snell and Wilmer will address the ARPA Human Resource Committee in an effort to explain the background, prospects and implications of The Employee Free Choice Act (the "EFCA")

The EFCA would eliminate secret ballot elections and election campaigns that give employers the opportunity to discuss with employees the advantages and disadvantages of union representation. Under the EFCA, a government appointed arbitrator would decide the terms of the contract if the union and employer are unable to agree to a first contract within a specified period. In addition, the EFCA significantly increases penalties for employers for various unfair labor practices.

The bill—also known as "Card Check"—is critically important to ARPA members. Make sure you take the opportunity to attend this informative presentation.

The meeting will start at 9:00 and be held at the ARPA Offices.

Check the ARPA Blog for Updates and a Chance to leave your Comments.

www.azrockblog.org