



# NCTA Spring 2022 Conference

New Orleans, Louisiana  
Hotel Monteleone- Vieux Carre Room

## Monday, April 11, 2022

5:30 p.m.- NCTA NOLA Welcome Reception in the Riverview Room, Rooftop-Pool Level  
7:00 p.m. Sponsored by –



## Tuesday, April 12, 2022

7:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Riverview Room

8:30 a.m. Welcome, Safety Share, Antitrust Admonition

8:40 a.m. Mississippi River Deepening Initiatives  
**Sean Duffy**, Executive Director, Big River Coalition

9:05 a.m. WATERBORNE PANEL

Moderator: **Scott Becnel**, Director Energy Sales & Business Development,  
Cooper Consolidated

Panelists: **Brian Mathis**, International Marine Terminals (Terminal Operator)  
**Brian Miles**, Biehl & Co (Ship Agency)  
**Kerrigan Robin**, Canal Barge (Barge Operator)

9:45 a.m. U.S. Coal and Coal Exports Industry Outlook  
**Ernie Thrasher**, Chief Executive Officer & Chief Marketing Officer, Xcoal Energy & Resources

10:30 a.m. BREAK Sponsored By –



11:00 a.m. Climate Change – What the Science Really Says  
**John R. Christy, Ph.D.**, Distinguished Professor, Atmospheric and Earth Sciences; Director,  
Earth System Science Center; Alabama State Climatologist; The University of Alabama in  
Huntsville

11:45 a.m. Coal and Politics – Two Things You're Not Supposed to Discuss at the Dinner Table  
**John Ward**, Executive Director, National Coal Transportation Association

12:30 p.m. Adjourn

5:00 p.m.- Fat Tuesday Reception in the Royal Room, located on the Lobby Level  
6:30 p.m. Sponsored by –



Wednesday, April 13, 2022

7:30 a.m. Breakfast in the Riverview Room Sponsored by –



8:30 a.m. U.S. Surface Transportation Board Update  
**Dan Elliott**, Principal, GKG Law, P.C.; Former STB Chairman

9:00 a.m. Railroad Economics – From a Sometimes Contrarian View  
**Jim Blaze**, Railroad Economist, *Railway Age* Contributing Editor

9:30 a.m. Doubled Trains – Policymakers Take Note of Car Owner Implications  
**Peter Pfohl**, Partner, Slover & Loftus LLP

10:00 a.m. UTILITY ROUNDTABLE

Introduction and NCTA Utility On Time Performance Metric Survey Overview  
**Emily Regis**, Fuel Services Manager, Arizona G&T Cooperatives; National Coal Transportation Association President

Open Discussion of Transportation Service Issues  
Utility Representatives in Attendance

10:30 a.m. Adjourn

11:00 a.m. TOUR DEPARTS  
Kinder Morgan International Marine Terminal  
Box Lunch Provided – RSVP Required



**NCTA Operations & Maintenance Conference**  
Branson, Missouri  
June 6-8, 2022



**48th Annual Business Meeting and Conference**  
The Brown Palace Hotel  
Denver, Colorado  
September 12-14, 2022

