

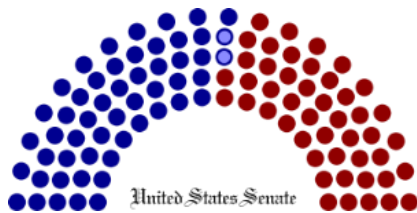
October 28, 2014 – VOLUME 11, ISSUE 10

## Calling All Political Pundits

With Election Day fast approaching, our televisions have become clogged with pundits preaching predictions for Nov. 4. Join the fun – camera crew and makeup not required – and see how your picks stack up against others in the concrete pressure pipe industry.

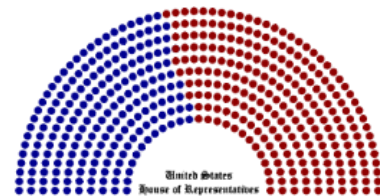
The association's annual election year contest is back. Do you have what it takes to be ACPPA's 2014 Pundit of the Year? Put your skills to the test [here](#).

To provide a little expert guidance, ACPPA's government affairs firm [Obadal, Filler, MacLeod and Klein](#) (OFMK) has made picks to get you started. Our predictions are based on what a majority of ACPPA's political team thought would happen, not necessarily what we want to happen. In other words, these predictions should not be construed as an endorsement for one candidate over another.



**The Senate:** The Senate currently has 53 Democrats, 45 Republicans, and two independents (both caucus with the Democrats). To retain Senate control, the Democrats need 50 seats and the Republicans need 51 seats (Vice President Biden can break a tie). Can the Democrats win 16 of the 36 Senate contests? If they do, the Republicans will remain in the minority. We've chosen eight of the closest Senate races to test your prognostication abilities.

**The House of Representatives:** The House of Representatives currently has 234 Republicans and 201 Democrats. There is virtually no chance House control will shift next Congress. However, several close races will determine whether the GOP gains more votes or if the Democrats can chip away at the majority. We've chosen seven of the closest House races.



Choose who you think will win – see if you have what it takes to be the 2014 Pundit of the Year.



**Click here to cast your [predictive] votes.**

<b>Race</b>	<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Prediction (ACPPA Vote)</b>
<b>Senate</b>		
Alaska	Sen. Mark Begich (D) v. Dan Sullivan (R)	(1-4)
Arkansas	Sen. Mark Pryor (D) v. Rep. Tom Cotton (R)	(1-4)
Colorado	Sen. Mark Udall (D) v. Rep. Cory Gardner (R)	(2-3)
Iowa	Rep. Bruce Braley (D) v. Joni Ernst (R)	(0-5)
Kansas	Greg Orman (I) v. Sen. Pat Roberts (R)	(2-3)
Kentucky	Alison Lundergan Grimes (D) v. Sen. Mitch McConnell (R)	(1-4)
Louisiana	Sen. Mary Landrieu (D) v. Rep. Bill Cassidy (R)	(1-4)
North Carolina	Sen. Kay Hagan (D) v. Thom Tillis (R)	(5-0)
<b>House</b>		
Colorado 6th	Andrew Romanoff (D) v. Rep. Mike Coffman (R)	(3-2)
West Virginia 3rd	Rep. Nick Rahall (D) v. Evan Jenkins (R)	(3-2)
New York 21st	Aaron Wolf (D) v. Elise Stefanik (R)	(1-4)
Massachusetts 6th	Seth Moulton (D) v. Richard Tisei (R)	(3-2)
Iowa 3rd	Staci Appel (D) v. David Young (R)	(1-4)
Florida 26th	Rep. Joe Garcia (D) v. Carlos Curbelo (R)	(1-4)
California 7th	Rep. Ami Bera (D) v. Doug Ose (R)	(3-2)
<b>Tiebreaker</b>		
After the election, how many seats will the Republicans hold in the House of Representatives?		

### **Mark Your Calendar for ACPPA's 2014 Annual Meeting**

ACPPA's Annual Meeting will be held at the Gaylord Grapevine, just north of DFW Airport, on Nov. 13 and 14. The Association has a block of rooms set aside for attendees. The easiest way to make your reservation is to book online at: <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ACPPANov2014>.

You may also call the reservations desk at 877.491.5138 to book a room over the phone (be sure to mention "American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association" in order to receive the group rate, which is \$199 plus \$18 resort fee and taxes for standard rooms.) Look for more information about the meeting from ACPPA President Richard Mueller in your email inbox in the weeks ahead.

### **Boxer Reiterates Desire for HTF Fix in 2014**

While most of Congress is focused on winning elections, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) made clear that surface transportation infrastructure policy is above politics.

Boxer, in [a letter](#) to House Ways and Means Committee leadership, reiterated her commitment to “find a long-term, bipartisan solution for the Highway Trust Fund this year.” While many lawmakers are content to deal with the Highway Trust Fund’s (HTF) insolvency next spring, ACPPA believes Congress should address the situation during the post-election lame duck session rather than punting until next year. Boxer echoed ACPPA’s position, stating, “We cannot afford to wait for action until the deadline which falls at the beginning of the critical summer construction season, or to kick the can down the road any longer.”

The current highway program extension and funding expire at the end of May 2015. Recently, House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) [expressed optimism](#) that Congress could work with President Obama on a long-term highway bill as well as tax reform legislation, a combination that bodes well for transportation advocates as highway user fee increases tend to occur in the context of broader tax and budget debates.

ACPPA hopes bipartisan cooperation will prevail post-election. The association will continue to support Boxer’s efforts to increase HTF revenues, whether during the lame duck or early next year. To urge Congress to solve the HTF’s funding crisis immediately, visit [acppa-action.org](http://acppa-action.org), the concrete pressure pipe industry’s grassroots action center.

## **Federal Agency Opposes Proposed Clean Water Act Expansion**

It’s not just ACPPA and its industry allies that oppose expanding the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) jurisdiction to include nearly every puddle and drainage ditch in the country. Turns out even part of the federal government thinks it’s a bad idea too.



*[Click here to view the SBA’s letter](#)*

On Oct.1 the Small Business Administration’s Office of Advocacy (SBA-OA) [asked](#) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to withdraw the [proposed “Waters of the U.S.” or WOTUS rule](#), which would change the scope of existing law without Congress’ authority and expand federal regulatory power under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The SBA-OA is an arm of the federal government that monitors the activities of other agencies and weighs in on policy issues that would disproportionately impact small companies.

The Office of Advocacy echoed private sector concerns that dramatically expanding the definition of WOTUS would have “direct, significant effects” on small businesses. Consequently, SBA-OA stated that the proposed rule was improperly certified by the EPA and Corps and urged its immediate withdrawal.

ACPPA believes the administration’s unprecedented extension of CWA jurisdiction will have a severe impact on industry by increasing costs, causing delays, and possibly deterring many projects all together. The rule would add new permitting requirements and regulatory compliance costs to already stringent state and local water laws. Moreover, the expansive reach of the proposed rule will make many areas of the country “off limits” to construction and development because of the expense associated with obtaining new permits or installing the required mitigation measures on newly regulated “waters of United States.”

On June 9, ACPPA’s board of directors [submitted comments](#) on the proposed rule. The board urged the agencies to immediately withdraw the proposal due to its economic ramifications. The comments state,

“The expansive reach of the proposed rule will have the effect of making many areas of the country “off limits” to construction and development because of the expense associated with obtaining new permits or installing the required mitigation measures on newly regulated waters of United States.”

You can [submit your comments](#) concerning how the proposed rule would affect you and your customers to the online docket (before it closes Nov. 14).

## **Keystone XL Proponents Look Elsewhere as New Pipeline Proposed in Dakotas**

While the Keystone XL project remains in political limbo, a proposed 1,100 mile pipeline from North Dakota through South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois could be on the horizon.

According to estimates, the Dakota Access pipeline could generate \$14 million in tax revenue during construction, plus an additional \$12.3 million per year once the project is done. It is also predicted to create 2,000 to 4,000 jobs during construction alone. [Energy Transfer Partners](#) is still pursuing state permits to build the pipeline but construction could begin in 2015.



***Click the map for more about the proposed pipeline.***

Meanwhile, TransCanada, the company looking to complete the Keystone XL project, is expected to file an application to build a pipeline carrying Alberta’s oil sands crude east to a refinery in Saint John, New Brunswick. The new route would avoid the United States and allow oil to be shipped around the world from Saint John’s large seaport, possibly rendering the Keystone XL project obsolete.

ACPPA strongly supports the Keystone project, which will serve important energy and national security needs while creating thousands of jobs. To urge your lawmakers to do everything in their power to ensure the Keystone XL pipeline project is approved [click here](#).

## **OSHA Extends Compliance Date for Crane Operator Certification Requirements**



***Click on the image for more information concerning cranes and derricks.***

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently announced it is [extending](#) the compliance deadline for [crane operator certification requirements](#) until Nov. 10, 2017. The final rule was originally published on Aug. 10, 2010.

In the intervening time, OSHA will address operator qualification requirements for crane standards including the role of operator certification. The final cranes and derricks rule originally required crane operators on construction sites to meet one of four qualification/certification options by Nov. 10, 2014.

The rule has been contentious since its original publication in 2010, when a coalition of industry and labor organizations raised concerns about the standard's requirement to certify operators by type and capacity of crane. The group also questioned whether the crane operator certification was sufficient for determining if an operator could operate their equipment safely on a construction site.

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# Pressure Pipe Post

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ACPPA's Monthly Source for Industry News

October 2014

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To keep members aware of the activities of government and standards organizations, we regularly sweep public databases and publications for the industry-specific terms indicated below. We then provide our members with links to documents identified in the search. Please note that in some cases the URLs may link to subscription-only databases. The purpose of this service is to identify emerging threats and trends as well as opportunities for collective action by ACPPA.

**Search Terms:**

Pressure Pipe  
Concrete Pressure Pipe

Cement  
Fly Ash

Silica Fume

**NEWS RESULTS**

**Pressure Pipe**

**Lithuanian Man Pleads Not Guilty to Tapping into High Pressure Fuel Pipe in Warley**

10/15/2014 <http://www.brentwoodgazette.co.uk/Lithuanian-man-pleads-guilty-tapping-high/story-23180759-detail/story.html#ixzz3GpT785gE>

A Lithuanian man has pleaded not guilty to stealing fuel from one of the county's major high pressure fuel pipes in Brentwood.

**Sunset Boulevard Closed Following Water Main Break**

9/27/2014 <http://www.scpr.org/news/2014/09/27/47014/sunset-boulevard-remains-closed-following-water-main/>

Crews have been able to shut off valves to get the water flow down low enough that they can repair the 36-inch pipe. At its peak flow yesterday, the pipe leaked more than 9,000 gallons of water per minute.

**Cement**

**Water Main Break in Oakland (Calif.) Shuts Down Highway 24 Off-Ramp**

10/16/2014 <http://abc7news.com/traffic/water-main-break-shuts-down-highway-24-off-ramp/353406/>

East Bay Municipal Utility District spokeswoman Nelsy Rodriguez said an 8-inch asbestos cement pipe in the 5000 block of Martin Luther King Jr. Way ruptured just after 6 a.m.

### **Infrastructure Issues Across U.S. Not an Easy Fix**

10/11/2014 <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/water-main-breaks-across-u-s-not-an-easy-fix/>

From rough roads to dangerous bridges and broken sidewalks, America's infrastructure is showing its age. And while we can't see it, deep underground, the country's network of water pipes is aging too. It's a growing problem that's causing huge water main breaks across the country.

### **Pipeline is Installed from the Joturo Dam to Combat Water Scarcity in Santiago de Cuba**

10/10/2014 <http://www.cubaheadlines.com/2014/10/11/p6/pipeline-is-installed-from-the-joturo-dam-to-combat-water-scarcity-in-santiago-de-cuba>

To counter the shortage of water that exists in the town of La Maya, Santiago de Cuba, it is performing a new water pipeline that runs from Joturo dam to the distribution tank of that locality.

### **Bridgeton Water Main Repaired**

10/6/2014 <http://www.thedailyjournal.com/story/news/local/2014/10/06/bridgeton-water-main-breaks/16804815/>

Around 5 a.m. Monday, a five-foot piece of metal was blown off a decades-old, 16-inch cast iron pipe, causing widespread water problems for many Bridgeton residents.

### **State Reaffirms Support for Vermont Gas Pipeline**

10/3/2014 <http://vtdigger.org/2014/10/03/state-reaffirms-support-vermont-gas-pipeline/>

The Shumlin administration maintains that the Vermont Gas pipeline is a good deal for the state, even with a new higher price tag.

### **Study Touts Drilling-Supply Jobs for Ohio**

10/3/2014 <http://www.cantonrep.com/article/20141003/News/141009750>

Study says Ohio firms will add more than 18,000 new jobs over the next ten years by supplying goods and services to shale drillers. Companies that do construction, logistics, well services, engineering and architecture, and supply equipment, sand, cement and steel pipe already employ 21,000 workers, according to the study prepared by IHS Economics for the Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance.

### **Schlumberger Launches E&P Software Upgrades**

9/29/2014 <http://www.oilandgastechology.net/upstream-news/schlumberger-launches-ep-software-upgrades>

The Petrel exploration and production software platform, Techlog wellbore software platform, Studio exploration and production knowledge environment and Ocean software development framework enhance multidisciplinary integration, collaboration and productivity.

### **No Need for New NRW Policy, Says AWER**

9/29/2014 <http://themalaysianreserve.com/main/news/corporate-malaysia/6684-no-need-for-new-nrw-policy-says-awer>

The water services industry does not need a new policy to reduce non-revenue water (NRW) as there's already an existing policy formulated a few years ago to address the matter. Association of Water and Energy Research Malaysia (AWER) president Piarapakaran Subramaniam said the National Water Services Commission (SPAN) has been tasked to carry out efforts to reduce NRW under Section 15(D) of the SPAN Act.

### **Shale Supply Chain to Add 233,000 American Jobs**

9/24/2014 <http://www.chem.info/news/2014/09/shale-supply-chain-add-233000-american-jobs>

Firms supplying goods and services to shale oil and gas producers will create more than 233,00 new American jobs over the next ten years, according to a new report by IHS Global, Inc. prepared for the Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance (EEIA). The new jobs are in addition to 524,000 existing shale energy supply chain jobs, bringing the total to more than 757,000 over the next decade. By 2025 the sector's workforce will grow 44 percent.

### **Shale Energy Supply Chain Supports 500,000 Jobs. More Growth Expected.**

9/23/2014 <http://www.friendsoftheuschamber.com/blog/post/shale-energy-supply-chain-supports-500000-jobs-more-growth-expected#sthash.eDa7F6Z.dpuf>

Just as no one person can make something as basic as a pencil, no one person or company can get oil or natural gas out of shale rock. It takes hosts of people and companies working together to make the materials and equipment and provide the services needed for shale development.

### **Fly Ash**

### **Trucks Stopped by Protest at Trenton**

10/17/2014 <http://thechronicleherald.ca/novascotia/1244582-trucks-stopped-by-protest-at-trenton>

Protesters blocked trucks carrying coal to Nova Scotia Power's Trenton generating station Friday. "The emissions are endangering our health," said Peter Boyles, who led members of the Hillside-Trenton Environmental Watch group in the blockade.

### **The Coal Paradox**

10/13/2014 [http://www.slate.com/articles/business/moneybox/2014/10/carbon\\_capture\\_and\\_co2\\_how\\_north\\_american\\_companies\\_are\\_entering\\_a\\_low\\_carbon.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/business/moneybox/2014/10/carbon_capture_and_co2_how_north_american_companies_are_entering_a_low_carbon.html)

Because coal creates more and nastier emissions than other fuel sources, the black rock has landed on the blacklist of regulators and public health officials. The prospect of higher environmental standards and a carbon tax is posing an existential threat to the industry.

**'Green' Concrete Technology Earns LA StartUp Prize**

10/4/2014 <http://www.thenewsstar.com/story/news/local/2014/10/04/green-concrete-technology-earns-la-startup-prize/16609461/>

Alchemy Geopolymer Solutions, an innovative concrete technology company that emerged from geopolymer research conducted at Louisiana Tech University, has won the inaugural LA StartUp Prize.

**Waste and Renewables Make for Better Bricks**

10/2/2014 <http://sourceable.net/waste-renewables-make-better-bricks/>

Typically made of a clay mixture and then kiln fired, brick is usually made from local resources and requires straightforward building techniques which have, in most cases, gone unchanged for generations. Kiln firing of bricks greatly strengthens them, but uses vast quantities of wood, coal, natural gas, and other fuels.

**Silica Fume**

**Crossrail Project Claims Concrete Pumping Record**

10/12/2014 <http://www.nce.co.uk/news/crossrail/crossrail-project-claims-concrete-pumping-record/8670912.article>

The concrete was pumped from Plumstead to Woolwich to complete the formation of the invert of the 6.2m internal diameter tunnel, and the final 112m<sup>3</sup> pour took nine hours to complete.