



CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - John Brining, Executive Director

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CISCO's Legislative Committee has been active. Here are two items that are hot off the presses:

HB3636/Mechanics Lien Act

- Rep. Kelly Burke (D-36th District) of Evergreen Park has taken over as chief sponsor of the "Cypress Creek" bill from Rep. Chapin Rose, who had become a hostile sponsor. Burke filed a Motion to Concur with the Senate Amendment placed on the bill. HB3636 passed out of the Senate and is back to the House for concurrence. That motion now goes to the House Rules Committee and then to the House Civil Law Committee for further consideration.

SB678/Tenaska Power Plant - In a surprise 11th-hour move, Tenaska, Inc. has changed its plan to construct a new-generation coal-fired plant to a less expensive facility that would run on natural gas. Like the original bill, households and businesses statewide would have to buy the plant's output for 30 years, but this plan would cap the increase to residential electricity rates at 0.75 percent and would also include a limit of 0.1 cents per kilowatt-hour for business rates, far less than the previously proposed bill. The cost of the new plant would be about a third of the projected \$3.5 billion.

WORKERS' COMP SEMINAR - JUNE 5

The Indiana, Illinois, Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting will hold a FREE Labor-Management Workers' Compensation Seminar for contractors, insurance brokers, attorneys and building trades members. Learn about amendments to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Act, including collectively bargained workers' compensation.

The III-FFC seminar will be held from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 5, at Park Place of Countryside, 6240 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL 60525. Lunch will be provided. Seating is limited, so reserve a space today by calling **Rosie Garza at 815-254-FFFC**.

EMPLOYMENT LAW CONFERENCE

One of CISCO's newest members, the law firm of Clark Hill PLC, is hosting this seminar on Thursday, June 7, from 7:00 a.m. - Noon at the University Club of Chicago. Hot labor and employment issues, social media, NLRB development for employers and other topics will be featured in three different sessions. For registration information, visit clarkhill.com.

MARCH FOR BABIES



CISCO participated in the recent March for Babies along the Naperville Riverwalk as 2,000 walkers joined in an effort to raise money for the March of Dimes. Executive Steering Committee members, including CISCO's Executive Director John Brining (third from right) were recognized on stage before the walk began.

SAVE THE DATE - GOLF - SEPT. 10

CISCO's popular "Last Swing" Golf Outing will be held this year on Monday, September 10, at the Bloomingdale Golf Club. Shotgun start begins at 8:00 a.m.; cocktails and lunch to follow. For more information, call CISCO at 630-472-9411.

LUNCHEON GOES GREEN

A presentation about Green Jobs was the highlight at CISCO's Annual Luncheon last month. Doug Widener, Executive Director of the U.S. Green Building Council, was the keynote speaker and offered a thorough and encouraging overview of the issue.

Widener said that the demand for green jobs will continue to rise in the coming years, leaving business opportunities for contractors seeking to find jobs for unemployed members.

According to Widener, Illinois ranks second per capita in the number of LEED certified buildings in the United States, and Chicago is the number one city in the world for green buildings with more than 40 LEED certified buildings.

Retrofitting is becoming very popular too, he said. "The down economy gets people thinking about retrofitting and that opens up opportunities for jobs." Widener added that a McGraw-Hill study indicates that carpenters, HVAC technicians, electricians and plumbers will see the biggest jump in the coming years.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Put the May 7th issue of the *Engineering News-Record* in your must read column, especially the article titled "Shale Boom" - a story that describes the need for pipeline upgrades as natural gas production soars.

The "game changer" is that over the next 25 years, the transmission demands of this newfound supply will require the annual construction of nearly 2,000 miles of pipeline in the lower 48 states and the Gulf of Mexico, a 17% increase over current capacity!