

**Government Affairs Committee  
Institute of Makers of Explosives  
Web Conference  
March 28, 2023**

**Participants.** Tom Young (Hilltop); Tim O'Brien (Detotec); Mitch Green (MD&B); Scott Bell (Dyno Nobel); Judy Hammerschmidt (IME); Clark Mica (IME); Colby Sholler (IME)

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM by Chairman Tom Young. Colby Sholler recorded minutes.

**Antitrust Guidelines.** Colby Sholler reviewed the Antitrust Guidelines and advised that the meeting would be conducted accordingly.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **H.R. 1 – Lower Energy Costs Act**

- Colby Sholler delivered an overview of H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act, informed the GAC that IME planned to support the legislation and sign a series of joint letters to Congress voicing our support.

### **H.R. 1335 – TAPP American Resources Act**

- Colby Sholler updated the GAC on H.R. 1335, which is a pivotal part of H.R. 1 that focuses specifically on permitting reform.
- IME will draft and circulate a written overview of these pieces of legislation for GAC.

## **CFATS**

The GAC discussed the status of DHS/CISA's CFATS program, including what IME's strategic approach to advocating for industry priorities should be. Including the appetite for leveraging Administration/Agency leadership connections.

The GAC also requested an increase in communication to membership from IME on policy issues and advocacy activities in the IME weekly to keep membership updated on what IME is working on and where policy actions are.

## **GAC Meeting Time/Day**

The GAC discussed the current time and date for monthly meetings and agreed that IME would distribute a poll to GAC membership and adjust future dates/times accordingly.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Policy Priorities Survey Review**

IME quickly reviewed the results of the 2023 Policy Priorities Survey and the GAC discussed the following:

- Workforce issues are significant, and IME, the GAC, and the wider Membership need to work on this.
- IME will look for ways to impact this priority area.
- Clark Mica mentioned that the Hiring Our Heroes campaign might be a good way to hire former military.
  - The GAC agreed that implementing this for our industry may be very beneficial.

#### **Government Affairs Committee Structure Proposal Update**

- This discussion was tabled due to time.

#### **UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS**

##### **Shipper Coalition Highway Weigh Limit Increase**

IME informed the GAC that the Shippers Coalition requested support for draft legislation that would increase highway truck weight limits by several thousand pounds. The provision was widely supported by the IME Transportation Committee members and will be supported by IME.

##### **Biden/Trudeau North American Critical Mineral Announcement**

IME mentioned that permitting reform would likely be receiving support for various reasons from all sides of the political spectrum as evidenced by President Biden's remarks in Canada the week earlier that committed the US to standing up a North American critical mineral supply chain in tandem with Canada. Permitting reform would be necessary to accomplish this in a reasonable timeframe.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 PM EST.