WORKERS ARE MAN-ning two pick- et lines in northern West Virginia protest- ing unfair labor prac- tices, low wages and out-of-state workers.

Members of Operating Engineers Local 132, WV Laborers District Council and Pipeliners Local 798 have been protesting two Holloman Corporation construction sites since mid-April. Holloman, based in Texas, is working for Caiman Energy in Marshall County and Chesapeake Energy in Upshur County.

At the Caiman site pickets went up April 13 to protest the use of out-of-state workers and low wages. Holloman is building well gathering lines and a natural gas processing facility.

Still to come at the site is a water treatment facility and a compressor station.

THE UPSHUR project is for Chesapeake Energy. Holloman has been hired to install six miles of 20-inch gas pipeline.

In nearby Upshur County another picket line went up in early May.

Unions are upset that two local workers were fired because they talked about unions with their co-workers.

“...the majority of workers are from Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana,” said Donnie Huff, Organizer and Pipeline Representative for Operating Engineers 132.

PLAs are nothing new to the construction industry and are routinely used on large private sector projects where the supply of skilled labor is critical to a successful project.

PLAs must also have mechanisms to quickly resolve disputes, promote labor-management cooperation in areas such as safety, productivity and work quality, and must abide by existing laws and statutes.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has used project labor agreements on its construction projects for almost 19 years.

In the nearly 200 million man hours of work on TVA construction projects using PLAs, there have been no formal strikes nor any organized work stoppages.

In addition, the rate of injury on TVA projects has also been significantly reduced.

Former President George W. Bush banned the Federal Government from using PLAs soon after he was elected.
THE ACT REPORT
MAY 2010

2010 Funding Cycle Approved

$190 Million in School Construction

The State School Building Authority approved their contribution to a total school construction plan worth more than $190 million during an April 26 meeting. Nine counties were given $95 million to be matched by $47 million in local funding. In addition $50 million will go to projects where multi-year commitments were previously approved.

Four counties must first pass local bond measures before the funding from the SBA will be made available.

Gilmer, Hancock, Marion and Preston Counties will each be asking this fall for voter approval of a bond to fund part of their building program.

Steve Burton is a member of the SBA and also represents the Tri-State Building and Construction Trades Council.

“We have been able to fund a number of school projects that will give kids a great place to learn and provide much needed jobs for local workers,” said Burton “It’s a win-win situation.”

Needs Grants Announced

The following grants have been awarded by the SBA at their April 26, 2010 Meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Local Funds</th>
<th>2010 SBA Funds</th>
<th>2011 SBA Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gilmer*</td>
<td>2 New Elementary Schools</td>
<td>$ 8,771,840</td>
<td>$ 8,771,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hancock*</td>
<td>New PK-4 Elementary</td>
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<td>Marion*</td>
<td>New East Fairmont Middle School</td>
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<td>$ 6,940,000</td>
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<td>Monongalia</td>
<td>New PK-5 Elementary</td>
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<td>$ 8,618,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>New PK-5 Elementary</td>
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<td>$ 8,208,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preston*</td>
<td>New South Area PK-5 Elementary</td>
<td>$11,116,200</td>
<td>$ 8,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raleigh</td>
<td>New Marsh Fork PK-5 Elementary</td>
<td>$ 6,010,473</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>New PK-8 Fort Gay Elementary/Middle</td>
<td>$ 3,300,000</td>
<td>$15,810,094</td>
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Multi-year Commitment from Previous Funding Cycles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>2010 SBA Funds</th>
<th>2011 SBA Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berkeley</td>
<td>New Spring Mills High</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabell</td>
<td>New Beverly Hills Enslow Middle</td>
<td>$ 4,000,000</td>
<td>$15,185,396</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>New Cameron High</td>
<td>$ 8,301,238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Putnam</td>
<td>County-Wide Building Program</td>
<td>$10,000,000</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Indicates Grant is contingent upon a local bond passage.

Source: SBA Website

Picket

Continued from p. 1

inch natural gas transmission pipeline.

About a third of the workforce is local, but according to Unfair Labor Practice Charges filed by the Operating Engineers, when two workers started to talk about a union with their fellow employees Holloman fired them.

The National Labor Relations Board is investigating the charges.

“Between the two jobs there are over 100 employees, and most of them are from out-of-state,” said Huff.

According to Huff the pipeline is part of a huge effort to build a National Grid to get natural gas to northern customers.

The construction activity is a result of a huge new natural gas find in what is called the Marcellus Shale region.

From upstate New York through Pennsylvania and West Virginia the Marcellus Shale fields are considered the largest natural resource finds of the century.

Improved drilling techniques have made possible wells that are more than a mile below the surface.

The economic benefits are huge, but the question remains whether only a few individuals and out-of-state companies will profit or if local communities will share in the wealth.

“Right now it looks like another phase of West Virginia history where local people get the crumbs and big companies get the riches,” said Huff.

Rahall Supports Building Trades Legislative Efforts

After Meeting with Congressman Nick Joe Rahall in his Washington DC office representatives from West Virginia's Building Trades unions pose for a picture. The delegation was attending the Building and Construction Trades Departments Legislative Conference. Congressman Rahall committed to support the Trades on efforts to stop worker misclassification and independent contractor abuses, Davis-Bacon and prevailing wages, and job creating legislation.
**MAY PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS FOR WV**

**AFL-CIO COPE ENDORSED CANDIDATES**

**State Senate**
- 1st Orphy Klempa
- 2nd Larry Edgell
- 3rd Rich Moore
- 4th Mike Green
- 5th Ronald Miller
- 6th C. Randy White
- 7th Joe Minard
- 8th Ron Justice (withdrew)
- 9th Steven Shafler
- 10th John Unger
- 11th Brooks McCabe

**House of Delegates**
- 1st Marilyn Boyd, Randy Swartzmiller
- 2nd Roy Givens

**State House**
- 1st Orphy Klempa
- 2nd Roy Givens
- 3rd Marilyn Boyd, Randy Swartzmiller
- 4th Michael Ferro
- 5th Dave Peltel
- 6th Jim Marion
- 7th Dan Poling
- 8th Jeff Eldridge
- 9th H. Truman Chafin
- 10th Dan Poling
- 11th C. Randy White
- 12th John Unger
- 13th Dale Martin
- 14th Steve Wedge
- 15th Brooks McCabe
- 16th Doug Reynolds
- 17th Don Perdue
- 18th Larry Barker
- 19th Greg Butcher
- 20th Tim Miley
- 21st Tim Manchin
- 22nd Daniel J. Hall

**Supreme Court of Appeals**
- Thomas E. McHugh

**U.S. House of Representatives**
- 1st Congressional District: Nick Rahall
- 2nd Congressional District: Alan Mollohan

**MEMBERS OF IRONWORKERS Local 301, Charleston protest the use of out-of-state labor at a downtown Charleston project.**

The protest started in mid-April. Birdair Inc., from Amherst, NY, is installing a new retractable canopy roof for the Haddad River Park project and has brought in workers from outside the local area.

Imported workers and high unemployment have local workers upset. According to Ronnie Smith, Organizer for the ironworkers, Birdair has worked in other parts of the country but refuses to do so in Charleston.

“They are bringing in their people while we have 80 guys out of work,” said Smith.

The contract for the canopy roof was let by the City of Charleston. There are two local union contractors on the project under a separate contract.

**All Six Trades Candidates Win**

All six Building Trades candidates running for election in the May Primary won.

For Dave Walker in the House 33rd District that means he will be going back to the legislature because he has no opposition in the fall. For Dan Poling, who ran unopposed in the Primary, he must still face a tough challenge in the General election.

Orphy Klempa running in the First Senatorial District easily won his bid to become perhaps the first Building Trades member to be elected to the State Senate although he still faces an opponent this fall.

Greg Butcher won re-election in the 19th House District and faces what should be an easy challenge.

Steve Wedge won his re-election to the Jackson County School Board and Jason Hershman won for Preston County School Board.

The biggest news of the election was the defeat of 14 term Congressman Alan Mollohan.

Mollahan was defeated by former State Senator Mike Oliverio.
CONSTRUCTION COALITION CONFERENCE

The Ninth Annual Construction Coalition Conference was held on April 28 allowing representatives from labor, contractors and construction users to meet for the purpose of improving the construction industry. Topics included future economic predictions, workers compensation, electric transmission regulation, Clean Coal Technology, and safety.

Approximately 75 people attended the event held in Weirton and hosted by a variety of industry groups. The event was facilitated by West Virginia University’s Institute for Labor Studies.

“We try to find areas where we can work together,” said Dave Efaw, Secretary-Treasurer of the WV State Building Trades.

“Supporting areas like Clean Coal, electric generation and transmission all fit into that category.”

In previous year’s issues of safety, alcohol and drug testing, security checks, productivity and project agreements have been discussed.

The Appalachian Construction Users Council took an active role in conference planning and coordination as well.

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