

IS MICHAELS THE RIGHT PERSON FOR OSHA

Whether David Michaels is the right person to head OSHA was a hotly debated topic in recent months. With his confirmation, we take a look at his credentials and what people are saying-pro and con-about the new OSHA chief. As we start the new year and consider the impact of the confirmation of David Michaels as the new head of OSHA, this is a good time to review the controversy that surrounded Michaels throughout the confirmation process and take a closer look at the man himself.

MICHAELS' RECORD

Michaels is an epidemiologist with extensive experience in research, regulatory and public policy and program administration. Before becoming OSHA administrator, he was Research Professor and Interim Chair in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, where his work focused on the use of science in public policy.

During the Clinton administration, Michaels served as the Department of Energy's assistant secretary for environment, safety, and health. In this position, he was responsible for the health and safety of workers, the neighboring communities and the environment surrounding the nation's nuclear weapons facilities.

While at the DOE, Michaels was instrumental in gaining enactment of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, which has provided more than \$4.5 billion in benefits to compensate workers in the nuclear weapons industry who developed cancer or lung disease as a result of exposure to radiation, beryllium, and other work hazards.

PRAISE FOR MICHAELS

When the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions approved Michaels' appointment in November, panel chair Tom Harkin (D-IA) praised Michaels, saying, "Our nation's labor and health systems face critical challenges, and public servants of [his] caliber are assets to the American people."

And, when Michaels was confirmed by the Senate on December 3, both George Miller (D-CA), chair of the House Education and Labor Committee, and Lynn Woolsey (D-CA), chair of the

The President's Corner

This year is setting up to be one of promise and challenge for the overall economy as well as the wind industry. As the Iowa Wind Energy Association enters its third year of operations, we can look back at many successes and forward to many challenges.



In 2009, Iowa surpassed California and became second in the nation in total installed megawatts and according to many experts, ranked first in the percentage of wind energy as a percentage of all electricity used at an estimated 15%. Iowa continues to attract many component manufacturers and IWEA partially funded an Iowa Department of Economic Development study of wind businesses and those who would like to become suppliers of various components in 12 mid-western states. This study is estimated to include about 250,000 different businesses. The federal government appropriated stimulus funds to help develop the electricity grid infrastructure that is critical to moving the wind energy from Iowa to other parts of the United States. These events and many others contributed to Iowa's continued growth as a national leader in the wind industry.

The credit crisis was the major impediment to more rapid growth in the construction of wind farms nationally and in Iowa. As the economy improves, if credit markets recover as well, many additional projects will be moved from the planning stages to the construction stages. Several projects are currently moving forward in Iowa in both utility scale and community wind scale projects. Residential and small wind companies are proliferating as more people learn about wind power and the opportunities it presents. Small wind generators were on the shelves at Menards during the holiday shopping season.

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IS MICHAELS RIGHT PERSON FOR OSHA (*Cont.*)

House Workforce Protections Subcommittee, applauded Michaels' confirmation. "The Senate's confirmation of David Michaels should be a signal to our nation's workers that they will have a strong ally to ensure their workplace health and safety," said Miller. "His leadership and expertise will be a welcome addition to OSHA as the agency works to restore its mission." Woolsey said: "Dr. Michaels is an excellent choice to head OSHA, and I am so pleased that he has finally been confirmed by the Senate. As chair of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, I am looking forward to working with him to fulfill the promise of the OSH Act passed about 40 years ago: to provide a safe and healthful environment for America's workers."

STRONG OPPOSITION TO APPOINTMENT

But not everyone is so happy about the new OSHA chief. Some people feel that Michaels' reign at OSHA could be a reign of terror for business. Among those who strongly opposed the confirmation was the Washington Times. In a preconfirmation editorial, the paper raised the specter of an era of onerous regulation by OSHA and urged the Senate to reject Michaels' appointment: "Mr. Michaels testified to Congress in 2007 that the agency, already notoriously heavy-handed, should be even more aggressive in its efforts to issue and enforce additional regulations in the workplace. He even suggested that OSHA use its nearly limitless "general duty clause" to crack down on businesses that somehow fail to anticipate supposed workplace hazards even if they are in compliance with every specific OSHA regulation."

In an October letter to members of Congress, R. Bruce Josten, Executive Vice President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, also seemed to question Michaels' nomination: "Professor Michaels' book *Doubt is Their Product* criticizes industry groups and others who raise questions and doubts about various regulations, and the science underlying them. He is dismissive of the legitimate issues that remain surrounding the science and data used to support certain controversial regulations. His writings often revolve around the theme that corporations are typically bad actors and that any studies or analyses they have produced are, by definition, flawed and not to be trusted. Michaels never seems to acknowledge that doubt can be legitimate or the possibility that industry scientists might actually believe in their work and that corporations may have legitimate arguments." Whether you like Michaels or hate him, he's now the man in charge. Tomorrow, we'll look at what his appointment could mean to you, as well as how you can keep on top of all the latest news about OSHA, regulatory reform, and other vital safety management topics.

~Submitted by IWEA Safety Committee

2010 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

A vision for public policy initiatives of Iowa Wind Energy Association

Power Production and Transmission

- SF 456-Small and Medium Wind Power Production Tax Credits

This was the major wind policy bill of the 2009 Session. In 2010, IWEA will provide support to make sure the wind policy bill remains the same. It has six main components: 1) The bill increases the amount of production tax credits available for "small" scale generation projects (code chapter 476C) to 330 megawatts of nameplate generating capacity; 2) Reduces the amount of unused production tax credits available for "large" scale generation projects (476B) to 150 megawatts of nameplate generating capacity; 3) Creates a new "medium" scale wind production

tax credit program by allowing projects up to 30 megawatts of nameplate capacity to be eligible for production tax credits (476B); 4) Makes community colleges, public hospitals, public and private schools and the state's universities eligible for the production tax credits if they generate wind power solely for use at their facility; 5) Provides "small" producers with an extra 12-months of time between the awarding of a tax credit and the time in which they must be generating if necessary equipment is unavailable; and 6) Tasks the Iowa Utilities Board with updating the "waiting list" for code chapter 476C production tax credits.

- Support new transmission and if new

transmission capacity is added in Iowa, wind producers of all sizes will have access to affordable connections to the new transmission

Safety and Technology

- Establish a position on the State Elevator Board. Continue to work to create a wind tower lift safety committee within the State Elevator Board to develop rules and regulations for wind turbine tower lifts. The committee should be made up of five members including one wind power technology educator, one wind tower lift manufacturer, two wind tower manufacturers, and one wind farm operator.

The President's Corner

Continued improvements and advances in the electrical supply grid including the development and deployment of "smart" grids promise to facilitate the movement of electricity more efficiently from region to region.

IWEA continues to grow in membership and influence and has contributed to the growth of the industry in Iowa and the development of State level legislation and policy to support the industry. The association has become the "go to" voice of the industry for citizens, businesses interested in becoming suppliers and legislators who need solid information about how to advance the growth of the wind industry in Iowa. IWEA Board members and committees continue their work to develop new legislative platforms, increase the membership, improve marketing, plan the Annual Meeting and Conference, work in the workplace safety environment, and nominate replacement Board Members for the IWEA Board on an annual basis. The success of IWEA is directly related to the active membership and the numerous committee members that work so hard and give many hours of their time to advance the wind industry in Iowa. Membership fees and conference proceeds enable the association to hire an effective lobbyist and fund the important work advancing the expansion of the industry.

This newsletter includes reports from our Board committees and information about our 3rd Annual Meeting and Conference to be held at the Scheman Center of Iowa State University on April 6th in the afternoon and evening and all day on the 7th. This year we are planning our conference in cooperation with the Iowa Alliance for Wind Innovation and Novel Development. Mark your calendars for April 6th and 7th and join the estimated 400 plus attendees for information and networking!

*Harold D. Prior, PhD
President*

2010 IWEA CONFERENCE

IWEA Conference to take place at ISU Scheman Building - April 6 & 7

IWEA is the best place to get up-to-date information for a variety of stakeholders in the state's wind industry.

Mark April 6th and 7th on your calendars right now for the Third Annual IWEA Conference to be held at the Scheman Building on the Iowa State University campus in Ames, Iowa.

The year 2010 has arrived. And the challenge set out in 2001 by Governor Vilsack of 10% Wind Energy in Iowa by the year 2010 has been greatly surpassed! To learn more about what's happening on many fronts of Wind Energy in Iowa, be sure to attend this year's Conference. Registration fees for IWEA Members will be \$100, Non-Member registration will be \$250 – more information available in February.

The Conference will focus on a broad array of issues starting with National, then State perspectives including legislative developments; individual sessions on Small & Community Wind, Independent Wind Development and Large Integrated Wind Development. Additional topics relating to Laws, Transmission, Financing, Safety and New Market Realities will round-out the day.

The IWEA Conference will immediately follow a one day IAWIND conference also taking place at the Scheman Building on April 6th. The IAWIND conference will focus on R&D and the more technical aspects of wind. Attendees may choose to attend one or both conferences.

The 2010 IWEA Conference will open with the Annual Business Meeting, scheduled for 4:30 – 5:30 PM on April 6th.

At 6:30 PM you are invited to participate in a Social Hour and Banquet for all registered attendees of the IWEA and IAWIND conferences.

If your company is planning to be an IWEA Conference Sponsor, contact us now at info@iowawindenergy.org. The fee is \$750. Additional Sponsorships are available for the opening reception, breaks and meals.

Exhibitors make plans now to reserve your space! The Scheman Building has great exhibit spaces and your business will be able to meet and network with attendees of both conferences. Limited outdoor exhibit space is available.

More to come on the conference, registration, sponsorship and exhibits for 2010 IWEA Conference. To request more information send your questions to info@iowawindenergy.org.



Reminder: Nomination Open

The Nominations Committee reminds all IWEA members that we are electing five (5) new board members at our 2010 Annual Meeting April 6 & 7. Please submit potential nominees to the committee chair Tom Ellenbecker (tellenbecker@charter.net) for consideration. Also provide contact information and a brief description of the nominee's involvement in wind energy and why they would be an asset to the board. Please note, the nominees or the company they represent do not have to be Iowa based.

Upcoming Event

**March 16, 2010
IWEA Legislative Day
at Iowa State Capitol**

The event will be held in the legislative dining room from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. with the rush of legislators from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. We encourage all IWEA members to attend this very important day for the Iowa Wind Energy Association.

**April 6 & 7
IWEA Annual Meeting & Conference
Iowa State University Scheman Center
Ames**



2010 DURACELL COMMERCIAL

"Smart Power" initiative the 30-second television spot highlights Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, Iowa, and its nationally-recognized wind program, where tomorrow's wind power technicians are trained to build and service the structures that will power the future while using Duracell rechargeable batteries.

Dear IWEA Member-

Together, we have created Iowa's status as the cutting edge state in the wind industry. This past year we achieved:

- #1 in wind generation (15% of total power output). Iowa's wind energy capacity totals an estimated 3,000 megawatts and continues to grow.
- #1 in attracting wind manufacturers with 200 companies in the supply chain

As a professional in this industry, you are supporting our #1 status and we thank you! As a wind professional association, we are here to facilitate and support you and the wind industry through our resources and conferences.

We are extremely excited about 2010 and our annual AWEA meeting. We listened to your request at last year's annual meeting to hold the meeting at a more central location in Iowa and we expect a record turnout.

This year's Annual Meeting and Conference will be held in Ames, Iowa, at Iowa State University's Scheman Center. Mark your calendar for April 6 and 7 with details to follow. We are planning to meet in conjunction with the Iowa Alliance for Wind Innovation and Novel Development who shares our vision to support the State of Iowa in its efforts to continue to attract and nurture wind energy and related industries.

It's going to be an exciting affair that you will want to be able to attend by renewing your IWEA Membership today (see attached membership card—we have kept annual dues at the same reasonable rates as 2009). Also, call or email us if you would be interested in exhibiting: info@iowawindenergy.org or 712-362-7925.

To another record year ahead!

SINCERely,
Michael T. Moore
Membership Chair, IWEA



Join the Iowa Wind Energy Association Today!

Voting Members	
Corporate/ Utility Membership	\$500.00
Government/ Educational/ Non-Profit	\$200.00
Individual	\$100.00
Non-Voting Members	
Student	\$25.00

My/Our Check For \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please send membership materials/correspondence to:

Name: _____

Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please provide e-mail! It's IWEA's preferred method of contact with its members.

Please make checks payable to:
Iowa Wind Energy Association

Mail to: Iowa Wind Energy Association
19 S. 7th St
Estherville IA 51334