


Federal legislation, regulation, litigation. Policy.
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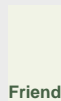
Advanced Biofuels USA, a nonprofit educational organization, advocates for the adoption of advanced biofuels as an energy security, economic development, military flexibility and climate change solution.



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Happenings on Capitol Hill, at the White House and in Federal Agencies

Latest Federal Legislation Posts



E15 legislation appears dead; Farm Bill proposals gaining life, serious attention to carbon tax proposals continues, but be careful. There's that devil in the details. And harmonizing CAFE and RFS!

For more legislative news (including Executive Orders), [click here](#).

We also follow [policy developments](#) in the US, other countries and states. For more information on those topics, click on the name of the country or state that appears along the right margin of our website at www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org.

[Dem Introduces Bill to Boost Clean Vehicle Technology](#)

October 13, 2017 – by Melanie Zanona (The Hill) ... Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), who has also been leading a House push to pave the way for autonomous vehicles, reintroduced a bill that would promote investments in the research and ...

[Rep. Upton Files Bill to 'Harmonize' MPG Rules](#)

October 13, 2017 – by Keith Laing (Detroit News) U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, has introduced legislation that would allow automakers to apply credits for gas mileage improvements from model years as far back as 2009 to help comply ...

[The Top Legislative Threats Facing Convenience Stores Today](#)

October 12, 2017 – by Tammy Mastroberte (Convenience Store News) ... One of the top issues right now is the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), which provides for the inclusion of increasing volumes of renewable fuel into the marketplace each year. With the ...

[Farm Bill Energy Issues Essential for State, Franken Says](#)

October 12, 2017 – by Trey Mewes (Mankato Free Press) As federal officials back off of the Obama-era Clean Power Plan, U.S. Sen. Al Franken believes there's going to be more work to do to ensure farmers and rural communities ...

[Asume E15 Bill Dead \(for Now\)](#)

October 10, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) Both Senate EPW Chairman John Barrasso and bill sponsor Deb Fischer now say a measure S. 517 (115) that would allow year-round sales of higher blends of ethanol won't even ...

[Hearing Focuses on Farm Bill Rural Development, Energy Programs](#)

October 3, 2017 – by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) On Sept. 28, the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry held a hearing on the 2018 Farm Bill focused on rural development and energy programs. The committee has ...

[The Message Is Clear: We Must Create Demand](#)

September 26, 2017 – by Doug Durante (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Growth above 15 billion gallons will require new markets and widespread understanding of ethanol's carbon-reduction value. — ... The guaranteed market for 15 billion gallons has been achieved and anything we ...

[Republican Senator Endorses 'Price on Carbon' to Fight Climate Change](#)

September 25, 2017 – by Justin Worland (Time Magazine) Sen. Lindsey Graham endorsed a "price on carbon" to fight climate change, breaking with much of the Republican Establishment.

Speaking at a climate change conference held by former Secretary of State John Kerry...

Latest on Federal Regulation



Comments were flying for EPA's re-opened comments for the Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards. But not as ferociously as the comments and public responses to EPA's proposed downward revisions to the Renewable Fuel Standard's renewable volume obligations. Formal comments for that are due to EPA on October 19.

Analysis, push and pull on the obligated parties issue continues, too.

Plus an interesting look at the effect on mileage and energy use of autonomous vehicles. Will autonomous cars require liquid fuel's very portable, high density energy storage? And what will it all mean for complying with regulations such as CAFE standards? Or, with autonomous cars already getting exemptions from federal requirements for other vehicles, will energy efficiency requirements also get thrown out?

Scroll down for information about regulations related to these topics and others among our [latest postings](#). Others you'll find in the [Federal Regulations](#) category online.

[New Statistical Analysis: No Relationship Between RIN Credits and Retail Gasoline Prices](#)

October 16, 2017 – by Emily Druckman (Renewable Fuels Association) Despite continued claims by opponents of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), prices of the Renewable Identification Number (RINs) credits used for RFS compliance have not caused changes in retail gasoline ...

[The Other General Waiver: RFS and Severe Economic Harm](#)

October 13, 2017 –by Jonathan Coppess and Scott Irwin (Farms.com/University of Illinois/farmlanddaily) As discussed last week, the Environmental Protection Agency is soliciting data and feedback on the biomass-based diesel and advanced biofuels components of the Renewable Fuels Standard, including the ...

[US EPA Gives Green Light for Flint Hills Resources' Edeniq Technology-Based Ethanol Plant](#)

October 13, 2017 –(Biofuels International) The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved Flint Hills Resources' registration of its 100 million gallons per year Iowa-based ethanol plant. The plant will use Edeniq's technology.

Flint Hills Resources' Iowa Falls plant ...

[Randy Krehbiel: Did Scott Pruitt Just Declare War on Renewables?](#)

October 12, 2017 – by Randy Krehbiel (Tulsa World) Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt may have declared an end to the “war on coal” earlier this week, but what some consider Pruitt's own war on alternative energy seems to ...

[If We Want Electric Autonomous Cars They'll Need A Hell Of A Lot More Juice](#)

October 11, 2017 – by Alanis King (Jalopnik) 1st Gear: Surprise, Self-Driving Cars Need A Lot Of 'Brain' Power — Oh, you want an electric car that can also shuttle you around without you having to move a muscle? What do you ...

[Energy Conference Focuses on Profitable Energy Independence](#)

October 10, 2017 – (Huggins Consulting Group LLC/Ethanol Producer Magazine) Competitive landscape, innovative technologies and emerging energy policy were hot topics as a diverse group of nearly 150 thought leaders, industry representatives, researchers and suppliers convened in the heart of ...

[ACE Helps Retailers Ask EPA to Level the Playing Field for FFVs](#)

October 10, 2017 –(American Coalition for Ethanol/Ethanol Producer Magazine) In response to fuel marketers asking how they can help support their flex fuel infrastructure and customers, the American Coalition for Ethanol organized a joint letter signed by fuel ...

[Trump Tramples GOP Loyalty with Anti-Iowa Positions on Health Care, Energy](#)

October 10, 2017 – by Kathie Obradovich (Des Moines Register) ... Trump, while campaigning in Iowa, pledged to protect the RFS, which sets the minimum volume of renewable energy that must be part of the transportation fuels sold in the United ...

[Ethanol Groups Comment on CAFE-GHG Standards](#)

October 10, 2017 – by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The Renewable Fuels Association, Growth Energy and American Coalition for Ethanol have all submitted public comments to U.S. EPA and National Highway Transportation Safety Administration stressing the benefits of high-octane ...

[Financing Bioeconomy Ventures, Pt. 10 – Regulatory and Community Concerns in Plant Site Selection](#)

October 9, 2017 – by Daniel Lane and Mindy Collier (Lee Enterprises Consulting/Biofuels Digest) However, while business matters are important when determining a location to build and operate a production facility, it's important to pay close attention to regulatory and community ...

[Senators Object to Lower 2018 U.S. Renewable Fuel Requirements](#)

October 6, 2017 – (Reuters) A group of 38 U.S. senators asked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday to abandon plans to lower biofuel requirements for oil refiners in 2018, according to a letter made public by the office ...

[EESI Comments on Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards](#)

October 6, 2017 – (Environmental and Energy Study Institute) On October 5, EESI submitted comments to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on their midterm evaluation of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for ...

[Renewable Natural Gas Increasingly Used to Meet Part of EPA's Renewable Fuel Requirements](#)

October 6, 2017 – (U.S. Energy Information Agency) Renewable natural gas (RNG), which is derived from biogas collected at landfills and other facilities, is increasingly used to meet government targets for renewable fuel production. In 2016, about 189

million gallons ...

[Advanced Biofuels USA Files Comments on CAFE Midterm Evaluation](#)

October 5, 2017 – (Advanced Biofuels USA) Regarding the Midterm Evaluation Draft Technical Assessment Report for Model Year 2022–2025 Light Duty Vehicle GHG Emissions and CAFE Standards, Advanced Biofuels USA offered the following comments and recommendations.

Current EPA CAFE Fuel Mileage Regulations ...

[Biodiesel Industry Helps Drive American Manufacturing](#)

October 5, 2017 – (National Biodiesel Board) Manufacturing Day 2017 Highlights Biodiesel's Job Creation — Biodiesel is a driving force in America's manufacturing sector, supporting more than 64,000 good paying, clean energy jobs across the country. These jobs are contributing to ...

[Renewable Fuel Standard Program: Standards for 2018 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2019: Availability of Supplemental Information and Request for Further Comment \(Deadline October 19, 2017\)](#)

October 4, 2017 – (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/Federal Register) This document provides additional data and an opportunity to comment on that data and potential options for reductions in the 2018 biomass-based diesel, advanced biofuel, and total renewable fuel volumes, and/or ...

[Refiners Make America-First Pitch to Cut Biofuels](#)

October 4, 2017 – (Argus Media) US independent refiners seized on protectionist themes and two key biofuel industry victories this year to argue regulators must reduce federally mandated blending of renewable fuels.

Refiners framed a US-first pitch to slash more than ...

[A Blustery Day in the Bioeconomy's Billion Acre Wood: The Latest from EPA, POET, Fuels America, Calyxt, Eligo Bioscience, Queensland, Gevo, Virgin, and Unilever](#)

October 4, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Headwinds — US road transport biofuels producers are up in arms this week. There are reports of oil industry led-efforts within the EPA to create an export-subsidy RIN, cut biofuel targets with new "data," and bypass EPA ...

[Judge Rules EPA to Release More Documents on Ethanol Test Fuels](#)

October 3, 2017 – (Urban Air Initiative/Ethanol Producer Magazine) A judge rules that the Urban Air Initiative should have access to more EPA documents discussing test fuels. The D.C Federal Judge made the ruling in regards to a Freedom of Information Request ...

[Grassley Floor Speech Criticizes EPA Proposal to Reduce RFS RVOs](#)

October 3, 2017 – by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) On Sept. 26, Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, delivered a floor speech to the U.S. Senate expressing his disappointment in recent action taken by the U.S. EPA that could reduce 2018 ...

[BFC Keynote Addresses Policy, Technology, Economy](#)

October 3, 2017 – by Lisa Gibson (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Geoff Cooper, senior vice president of the Renewable Fuels Association, told attendees at the Biofuels Financial Conference Sept. 27 in Minneapolis that it's tough to predict the future. "Predicting the ...

[ACE Partners on EPA Smart Sectors Program](#)

October 3, 2017 – (American Coalition for Ethanol) The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) announces its participation in the Environmental Protection Agency's Smart Sectors program launched today to provide a platform for collaboration with regulated sectors to help the agency ...

[Biofuel Advocates: President Trump Should Keep Commitment to the RFS](#)

October 3, 2017 – by Sara Wyant (Agri-Pulse) ... In July, EPA proposed to reduce the total 2018 RFS renewable fuel blending requirements below the levels required in 2017. In late September, the agency said it was considering further reductions ...

['No Rationale for Further Reducing' 2018 RFS RVO, RFA Says in Response to EPA Notice](#)

September 26, 2017 – (Renewable Fuels Association) Today, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a Notice of Data Availability (NODA), seeking comment on potential options for reductions in the biomass-based diesel, advanced biofuel and total renewable fuel volumes beyond those ...

[U-Turn on Climate Rule](#)

September 26, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) Reversing course, DOT told a federal judge in New York in a letter it will publish a regulation requiring states to track emissions from highways and craft reduction goals, Pro's Alex Guillén reports. Once ...

[LETTERS TO THE EDITOR To the Editor: Blended Fuels Are the Way to Go](#)

September 26, 2017 – by Glenn Badenhop (The Blade) Oil refineries in Ohio and across the country are misleading the public about the Renewable Fuel Standards, and this deception was most recently on display in The Blade's Sept. 18 article on ...

[Trump's Bait-And-Switch On The Renewable Fuel Standard](#)

September 26, 2017 –by Paul Alexander (Huffington Post) ... "Now it is time for action," Monte Shaw, IRFA executive director, said following Trump's Iowa appearance. "President Trump's EPA needs to release the proposed Renewable Fuel Standard volumes for 2018. That proposal ...

[Icahn's Oil Refiner CVR Starts Unwinding Biofuels Bet](#)

September 20, 2017 – by Jarrett Renshaw and Chris Prentice (Reuters) Carl Icahn's refining company CVR Energy (CVI.N) has begun buying biofuel credits for the first

time in months, a sign the firm is starting to unwind a massive ...

[EPA Stops Work on Airline Emissions Standards](#)

September 20, 2017 – (Summit County Citizens Voice) Agency's move could violate federal environmental laws — A little more than a year after determining that greenhouse gas emissions from aircraft are a threat to public health, the EPA has ...

Latest in Federal Litigation



Federal litigation news sometimes overlaps with Federal regulation or legislation items, so check both sections.

Ruling gives MOVES emissions model access under a Freedom of Information Act request access to important documents about the petroleum industry's involvement in designing the model to skew it against ethanol use.

Find more items about federal litigation on our website, click [here](#).

[Judge Rules EPA to Release More Documents on Ethanol Test Fuels](#)

October 3, 2017 – (Urban Air Initiative/Ethanol Producer Magazine) A judge rules that the Urban Air Initiative should have access to more EPA documents discussing test fuels. The D.C Federal Judge made the ruling in regards to a Freedom of Information Request ...

[Financing Bioeconomy Ventures: Part 5, Competitive Technology & Market Assessment: IP & Patent Analysis](#)

October 2, 2017 – by Terry Mazanec, Bob Kodrzycki, and Lorenz Bauer (Lee Enterprises Consulting/Biofuels Digest) ... In the "bio" sectors of our economy in particular – whether it be fuels and chemicals, manufacturing and sensors, or health and pharma – ...

[U-Turn on Climate Rule](#)

September 26, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) Reversing course, DOT told a federal judge in New York in a letter it will publish a regulation requiring states to track emissions from highways and craft reduction goals, Pro's Alex Guillén reports. Once ...

[Oakland and San Francisco Lawsuits to Hold Fossil Fuel Companies Accountable for Their Contributions to Sea Level Rise a 'Bold and Necessary Step to Protect Their Communities,' Says Science Group](#)

September 21, 2017 – by Ken Kimmell (Union of Concerned Scientists) Oakland and San Francisco today (September 20, 2017) announced lawsuits against fossil fuel companies seeking compensation for current and future costs of adapting to climate-related sea level rise. ...

Advanced Biofuels USA News

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Advanced Biofuels USA Current Policy Analyses and Suggestions

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