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I am pleased to report that the Regional Meeting in Cleveland, OH, couldn't have gone any better. Thank you for taking your day off to participate in our local union activities. This tremendous event was a great opportunity to shake hands, answer questions, and network in a relaxed atmosphere. I'd also like to once again thank the Lincoln Electric team for being such gracious hosts. They provided a friendly staff, professional tour of the facility, a comfortable location, and overall, paid close attention to every detail. Special recognition goes to Lincoln Electric CEO Chris Mapes, Matt Fleming, Lisa Byall, Rick Trivisonno, and Rose Kirk.

I was approached by many at the Regional Meeting inquiring about the Nexus project status. The most recent update indicated that the gas company and contractors have not been able to agree on winter rates despite submitting multiple bid packages for consideration. Latex now tentatively plans to kick off with road bore crews the first of April with the mainline to follow in late April. Sources with Michels tell me that there is still a strong possibility to lay seven miles of congested area in Michigan along with some road bores this fall. More than likely the remaining spreads will follow in the spring also.

Hopefully, everyone has taken advantage of the plentiful man-hours this year as the slower winter season is creeping up with lay-offs and many projects near completion. To re-emphasize what Phillip Wallace mentioned in his last Blue Light report, when you have a UA book in your pocket, you have made a commitment to only work union. If you go back non-union then you are a **RAT** and you will get caught. Do not go back to work non-union. Non-union is not an option. Don't throw away what so many of you have worked so hard for. Just a reminder that there is building and trades work where you can continue earning wages and benefits throughout the winter. Lately, I have received some notifications for smaller projects. Many of these are sleeving jobs which require low-hydrogen qualifications. If your skill set does not include this type of welding, please spend some time practicing at the Local 798 Training Center in Tulsa. Success is no accident. It is important to stay active and participate. Read your contract, maintain your equipment, attend meetings, visit the job line, go where the work is, save your money, and as always remain union strong.

I know we sound like a broken record at times, but it is important to continue to advocate for our jobs. Use the American Pipeline Action network and

attend town hall meetings. Danny spoke of this at our last two meetings and you will continue to hear us echo this topic. Pipeline projects can be pushed forward politically by using these tools. If we are to continue gaining valuable man-hours for our membership and preserving retiree benefits, we MUST continue this effort.

In closing, congratulations to Jerry Dale Crabtree, Justin Wallace, Steve Birgy, Chad Williams, and Ed Coker on your recent appointments. I am confident these gentlemen will work hard in the best interest of our organization. Welcome aboard.

As always, if I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to call and happy holidays to you.

Pre-jobs:

Charps, LLC:

Howell, MI. Tie-in 30" pipe spool for Vector. Superintendent: Kyle Bjerke. Welder Foreman: Pete Dremmel. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 9-30-17.

Foltz Welding:

-Montezuma, IN. Take-up 2,492' of 24" HDD and relay 2,393' of 24" HDD for PanHandle Eastern Pipeline-ETC. Superintendent: Scott Schoonover. Welder Foreman: Quinton Curry. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-1-17.

-Clinton, IN. 1,200'-22" bore for Marathon Pipeline. Superintendent: Jeff Huffman. Welder Foreman: James Adams. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 12-15-17.

Geeding:

Oregon, OH. 16" loop line and cut-outs for Buckeye. Superintendent: Logan Versious. Welder Foreman: William Hawks. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-1-17.

Henkels and McCoy:

-Milford, MI. Install 3,800' of 30" by-pass pipeline between K line, B line, and E line for DTE Energy. Superintendent: Gordon Donnelly. Welder Foreman: Roger Mullin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-20-17.

-Gaylord, MI. Installation of meters, heaters, odorizers, and regulation equipment on new receipt meter station for DTE Energy. Superintendent: Mark Skowronski. Welder Foreman: Matthew Sheets. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 09-30-17.

-Mt. Pleasant, MI. Remove 38' of existing 12" pipeline and install 2-20" valves for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Tim Comben. Welder Foreman: Jeffrey Lange. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 10-13-17.
-Shelbyville, IN. Modify existing equalizer and jumper lines on existing launchers and receivers at five locations (3 locations in Indiana and 2 locations in Ohio, blended wage for helpers: Indiana/Ohio \$29.34) for Trans/Canada. Superintendent: Mike Ford. Welder Foreman: Ricky Oliver. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-18-17.

Michels:

Wauseon, OH. Replace 550' of 30" in Fulton County for TransCanada Pipeline. Superintendent: Brian Smith. Welder Foreman: Josh McGee. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

Midwest C&M Construction:

Dearborn, MI. 2"-12" metro-station O2 pipeline in Wayne County, Michigan for Praxair Pipeline. Superintendent: Shane Davis. Welder Foreman: Scott Hunderman. Working 5-8s. Approx. completion 10-11-17.

Minnesota Limited:

-Richmond, IN. Hartland regulator station rebuilds in Wayne County, Indiana for Vectren. Superintendent: Zach Sedarski. Welder Foreman: Mark Feagin. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 10-16-17.

-Pittsboro, IN. Purge and assist 14"-2" in Hendrix County, Indiana for TallGrass. Superintendent: Kerry Schott. Welder Foreman: C.J. Polito. Working 6-10s. Job complete.

-Bloomington, IN. 3 miles of 6" new lay in Noble County, Indiana for Nipsco. Superintendent: Kerry Schott. Welder Foreman: Brian VanDyne. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-23-17.

PJ Steel:

-Ravenna, MI. 16" launcher/receiver in Kent County for Mich-Con. Superintendent: Larry Townsend. Welder Foreman: Casey Butterfield. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 09-30-17.

-Six Lakes, MI. Cap 15-4" lines in well field for Mich-Con. Superintendent: Don Knoph. Welder Foreman: Thomas Shaw. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion 09-29-17.

Roberts:

-Toledo, OH. 10" integrity digs in Lucas County for Buckeye Partners. Superintendent: Justin Robinette. Welder Foreman: Brad Jenkins. Working 5-10s. Approx. completion (ongoing).

-Bluffton, OH. 600' of 10" directional drill for Buckeye Partners.
Superintendent: Bobby Westrater. Welder Foreman: Jason Rudd. Working
6-10s. Approx. completion 10-23-17.

-Toledo, OH. 600' of 16" hydro-test in Lorain County for Buckeye Partners.
Superintendent: Bobby Westrater. Welder Foreman: Tracy Lester. Working
6-10s. Approx. completion 10-11-2017.

UPI:

Portland, IN. Demo existing pulsation bottles, install new one in Jay
County, partial demo and pipe supports in Defiance, OH 2"-36" for
TransCanada. Superintendent: Chad Izzard. Welder Foreman: Josh
Degnan. Working 6-10s. Approx. completion 11-15-17.

Welded:

Mt. Morris, MI. Install 26" crossover valves and mainline valve on line 700
in Saginaw County for Consumers Energy. Superintendent: Jamie Block.
Welder Foreman: Tracy Lester. Working 6-10s. Job complete.