

# THE FIRST WORD

February, 2015

## Cabbiness Engineering Wins 2014 Engineering Excellence "Grand Conceptor" Award

Cabbiness Engineering's design of the City of Ponca City's "Phillips 66 Refinery Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation" won ACECOKLAHOMA's "Grand Conceptor Award" in the 2014 Engineering Excellence Awards competition. The project was selected as Oklahoma's top engineering project from a field of 10 entries.

Plagued by frequent backups, multiple broken and missing pipe segments, and large amounts of groundwater inflow and infiltration, the 100-year-old sanitary sewer main located through the heart of the Phillips 66 Refinery in Ponca City, Oklahoma was in dire need of repair.

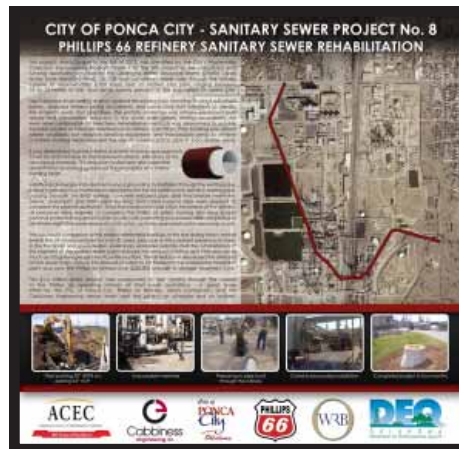
For decades, city leaders, refinery management and vocal citizens bemoaned that a sensible and affordable construction solution for this sewer project could not be designed.

As the owner, the City of Ponca City, Oklahoma contracted with Cabbiness Engineering, LLC to evaluate the nearly 6,700 linear feet sanitary sewer main to come up with functional and feasible solutions. With the additional constrictions of the sewer main being located within an oil refinery operating at full capacity - 24 hours a day, seven days a week - the design had to take into account the refinery's stringent safety requirements and operational restrictions that construction would encounter.

In order to provide the most effective, cost-efficient engineering design for all parties involved, Cabbiness Engineering evaluated several design alternatives and construction methods involving trenchless rehabilitation (Pipe Bursting, Slip Lining, and Cured-In-Place Piping), open cut trench and direct bury pipe, as well as a sewer lift station

bypassing the refinery entirely. Based on conclusive design calculations and field verifications, an innovative trenchless rehabilitation approach that combined the use of pipe bursting and cured-in-place was utilized.

Other design and construction challenges associated with this project included:



- \* Stringent Phillips 66 Refinery safety requirements, as well as coordinating various field personnel to establish viable construction sequencing with regards to the refinery's around the clock operations.

- \* Coordinating with BNSF Railroad engineers to rehabilitate the sewer pipe segment located beneath the railroad inside the Phillips 66 Refinery property.

- \* Several points of continuous water inflow and infiltration (I&I) estimated

at 100 gallons per minute.

- \* Numerous unknown refinery piping conflicts, inaccessible manholes and other sewer pipe obstructions.

Despite the many project challenges, our team was able to deliver this \$1.668 million dollar project within budget and within the aggressive 4 month construction schedule. Upon project completion, our team was able to show the refinery a \$254,000 annual savings in sewage billing and the undetermined cost saving of not continuously replenishing water lost from their fire water storage ponds.

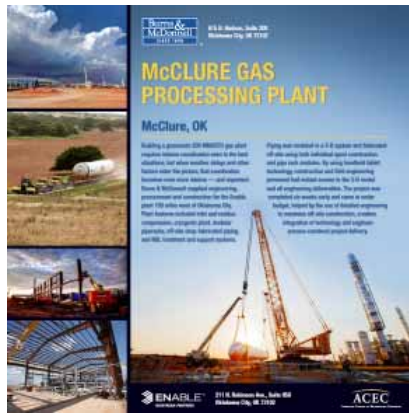
ACECOKLAHOMA congratulates Cabbiness Engineering of Norman on winning the 2014 Grand Conceptor



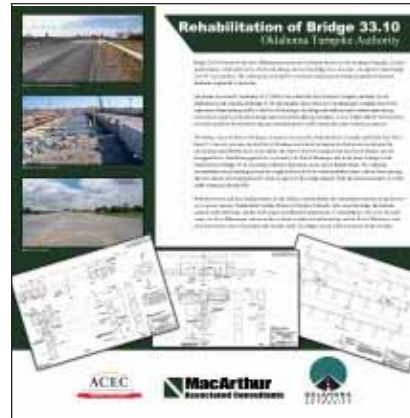
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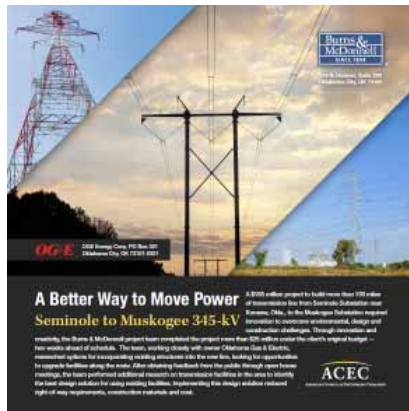
# Engineering Excellence "Honor Award" Winners



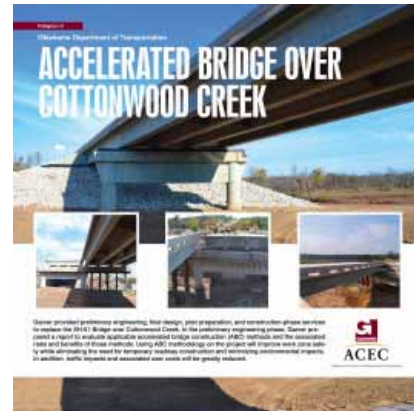
Burns & McDonnell  
Enable McClure Gas Processing Plant



MacArthur Associated Consultants  
Muskogee Turnpike Bridge Rehab



Burns & McDonnell  
OG & E Seminole-Muskogee 345kV  
Transmission Line



Garver  
Cottonwood Creek Accelerated  
Bridge

# Engineering Excellence "Finalist" Awards

Enercon  
North Tulsa Brownfields  
Plan



Frankfurt-Short-Bruza  
Chickasaw Nation  
Visitors Center



Crafton Tull  
Northeastern State Univ.  
Events Center



C E C  
University Multispectral  
Laboratories Airstrip



MacArthur Associated  
Consultants  
I-44 West Trail Study



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## 2015 Legislative Session Kicks-Off

The 2015 Session of the Oklahoma Legislature got underway on Monday, February 3rd, and the major issue of the session will be the \$300+ million budget deficit.

During her annual State of the State address on Monday, Governor Fallin outlined her three top priorities. Faced with the looming budget deficit, Fallin proposed a newly implemented performance informed budgeting process, evaluating economic incentives, and transferring unencumbered funds from state agency revolving funds.

Performance informed budgeting focuses specifically on creating a budgeting system that ties spending to measurable goals and outcomes. In order to track the progress of these goals, OkStateStat.ok.gov was created and includes 160 objectives for state government, each with its own "performance dashboard" to track the direction of the objective.

Regarding economic incentives and business-related tax credits, Fallin said the state does not have an effective way of evaluating whether or not the incentives are paying off and helping to create jobs.

Fallin also stated that her executive budget allows for \$300 million to be taken from state agency revolving funds to support core government services. The Office of Management and Enterprise Services has identified \$1.7 billion in those revolving funds, \$900 million of which is unencumbered, and transferring the \$300 million to the General Revenue Fund is a "reasonable expectation," she said.

Legislators prefiled a total of 2,091 bills and joint resolutions for consideration during the 2015 session:

- 1,219 House bills;
- 26 House joint resolutions;
- 814 Senate bills; and
- 32 Senate joint resolutions.

As the Session gets underway, ACEC OKLAHOMA has already identified some 38 bills of interest. Additionally, ACEC OKLAHOMA is keeping a watchful eye on the budgeting process as last year there was an effort to divert the annual automatic transfer of funds from the state General Fund to ODOT. While there are no specific bills at this time which would take similar action, in all likelihood, nothing will arise until late in the session when the Legislature begins seriously addressing the budget issues.

There are a handful of bills which ACEC OKLAHOMA is watching very closely and we wanted to give your this brief "heads up" as things get underway:

**Senate Bill 513 - Water Projects & Materials by Senator Fry.** While a quick read would lead one to believe this is a "mom and apple pie" bill, in reality the bill would prevent engineers from using their expertise and professional judgement when decided what type of piping material should be used on a water/wastewater project. In calling for "fair and open competition" in the purchase of piping material, if passed, the bill would give a huge advantage to the PVC pipe industry, and could virtually eliminate the use of any other type of pipe for water/wastewater projects.

While ACEC OKLAHOMA doesn't oppose the use of PVC pipe in a proper application or setting, ACEC OKLAHOMA DOES OPPOSE any restriction on professional engineers specifying the optimal type of piping material to be used for a specific application! Professional engineers must consider a multitude of factors when recommending appropriate materials, and it would be incorrect to assume that just because certain pipe materials meet national technical standards, it would also meet the needs or application in every project.

SB 513 has yet to be scheduled for hearing in the Senate, and we will keep you informed as the bill progresses, and, will call on you for assistance when needed!

**HB 1328 - Exemption of Liability for volunteer Engineers/ Architects by Rep. Morrisette.** As you might remember from last session, the bill deals with the inspection of schools to determine safe areas prior to an event such as the 2013 Moore tornado, and would provide liability protection to engineers and architects who conduct voluntary inspections. The bill failed last session due to some issues, and over the summer, ACEC OKLAHOMA and other groups met to rewrite and agree to new language. This is the result of those meetings, and ACEC OKLAHOMA support passage of HB 1328.

**SB 491 - Requiring Legislative Approval of ODOT 8-Year Work Plan by Senator Shorty.** Several years ago, the Legislature took a major step forward by removing itself from the decision making process with regards to road/bridge project, and gave that decision making authority to the professionals at ODOT through the 8-Year Work Plan. SB 491 would put the Legislature back into the decision-making process. ACEC OKLAHOMA believes this to be a step-backwards, and opposes legislative interference in the decision making process.

That's it for now! ACEC OKLAHOMA will be very active this session, and will keep you updated regularly. And, will call on you for help and support as necessary!



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# President's Report

## February, 2015

### David Raymond, ACEC President

With a record-shattering \$835,000 raised for ACEC/PAC in 2014, the Council began its 2015 advocacy campaign at full steam. Our agenda for this year is focused on MAP-21 and FAA reauthorization; approval of the Keystone XL pipeline and other energy initiatives; comprehensive tax reform; a budget agreement to replace sequestration; state DOT FAR compliance; and other key tax and regulatory measures. President Obama's State of the Union speech gave an important nod to infrastructure as an area of potential bipartisan cooperation with the Republican Congress, and Congressional leaders with whom ACEC is working uniformly believe that infrastructure is an area ripe for substantive progress. Our annual convention, April 19-22, will provide a timely opportunity for our "citizen lobbyists" to engage with their legislators on our critical issues. We're in an exciting new venue with a terrific program – See below for more details.

#### General

- Final 2014 year-end receipts for ACEC/PAC totaled \$835,000, setting a new all-time fundraising record; 37 MOs achieved their 2014 ACEC/PAC goals, also a new record; and ACEC/Indiana became the first state to reach its 2015 ACEC/PAC target in January!
- Met with Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT), who said that his key goal for the coming year is reforming the federal tax code; a full interview with Hatch will be featured in the March-April issue of *Engineering Inc.*
- The upcoming 2015 ACEC Annual Convention is scheduled for April 19-22 at our new, bigger venue – the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C. with keynote speakers including General (Ret) Stanley A. McChrystal, former commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan; Jake Tapper, CNN's Chief Washington Correspondent; the program also includes four new "Super Session" expert panel presentations on hot topics in the A/E industry – [click here for registration and full information.](#)
- Endorsed the Immigration Innovation Act of 2015, which would increase the number of H-1B visas and green cards available to engineers and other STEM workers.
- The House passed ACEC-backed legislation to approve the Keystone XL pipeline.
- Members of ACEC's Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee lobbied House and Senate Committees on design/build reforms and other federal procurement changes, and met with representatives from NAVFAC, USACE and the U.S. Coast Guard to review future projects and projections.
- The President signed into law ACEC-backed legislation to revise and extend for six years the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act, which provides a federal backstop to the private insurance market for property and facilities.

#### Government Advocacy

- Launched a grassroots Action Alert to generate support for a bipartisan letter to House leaders on the importance of passing a long-term transportation bill funded with sustainable revenue.
- The House of Representatives passed legislation to amend the Affordable Care Act to restore the traditional threshold delineating full-time employees from 30 hours to 40 hours per week.



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