

**Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee**  
**October 4-5, 2007 -- Colstrip, MT**  
**Speaker biographies**

**Gordon Criswell**

**Environmental Manager, Colstrip Steam Electric Station, PPL Montana**  
**gdcriswell@pplweb.com**

Mr. Criswell is the Environmental Manger at PPL Montana's Colstrip Steam Electric Station. He has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Montana State University. Mr. Criswell has worked at the Colstrip Steam Electric Station for 27 years with experience in the design, startup, environmental, and plant engineering aspects of the facility. Mr. Criswell is a registered professional engineer in the state of Montana.

**Joe Navasio**

**Maintenance Manager, Rosebud Mine, Western Energy Company**  
**jnovasio@montana-wcc.com**

As Maintenance Manager at Western Energy Company's Rosebud Mine, Mr. Navasio is responsible for all maintenance activities at the mine. This includes the major stripping machines (Draglines), material handling crushing & conveying, electrical maintenance, rebuild of all mobile equipment in at the Rosebud Mine. Mr. Navasio has had responsibilities as production manager, and was the manager of the clean coal R&D project partially funded by the Department of Energy, better known as the *SynCoal* project. The *SynCoal* plant ran for 10 years successfully upgrading rosebud sub-bituminous coal which was sold commercially in Montana, Wyoming and Nevada. Mr. Navasio has 38 years experience in the mining and construction industries.

**Lindsey Waggoner**

**Outreach Coordinator, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership**  
**lwaggoner@montana.edu**

Ms. Waggoner is the regional Outreach Coordinator for the Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership. Prior to joining the Partnership, she worked as an environmental consultant at PBS&J and as a research associate at the Big Sky Institute. At the Big Sky Institute, she played an integral role in several research projects that investigated forest ecosystem responses to climactic changes. Ms. Waggoner has a B.S. in biology from Montana State University and a M.S. in environmental science from Florida International University.

**John Talbott**

**Project Manager, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership**  
**john.talbott@montana.edu**

Mr. Talbott is the Project Manager for the Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership. Mr. Talbott was formerly the Director of the Institute for Policy Outreach at Virginia Tech, a sponsored research center that specialized in public policy development, implementation and evaluation. Mr. Talbott spent 14 years as a state agency administrator and 4 years as a cabinet level agency director in Wyoming before moving to Virginia to assume duties at the Institute for Policy Outreach and to complete a PhD program in public administration and policy at Virginia

Tech.

**Ron Harper**

**CEO and General Manager, Basin Electric and Basin Cooperative Services**

**lthomas@bepc.com**

Mr. Harper is a rural electric leader with more than 35 years of professional utility industry experience. As CEO and general manager of Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Mr. Harper leads a regional generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale electricity for 2.5 million consumers in 124 member systems in a nine-state area, as well as the Dakota Gasification Company, which operates America's only synthetic natural gas plant. Mr. Harper's responsibilities include leading a workforce of about 1,850 people and managing about \$2.5 billion in total assets.

**Clint McRae**

**Northern Plains Resource Council**

**ctmcrae@rangeweb.net**

Mr. McRae is a Rosebud Creek rancher. He was raised and lives on the family ranch, which is located between Rosebud Creek and the Tongue River south of Colstrip. The family operates a cow/calf and yearling operation. Mr. McRae has been involved in the Northern Plains Resource Council and affiliate Rosebud Protective Association for a number of years.

**Tom Richmond**

**Division Administrator, Montana Board of Oil and Gas**

**trichmond@mt.gov**

Mr. Richmond joined the Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation as a Senior Petroleum Engineer in 1982 and was named Administrator in 1990. He is Montana's Associate Official Representative to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, an association of the governors of oil and gas producing states and serves on the Board of Directors of the Ground Water Protection Council, an association of state groundwater program managers and oil and gas agency officials. Mr. Richmond participated in development of the 1989 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Oil and Gas Drilling in Montana and the 2003 Statewide EIS covering coal bed methane extraction. He has had primary responsibility for developing and managing programs and regulations to apply technical and environmental requirements, to manage federal primacy delegation, and to provide technical and procedural advice for the Board of Oil and Gas Conservation. He has a B.S. in petroleum engineering from Montana Tech.

**Dave Ryan**

**Energy Engineer, National Center for Appropriate Technology**

**daver@ncat.org**

Mr. Ryan joined the National Center For Appropriate Technology in 2004. He is a registered professional engineer with 12 years experience in energy conservation and renewable energy. Mr. Ryan was awarded the Bob Olsen Memorial Conservation Eagle award by the North West Energy Coalition in 2000. He is currently President of the Montana Renewable Energy Association.

**Bonnie Lovelace**

**Water Protection Bureau Chief, Department of Environmental Quality**

**blovelace@mt.gov**

Ms. Lovelace has been Chief of the Water Protection Bureau at the Department of Environmental Quality since 1997. She oversees Water Quality Act requirements for water discharge permitting including MPDES, groundwater, non-point source disturbances to streams and other water bodies, pesticides, and 401 certifications. Until December 2003, Ms. Lovelace managed the subdivision review unit as part of the Water Protection Bureau. Prior to managing the water quality permitting programs, Ms. Lovelace worked 12 years in the coal mining regulation program, serving as Bureau Chief for 9 years. She has a B.S. in geology, a B.S. in mathematics, and a M.S. in geology.

**Dave Klemp**

**Air Permitting Supervisor, Department of Environmental Quality**

**dklemp@mt.gov**

Mr. Klemp started his career with the Department of Environmental Quality in 1992 as an engineer responsible for issuing air quality permits to various industries in Montana. In September 1997, Mr. Klemp was assigned to be the lead permit engineer for the Air Permitting Section, which included a staff of 10 professionals. In January 2000, Mr. Klemp was promoted to the Air Quality Permitting Program Manager position, where he currently oversees all of the DEQ's air quality permitting activities. He is a graduate of Montana Tech with a B.S. in engineering science and a M.S. in environmental engineering.

**Paul Skubinna**

**Water Quality Specialist - Ground Water Unit Coordinator**

**pskubinna@mt.gov**

Mr. Skubinna started with the Water Protection Bureau at DEQ in 2004. He worked as MPDES/NPDES permit writer for all hard rock mining facilities in Montana, developing permits under the Montana Water Quality Act and the Federal Clean Water Act. Additionally, he participated as hydrogeologic and geochemistry interdisciplinary technical team member at MEPA/NEPA analysis for permitting aspects and proposed actions with regard to hard rock mines. Simultaneously, he wrote ground water discharge permits under the MGWPCS program. In January, 2007, Mr. Skubinna took on the post of Ground Water Unit Coordinator, where he is technical lead and permits coordinator for the MGWPCS program. Prior to his time at DEQ, he spent some years in the engineering consulting industry as staff engineer/hydrogeologist on a variety of project types ranging from hydrogeologic and geophysical studies to contamination remediation and property and resource development. His education consists of a B.S. in geological engineering with emphasis in hydrogeology and an M.S. in geology with emphasis in geochemistry, both from University of North Dakota.