



NATIONAL COAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement

The Mission of the NCTA is to provide education and to facilitate resolution of coal transportation issues in order to serve the needs of the general public, industry, and all modes of transportation. This is accomplished through the sponsoring of educational fora and providing opportunities for the lawful exchange of ideas and knowledge within all segments of the coal transportation infrastructure.

The NCTA accomplishes its mission by focusing in three major areas:

- The NCTA facilitates inter-industry cooperation to solve real world problems faced by coal producers, transporters, and coal consumers. NCTA has two extremely active subcommittees, the Logistics & Planning Subcommittee and the Operations & Maintenance Subcommittee. Although transportation companies are not qualified for membership under the NCTA charter, they are key members of these hard working subcommittees.
- The NCTA actively promotes education generally through conferences and via testimony submitted to regulatory bodies and specifically through scholarships awarded to transportation students at several North American universities. The NCTA also awards four additional scholarships annually to the dependent sons and daughters of full time employees of member companies. The NCTA keeps members informed of the challenges of today while nurturing those that will confront the challenges of tomorrow.
- The NCTA's three annual conferences are must attend events for members of the coal community.



The Spring Conference

This conference is held in April in a location which varies from year-to-year. After a long winter of snowstorms and frozen coal in the thaw shed, think warm and sunny for the Spring Conference!



Operations & Maintenance Conference

Held each June focuses on the nuts and bolts (both literally and figuratively) of the mechanics of moving coal. This active subcommittee assembles the best experts associated with railcar and component design, manufacture, and all aspects of operation and maintenance of a railcar fleet. This group is

the best group in the industry to provide education to both the person new to the many challenges of fleet management as well as the experienced fleet manager or component supplier. In 2019, we will gather in Clayton, Missouri, June 10-12, 2019 at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis.



The Fall Conference & Business Meeting

It is traditionally held in September in Colorado. The Fall Conference is the most widely-attended conference of its type in the coal industry. The 44th Annual Meeting will be held September 10-12, 2018 at the Omni Interlocken Resort in Broomfield, Colorado.



Board Member's at Washington DC Luncheon at EEI

NCTA Officers and Board of Directors

The Officers of the Association consist of a President, Vice-President, and Secretary, each of whom are elected from the Board of Directors and a Treasurer who is appointed or contracted for by the Board. The day to day operation of the Association is carried out by the Executive Director. The Board has also appointed Legal Counsel to assist the Board and Executive Director on matters of legal and administrative concern. Legal Counsel reports to the Executive Director, except as directed by the Board. The President of the Association serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors and presides over all meetings. The membership of the Board of Directors consists of thirteen (13) members, each serving a three-year term. The property and business of the Association is managed by the Board of Directors.

Executive Director

Thomas C. Canter

Executive Director in training

Mark Ourada

President

Emily Regis - Arizona Electric Power Cooperative

Vice President

Don Vissat - Cloud Peak Energy

Secretary

Karen Bramley - Tampa Electric Company

Treasurer

Caryl Pfeiffer - LG&E and KU Energy

Board of Directors

Jim Henry - (2018) American Electric Power

Barb Porter - (2020) Arch Coal Sales Company

Emily Regis - (2020) Arizona Electric Power Cooperative

John Mayer - (2019) Associated Electric

Sharon Robinson - (2020) Blackhawk Mining

Don Vissat - (2018) Cloud Peak Energy

Caryl Pfeiffer - (2019) LG&E and KU Services

Scott Yaeger - (2018) Peabody Energy

Brian Fuller - (2018) Southern Company Operations

Karen Bramley - (2019) Tampa Electric Company

Meri Sandlin - (2020) Western Fuels Association

Legal Counsel

Paul Linton

To view the Bylaws, [Click Here](#)



Benefits

Focus on Coal Transportation

Your company may belong to more industry associations than just the NCTA, but no other association provides the unique combination of education and real world results that come from NCTA membership. The financial impact associated with the procurement and delivery of coal demands this focus. The NCTA continues to have a high level of national prominence and credibility by participating in hearings, workshops, symposiums, coordination with ad hoc coalitions, providing resource material for governmental agencies, negotiating and educating on issues of general membership concern with carriers.

Conferences with Character

For three days in the spring and fall of each year the NCTA provides coal industry professionals with an exclusive opportunity to share their outlook and knowledge and to exchange ideas. NCTA conferences provide its members the opportunity to learn from the experiences of others who have similar responsibilities and from outside experts, in an open and noncompetitive environment. Think of the ideas you can borrow, the pitfalls you can avoid and the valuable insight you can give and receive.

Logistics and Planning Subcommittees

The Eastern and Western Logistics and Planning Subcommittees do much of the heavy lifting to solve problems with respect to the efficient operation of the coal delivery process. An important source of strength is our working committee system that is made possible by the dedication and expertise of our member representatives and the carriers.

Operations and Maintenance Subcommittee

This active subcommittee assembles the best experts associated with railcar and component design, manufacture, and all aspects of operation and maintenance of a railcar fleet. If you like hearing about real world fleet operations and discussing the relevant data on the nuts and huck-bolts of fleet maintenance, you need to be part of this group and its lively discussion. This group is the best group in the industry to provide education to both the person new to the many challenges of fleet management as well as the experienced fleet manager or component supplier. The annual conference provides important information regarding the engineering and maintenance standards for components, new technologies, and best practices for coal car design, maintenance, and repair.

Commitment to Education

Education is a hallmark of the NCTA. The organization educates its members through its annual conferences and publications. The NCTA also supports education through its scholarship program. This program awards four scholarships yearly to the dependent sons and daughters of employees of member companies.





Executive Director with the Surface Transportation Board Commissioners

Policy Insights

The Board of Directors continues to meet in Washington, D.C. each year to visit governmental agencies and other trade associations. Maintaining a presence in Washington enables NCTA to have input into federal policymaking and to better represent member concerns on federal issues. NCTA fosters relationships with key personnel and departments within the Department of Energy, the Department of Transportation, the Surface Transportation Board, the Federal Railroad Administration, and with various elected representatives. NCTA is an educational entity and does not officially lobby for or against legislation. However, we do actively participate with a position in hearings and rulemaking proceedings of interest to our membership.

Publications

Through its website, NCTA communicates with the world about the coal industry and with NCTA active and associate member companies - linking potential customers to its members and linking its members to other useful web sites throughout the Internet. A "Members Only" section provides detailed member contact information, valuable information on current subcommittee initiatives, a railcar leasing marketplace, conference presentation archives and other items of interest exclusively to NCTA members.

The NCTA also publishes the semi-annual magazine the *Coal Transporter* which keeps members up-to-date on new technologies, upcoming conferences, subcommittee activities, STB proceedings, and other coal news of national and international importance. The magazine also contains feature articles and interviews with industry participants, regulators, and members in the know.

If you are interested in advertising in the *Coal Transporter* please contact us. To get on the mailing list, please send your name and complete address to melinda@movecoal.org

Why Join NCTA?



Membership in the NCTA is a sound business decision. Our logo - the symbol of NCTA membership - brings credibility, backed by a long history of member company participation and unique insight. A member company of the National Coal Transportation Association is not just another utility, coal supplier, railroad equipment company, or coal-related services organization. They participate in a tradition of excellence. The participating Companies through their affiliation with the NCTA, signals an exceptional commitment and obligation to the marketplace, their customers and to the public.



NATIONAL COAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

EXCERPT OF PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2017 TO SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

OVERVIEW

The National Coal Transportation Association (NCTA) is committed to a two-fold mission: provide education for its members and the general public and cooperatively resolve challenges and issues in the coal transportation industry. All committees, subcommittees, and conferences are dedicated to these purposes.

Coal producers and coal-fired generators continue to meet the challenges of the day in 2017 and 2018 that include somewhat flat demand for electricity against strong competition from the natural gas suppliers and heavily subsidized wind and solar resources. But after about thirteen days from end of 2017 crossing into 2018 when cold weather records were broken across much of the Atlantic coast, it became clear that the future for the coal market with coal as a reliability fuel is not as bleak as it seems. The challenge continues to be in policy recommendations for those regions heavily gas and renewable dependent. A more equitable market that includes coal in the all the above policy approach would suggest a less vulnerable electric grid particularly in those regions with weak infrastructure for managing the threats of severe cold weather. However, with economics in favor of all other resources in the mix, it will take more than just a few policy reforms to level the playing field.

The metallurgical coal export market continued strong through 2017 and promises even better days to come in 2018 as coal fulfills the economic development dreams of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. The global market sees a strong regular need for US seaborne coal as long as international prices stay high. And with domestic natural gas as low as it's ever been, export coal has the opportunity to grow. However, waterborne coal will have an entirely different set of challenges regarding limited terminal capacity, ageing barge carrier infrastructure and the various disruptions caused by mother-nature.

Participation on various committees within the organization remains strong with over twenty member companies represented in leadership positions within the organization. This includes participation on the Board of Directors, the Operations and Maintenance Executive Committee, and the Waterborne, Education and Logistics & Planning Committees. There are still opportunities available for participation in leadership positions. The activities of the working committees are summarized below.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The O&M Committee continues to be our most active working committee with a structure that provides for an annual conference and monthly telephonic meetings of the Executive Committee. Harry Mullins of Southern Company continues as Chairman with Cathy LeFevers of Duke Energy as Vice Chairman. This is a true working committee and other members of the Executive Committee are Kevin Johnson (Nebraska Public Power District), Jeremy Bowers, (Omaha Public Power District), Gayle TenBrink (Trinity Rail), Tom Sedarski (Amsted Rail), Charlie Birch (TUCO Inc/Nexgen), Tod Boothe (Luminant), and Kevin Koepke (Appalachian Railcar).

O&M members continue to represent the interests of NCTA's private car owners in communicating with technical groups of the Association of American Railroads. The Executive Committee keeps other members informed of Interchange rule changes as well as discussions at AAR town hall meetings. Importantly, O&M working groups have joint railroad, supplier, and shipper participation, as well as meaningful input from transportation-related service providers. The 2018 O&M Conference will be held at the Marriott in Nashville, Tennessee (near Vanderbilt campus). In 2019, we will gather in Clayton, Missouri, June 10-12, 2019 at the Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis.

LOGISTICS AND PLANNING COMMITTEES



The Western Logistics and Planning Committee (L&P) meeting was held on March 14, 2018, at the Cambria Hotel and Suites Denver International Airport. Jason Plett, with BNSF and Matt Pick with the UP gave rail operations updates and a glimpse of future plans. Keeping a close eye on the natural gas markets is always important. Bob Yu with S&P Global shared how the winter burn affected demand and pricing and presented possible scenarios for spring and summer. Lee Clair, the Managing Partner of TandLA made a compelling case for the growth of rail usage and the importance of recapturing the business that was lost during the recession. Angela Stauffer and Matthew Tillery of Watco profiled the benefits of third party loading. Mark Adkins, VP at NexGen/TUCO rounded out the day with his analysis as an experienced coal shipper. The Chairman, Jeff Zerkle, has retired from AEP and this was his last meeting. NCTA and all the attendees of the WL&P thank Mr. Zerkle for his dedication to the committee. The committee is looking for a new chairperson.

Western L&P is planning to have their next meeting in Gillette, Wyoming in October, 2018.

The Eastern Logistics and Planning Committee, met during a breakout session at the Spring Conference in Hammock Beach, Florida. Edwin Fischer of Arch Coal is the Chairperson. Russ Epting with the CSX and Kristopher Sandlin of Norfolk Southern provided rail updates to the group. Rob Thrall of Watco described the advantages of third party loading. The next physical meeting is scheduled for October 2018.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Jared Wicklund of the Empire District Electric Company continues as Chairperson of the Education Committee. The application deadline for the 2018 Scholarships for children of employees of NCTA member companies is July 31st. After review by the committee, three college scholarship winners and one vocational or associate degree scholarship winner will be

selected and announced at the Fall Meeting and be profiled in Issue I, 2019 of the *Coal Transporter* magazine. Checks are distributed in October and all applicants are notified when results are announced.

WATERBORNE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

NCTA's Waterborne Transportation Committee met during a combined Eastern L&P and Waterborne Transportation Committee Meeting during a breakout session at the 2018 Spring Conference. Representatives from the water transportation industry participated in a roundtable discussion focusing on spring water flow issues, coal volumes, export market and more. The group is an available resource for members of NCTA to enlist in the event a waterborne situation or crises should develop.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The Association communicates with members in a variety of ways over several different time horizons.

The semi-annual *Coal Transporter* magazine continues to be popular with members and strives to strike a balance between technical and human interest content. The magazine is supported by members through advertising, editorial submissions, and by participation in the "Sound-Off" surveys. Advertising supports the magazine, so please acknowledge our advertisers for their contribution.

The *Carbon Copy* email is issued approximately monthly with information and analyses by the Executive Director. The opinions offered make these communications unique. Many organizations and services pass on information, but few actually tell you what it may mean for your industry or business.



The NCTA LinkedIn Group is the primary vehicle used to push real time information to members. Multiple entries are made each week covering a broad spectrum of energy, policy, coal, and transportation topics. Real time information is also provided in "flash" bulletins published as warranted such as the high water on the rivers or major issues on the rail system

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Executive Director and staff continue to develop synergy with other associations and entities that will benefit the coal industry. Coordination and participation with other trade associations is necessary and prudent to enhance our presence and participation in the public and regulatory arenas. These collaborations extend the reach of NCTA and efficiently increase the recognition of NCTA as a thought leader in the industry. The Executive Director speaks at regional and national panels to detail the issues of importance to coal transportation and the domestic and export coal industry. These fora discuss and analyze the transportation and utilization of both thermal and metallurgical coals. NCTA does not endorse specific legislation nor lobby, but we are actively engaged in education for elected and appointed officials, the Board approves filings with regulatory bodies as necessary.

The NCTA Staff and some members of the Board of Directors visited Washington, D.C. in November 2017 to conduct the annual luncheon meeting of associations, attorneys, and consultants. This luncheon is a creation of NCTA and is tantamount to a “coal summit” offering an opportunity to investigate and discuss ideas and factual information to promote stability in the coal industry. The November group also visited the Surface Transportation Board Commissioners and staff and attended the open meeting of the RETAC Committee. The Executive Director chaired the transportation panel at the CoalTrans conference in February and “works the phones” with other associations to aid our cause.

Since September 2017, the NCTA Board has been engaged in the process of selecting a person to replace Executive Director Tom Canter after the end of 2018. Tom Canter has elected to not renew his consulting agreement in December 2018 after 23 years of excellent service and devoted stewardship to the NCTA. As of April 1, 2018, the NCTA Board welcomes Mark Ourada as Consultant and Prospective Executive Director and looks forward to a successful transition and a robust level of service to the membership of NCTA.

SUMMARY

NCTA continues to have a high level of national prominence and credibility by:

- participating in hearings, workshops, symposiums
- coordinating with other industry advocates
- providing resource material for governmental agencies
- educating on issues of general membership concern and promoting improvements with carriers
- sponsoring general conferences featuring prominent speakers

Our strength continues to be our working committee system that taps into the knowledge and dedication of our member representatives that work in this industry every day. We are positioned to provide leadership on the many issues affecting our industry and, above all; we are a community working together to get the most out of the resources available given the cooperation and participation of the carriers.

It has been my pleasure to serve in various roles on the NCTA Board since 2009, and most recently as President and Chairman of NCTA since September 2017. I wish to thank the Board and membership for their support, enthusiasm and dedication to this organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Regis

President

National Coal Transportation Association

[Click Here to Apply for Membership](#)