

- FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR -

Last week, I attended a presentation on global trends that will be shaping our future over the next two decades. It mostly covered familiar ground but I came away with a good quote: “The future is already here, it is just not evenly distributed.” Indeed, whatever your field of interest or topic of concern, somewhere – in another state or another country (or company) – you will find early examples, good or bad, of what will later be widespread or mainstream. And that describes one of the roles of NEBC, its Board, and its Chapter Committees: looking outside ourselves, identifying trends and issues, and bringing them to our membership.

Only a few days earlier, I participated in a two-day workshop on economic cluster development and the promotion of sustainability – two areas where NEBC has been getting involved. (For definition, a “cluster” means an industry with enough critical mass that members begin trading with each other – services, ideas, employees, issues – leading to growth and increased export of goods and services. Examples include athletic wear and computer chips in Oregon, and aviation and software in Washington.) In Washington, efforts are under way to develop and promote a distinct “clean tech” cluster, under the banner of the Washington Clean Tech Alliance. The state of Oregon, on the other hand, is taking the approach of infusing sustainability into existing cluster development efforts.

NEBC has long pushed to gain visibility for the environmental sector as a coherent industry. Meanwhile, we are continually working to move our industry in the Northwest from being just a consortia or collection of like interests, to a true “cluster.” Through networking forums and trade shows, we provide opportunities for members to meet each other, to trade, and to collaborate and share knowledge, thereby strengthening the industry as a whole. We do the same thing on an organizational level. By collaborating with other organizations on cross-sector agendas, we help get things done, while gaining visibility and influence.

We also take the initiative. NEBC identified that many of its members were under-recognized for their work in the energy sector, and that others working in that sector didn’t have an organization like NEBC to represent them. As a result, we launched an energy committee that led to last month’s “Making Renewable Energy Projects Happen” conference. A lot of hard work led to a first-class event, with top-notch speakers and 350 attendees (100 more than expected). Behind it all was the desire to build the network of service and technology providers, link them to each other and NEBC members, and help build the clean energy cluster in the Northwest.

Of course, one of the roles of a cluster is to push for supportive policy changes. With concurrent legislative sessions in Washington and Oregon, it has been a busy season for NEBC. This issue has a report from our Washington lobbyist, Jerry Smedes, on our results there. The Oregon legislature is still in session, and the bills we are pushing are still in play. So stay tuned. And, as always, thank you for your personal and financial support as we do the day-to-day work of “raising the tide.”



Robert Grott

NEBC Sponsoring Member Spotlight



Founded in Blaine, Washington in 1911, Wilder Construction Company (Wilder) has grown to become an industry leader throughout the Western United States and Alaska. Building on 95 years of experience, Wilder continues to pride itself in the development of our communities both in the public and private sector in the areas of heavy civil construction, highway, underground utilities, paving, site work and environmental remediation. In addition, Wilder owns and operates local facilities that produce quality aggregates, sand and asphalt concrete.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Washington Legislature Ends Ambitious Session

The Washington Legislature completed its 2007 session on April 22, after passing a record \$33.4 billion biennial budget, establishing a new focus and funding approach for cleaning up Puget Sound, and addressing climate change concerns. For the environmental industry, we had several important successes and one continuing concern with the Governor's unwillingness to consider reinstating incentives for environmental cleanup.

NEBC support was important in reauthorizing the Office of Regulatory Assistance. The Office provides regulatory information and coordination services, and also operates a Cost Reimbursement Program for parties who want to expedite permit decisions. The bill that was signed by the Governor continues and expands this program, which provides consulting opportunities for several environmental companies. NEBC will work with the Governor's office and the Department of Ecology to assure that the program is used to its full potential. Another bill supported by NEBC will also create additional contracting opportunities for environmental consultants. It requires the Department of Ecology to prioritize hazardous waste cleanups, and authorizes the use of outside consultants to conduct studies on these sites.

At the request of Governor Chris Gregoire, the Legislature passed the Puget Sound Initiative to oversee restoration of the environmental health of Puget Sound by 2020. The Partnership will be led by a seven member Leadership Council and an Executive Director. An Ecosystem Oversight Panel will advise the Council, and a Puget Sound Science Panel will provide independent scientific advice. The Partnership will create an action agenda and direct funding for numerous activities in support of its mission.

The Legislature also addressed climate change issues by passing a bill that establishes an emissions performance standard for electric generation facilities in Washington, committing to low emissions resources to meet the state's future needs. It establishes state goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and sets a goal for creating new jobs in the clean energy sector.

The one disappointment for the environmental industry was the Governor's continuing refusal to consider reinstating tax incentives for environmental remediation. Our proposal was among a number of tax issues supported by various industries that failed to move this year. NEBC led the effort to create the cleanup incentives several years ago. While they were in place, hundreds of sites were cleaned up (most of them voluntarily), and environmental companies saved millions of dollars in B&O taxes. When the law expired, NEBC coordinated with Association of Washington Business (AWB) to lead the effort to get the program reauthorized. Despite nearly unanimous legislative support last year, the Governor vetoed the reauthorization bill. Her continued opposition prevented the measure from being heard this year.

Another measure also required a great deal of effort by NEBC. Soil scientists have proposed a licensing program for professionals who work with soils. This is the third year this has been proposed, and NEBC has continually expressed significant concerns regarding the scope of the professional work to be covered by the licensing. The architects and engineers have also expressed strong concerns with this proposal. The Department of Licensing will review the need for a licensing program later this year. NEBC will participate to assure that environmental professionals are not adversely affected.

**Jerry Smedes,
Smedes & Associates**

Special Thanks to all our Sponsoring Members!

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*Contact your NEBC staff at 503.227.6361 to learn
more about becoming an NEBC Sponsoring Member!*

NEBC CONFERENCES, TRADE SHOWS & MEETINGS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Full list of NEBC events on page 7

May 21, 23 & 24. NEBC Specialty Course. Boise, Seattle & Portland. Constructing with GCLs and PVC Geomembranes. This technical workshop will educate those involved with the design, construction, operation and closure of landfills, lagoons, ponds, decorative applications and brownfields as well as the corrective action activities at closed sites. It will also cover the on the latest information on GCLs, including hydraulic equivalence, specifications, testing and installation. Speakers: Chris Athanassopoulos, P.E., CETCO and Timothy D. Stark, Ph.D., P.E. Professor Of Civil Engineering, University Of Illinois. [Register here.](#)

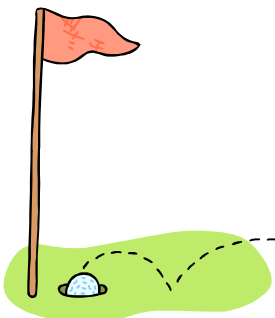
June 14. NEBC Luncheon, Portland. Willamette River Clean Up: Beyond Portland Harbor. Cleanup efforts are underway, but what will it take to encourage development of Portland Harbor post-cleanup? Come hear about plans for the harbor and how businesses have made decisions, even during the cleanup phase, to acquire property within the harbor, including the University of Portland's recent use of a Prospective Purchaser Agreement to acquire harbor property. Speakers include David Blount, Esq of Landye Bennett Blumstein LLP, Dee Burch, Advanced American Construction and Sebastian Degens from the Port of Portland. [Register here.](#)



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June 21. NEBC and A&WMA Specialty Conference. Mercury 2007: Global Problem – Local Solutions, Bellevue. This one day conference will cover air, water and land media and provide information to clarify the state-of-the-art science, address new technologies, and provide industry members with information they can use. It will provide a testing toolbox for environmental professionals working to reduce the health risk of mercury, and provide them with the tools to improve their knowledge, business performance and compliance management. Speakers for the conference include Eric Prestbo of Frontier GeoScience, Dan Jaffe from the University of Washington and Maria Victoria Peeler, Washington Department of Ecology. Registration fees are: NEBC and A&WMA members \$145.00 Non-members \$195.00. For more information and to register for the conference, [CLICK HERE.](#) Check the NEBC website for conference updates.

July 12. Olympic Chapter Rooftop Mixer. Seattle. Skip the traffic jams and join the NEBC Board of Directors, members, colleagues, and guests for this annual event. Savor the views while you sip your favorite beverage and enjoy the delicious hors d'oeuvres prepared by Pyramid Catering. This event is a great opportunity to meet new members and network with potential partners. [Registration](#) for NEBC members and their guests - \$35.00 per person and non members is \$45.00 per person.



July 19. Cascade Chapter Golf Tournament. Portland. The annual NEBC Golf Tournament is being held at Langdon Farms Golf Club in Aurora, Oregon. It is a relaxed and fun event for all. A shotgun start and playing the best ball, this tournament is designed for all levels - whether you are up on your game or a duffer. The course was designed by award-winning architects John Fought and Robert Cupp and puts a premium on accurate iron shots for low scores, yet remains very playable for the recreational golfer. Not a golfer? Then come join the fun at the BBQ after the tournament! (beginning about 11:30 AM). [Registration](#) is now open - Golf & BBQ - \$135.00 per person, BBQ only - \$25.00.

Score A Hole-In-One With Your Marketing Dollars. Sponsor an NEBC event and reach your target audience! Technical luncheons. Conferences. Networking meetings. Golf tournament. Pick the event and venue that will help you reach new customers! Check frequently for updates and new sponsoring opportunities. Sponsor benefits may include: complimentary registration, company logo on marketing material, recognition at event, and opportunity to distribute marketing material. Contact [Sue Moir](#) today to explore all the NEBC sponsorship opportunities available or follow the [Event Sponsorship Opportunities](#) link on the NEBC website Events Page.

INDUSTRY NEWS, MEETINGS & EVENTS

May 2007. ITRC Internet-Based Training Courses. The Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC) offers a wide variety of Internet-based training courses on innovative environmental technologies and approaches specific to the areas of site characterization, monitoring and remediation as well as other environmental topics. Registration: <http://clu-in.org/studio/seminar.cfm> or at www.itrcweb.org click on "Internet-based Training". Course registration opens 4-6 weeks prior to each course offering.

Cost: Sponsored by ITRC and EPA with no cost for the participant. These ITRC courses are delivered via our partnership with USEPA OSRTI on their website at www.clu-in.org/studio/.

May 15th - Radiation Risk Assessment: Updates and Tools

May 17th - An Overview of Direct Push Well Technology for Long-term Groundwater Monitoring

May 18. Web Seminar Program #4. Marketing to Government and Preparing to Receive the RFP. 9-10:15 AM Pacific. Objectives: Identify and classify opportunities on the horizon and their sources; Form the team that will help ensure success; Learn the relationship between Strategic Planning and Business Development to improve your WIN rate; Learn proactive networking to increase your access to helpful information before "Blackout". For more information and to REGISTER:

www.proposalw.com

May 22. Oregon Sustainability Angels (introductory meeting).Portland. This network is a membership organization of successful entrepreneurs, retired executives and other business leaders in Oregon and SW Washington who provide investment capital, strategic advice, and mentoring to early stage companies to help them achieve market leadership in "sustainable" business opportunities. The goal is to exploit this rapidly expanding market and create jobs and prosperity in Oregon. Attend to learn about this new opportunity and how you could become an investor or a sponsor. May 22, Stoel Rives, 900 SW 5th Ave, 26th Floor, Lunch will be served. RSVP to Lisa Adatto at ladatto@oba-online.org

The GLOBE 2008 Conference Outline is now available on the GLOBE 2008 website! It provides titles and descriptions for sessions within each of the following GLOBE 2008 themes: Corporate Sustainability and Finance; Energy and the Environment; and Building Better Cities. To access the GLOBE 2008 Conference Outline and get a preview of our Preliminary Conference Program, visit www.globe2008.ca or [click here](#) directly.

June 1. Oregon Water Quality Conference. Portland. This conference brings together diverse environmental professionals to discuss the laws, regulations, programs, strategies and cutting edge approaches to protecting water quality in the Northwest and beyond. Speakers will address recent regulatory programs, legislative and legal developments, compliance strategies and other hot topics including how to address emerging contaminants, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, nanomaterials and personal care products. Speakers will also explore the mechanics of developing a water quality trading program. To participate in the conference: [Click here to obtain a registration form](#). Email, fax or mail the registration information to the Environmental Law Education Center. Or call 503-282-5220 to register by phone.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Advanced Environmental Solutions
Ball Janik LLP
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 Materials Testing & Inspection, Inc.
 Restorical Research, LLC
 RETEC Group, Inc.
 SECOR International Inc.
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 SWCA, Inc.
 Veolia Environmental Services – Technical Solutions

NEW MEMBERS

Clean Way Environmental Partners, Inc.
 Sound Environmental Strategies

Companies in bold **NEBC Sponsoring Members**

June 28. By-Product Synergy Northwest - Kick-off Event. Seattle. 10:30 am to 2:30 pm

A presentation about how you can turn your wastes into profits. Meet Puget Sound industry leaders from a variety of business sectors and discover what opportunities by-product synergy can bring to your company. Bertha Knight Landes Room, Seattle City Hall, 600 4th Avenue, Seattle, Washington, 98124. Register online at www.pprc.org/synergy For more information or to RSVP in person, please contact: Debra Taevs, Program Manager, Pollution Prevention Resource Center 206-352-2050, dtaevs@pprc.org. www.pprc.org.

Selling to the Government. Do you sell to Federal government agencies? Do you want to? **NEBC** can help. In Oregon we are a contractor with the Government Contract Assistance Program (GCAP). This program guides vendors through the complexity of the government's procurement process, including how to get registered as a vendor, find opportunities, and market to government agencies. There is also a matching service that continually checks your profile against opportunities from Federal, State, and Local agencies. For more information call Robert or email robert@nebc.org. If you are in a state other than Oregon, you can find a local Procurement Technical Assistance Center by going to www.aptac-us.org and following the "Find a PTAC" link.

INTERNSHIP

Environmental Engineering Students Available For Internships. Help a student gain professional experience while getting some extra projects done this summer. Environmental Engineering students from Oregon State University need internship opportunities. Real world engineering experience is invaluable to students. The ABET accredited undergraduate Environmental Engineering program is an interdisciplinary degree program with a broad basis in the physical, chemical, and biological sciences in addition to course work in environmental, civil, and chemical engineering. Our undergraduate curriculum includes coursework in: water and wastewater treatment; fate of contaminants in the environment; air pollution; sustainable water resources development. For more information or to publicize an available internship contact Tracy Rothwell, Internship Coordinator, Dept. of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering, Oregon State University. Tracy.Rothwell@oregonstate.edu

The Business Education Compact (BEC) is an Oregon program placing qualified educators and students in internship positions. They are looking to build links with all types of firms in the environmental industry. The educator program is for the summer months, while the student program is year-round. BEC functions as an employment agency, handling recruiting, qualifying, scheduling interviews, progress monitoring, etc. Hourly rates are based on the skill level involved and include all payroll management. For information, visit www.bedpdx.org or call Andrew Witt 503-646-0242 ext 22.

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Associated Technologies Council. NEBC has partnered with the Associated Technologies Council (ATC) in order to allow you to participate in their employee benefits program. ATC provides employee benefits to companies in Computer Technology, Bioscience, Telecommunications and now Environmental Sciences. Because ATC is able to pool firms together across a wide spectrum of desirable industries, they are able to provide medical benefits up to 20% below what you are probably paying now. In addition, there are benefits available like, paperless enrollment, single invoice billing and COBRA administration all provided at no cost to you. Contact Tino Versoza, NEBC Benefits Representative (503) 626-9135 or email: tino@get-benefits.com for a free no obligation benefits analysis.

Financial Planning Services with Waddell & Reed. NEBC members receive at 20% discount on financial planning services provided by Waddell & Reed, a national financial planning firm founded in 1937. Planning services include retirement planning, wealth management, tax-efficient investing, education funding, estate protection, and succession planning for closely-held businesses. Other business services include retirement plans and financial education workshops. Contact Karen Einberger, Financial Advisor, Waddell & Reed, 206.283.6661 or keinberger@wradvisors.com.

Sustainable Industries Journal (SIJ). The premier magazine for sustainable business news on the West Coast. The NEBC member discount for the Sustainable Industries Journal is better than imagined – it's still a \$10 discount, but the new annual subscription rate is only \$39, that means that NEBC members can receive this new publication for only \$29/year! For more information look to: www.sijournal.com/prtnr

Oregon Insider. NEBC members may take advantage of a \$150 introductory rate for the first year (24 issues), a savings of \$95 off their regular base rate. In addition, NEBC members will enjoy an ongoing subscription rate of \$195 per year, which represents an ongoing savings of \$50 per year. To redeem your discount please contact Oregon Insider by calling David Light at 541.343.8504 or by email at epi@rio.com.

Northwest Environmental Training Center. NEBC has partnered with NWETC to offer our member companies an exceptional opportunity to provide continuing education to its employees at a 20% discount off the published rate on all of NWETC's technical training workshops, conferences, and seminars. For more information, visit their website <http://www.nwetc.org/> or contact Erick McWayne at 206-762-1976.

Environmental Expert. NEBC has teamed with Environmental Expert, the world's largest online marketplace and information resource serving the environmental industry. At a reduced rate of just \$1,700, NEBC members can become Bronze Sponsors and get a year's worth of cost-effective exposure to a targeted audience of over 400,000 environmental professionals. Additional levels of sponsorship and optional advertising opportunities are also available. www.environmental-expert.com For more information contact Tracy Barton, tracy@combined-resources.com.

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Northwest Environmental Business Council 2007 Events & Meeting Calendar

May			
21	Geomembrane Short Course – Boise	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Building – Boise, ID.
23	Geomembrane Short Course – Seattle	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	US EPA Park Place Building – Seattle, WA
24	Geomembrane Short Course - Portland	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	World Trade Center – Portland, OR
June			
6	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Governor Hotel – Portland, OR
6	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Willamette River Cleanup	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Governor Hotel – Portland, OR
21	“Mercury 2007 – Global Problem, Local Solutions” Specialty Conference	8:00 AM – 6:00 PM	Red Lion Hotel – Bellevue, WA
July			
12	Olympic Chapter Rooftop Mixer	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	K & L Gates – Seattle, WA
19	Cascade Chapter Golf Tournament	7:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Langdon Farms Golf Course – Aurora, OR
September			
5	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	AGC – Seattle, WA
5	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Carbon Trading	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside – Seattle, WA
11	Cascade Chapter Summer Mixer	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Lane Powell – Portland, OR
October			
3	Olympic Chapter Luncheon	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside – Seattle, WA.
11	Cascade Chapter Committee Meeting	9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Governor Hotel – Portland
11	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: High Performance Green Buildings	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Governor Hotel – Portland
17 & 18	Northwest Environmental Summit & Trade Show	All Day	Tacoma Convention Center – Tacoma, WA
November			
7	Olympic Chapter Committee Meeting	10:00 AM – 11:30 PM	AGC – Seattle, WA
7	Olympic Chapter Luncheon – Topic: Brownfields	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	McCormick & Schmick’s Harborside – Seattle, WA
8	Cascade Chapter Luncheon – Topic: TBD	11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Governor Hotel – Portland, OR
December			
5	Hazwoper Training	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Red Lion Hotel on the River – Portland, OR
6 & 7	Northwest Environmental Conference & Trade Show	All Day	Red Lion Hotel on the River – Portland, OR

*Event dates and topics subject to change.