

Federal legislation, regulation, litigation. Policy.

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Welcoming Signs of Summer in Frederick, Maryland-- The beauty of bio.

**NEW EDUCATION NEWSLETTER!** Advanced Biofuels USA sends three newsletters: *Conference Calendar*; *Policy, Legislation, Regulations, Happenings*; and a *NEW Education Newsletter*. All can be found archived on our [NEWS page](#). And [Click HERE to Subscribe to the new Education Newsletter](#) (Free).

Watch for it the first week of each month.

**Happenings on Capitol Hill, at the White House and in**

## Federal Agencies

### Latest Federal Legislation Posts



Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice and enabling sales of E15 throughout the year around the country dominated legislative news this month.

Hearings were held June 14. Details below.

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](http://www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org).

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#### [Biotechnology Innovation Organization and Advanced Biofuels Business Council Ask Senators to Support Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act](#)

June 13, 2017 – (Biofuels Journal) More than 25 advanced biofuel producers and trade associations today sent a letter to members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, asking them to support the Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice ...

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#### [Biofuel Revamp Debate Powers Up, Includes Higher Ethanol Blends](#)

June 13, 2017 – by Brian Dabbs (Bloomberg BNA) Long-awaited efforts to modify biofuel policy are entering the limelight across Capitol Hill.

A Senate panel will host a hearing next week on a bill to allow summer sales of vehicle ...

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#### [Growth Energy Announces Ad Launch for E15 Fix](#)

June 9, 2017 – (Growth Energy) Growth Energy today announced a seven-figure campaign aimed at promoting legislation that will allow U.S. retailers to offer more biofuel choices to customers year-round. The bipartisan Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act (S. ...

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#### [Corn Ethanol Faces Its Limits under EPA Fuel Mandate](#)

June 5, 2017 – by John Siciliano (Washington Examiner) Corn ethanol has reached its official limit under the Environmental Protection Agency's renewable fuel program, which means other less-developed, low-carbon fuels will have to step up to fill a 21 ...

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#### [Forced Summer Hiatus Begins for E15](#)

June 1, 2017 – by Cindy Zimmerman (Energy.AgWired.com) It's June 1st, which means the kids are out of school, the pools are open, and E15 pumps in two-thirds of the nation are shutting down.

Today marks the official beginning of ...

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### [USDA Bioenergy Programs Guttled in 2018 Trump Budget: The Digest's 7-Minute Guide](#)

May 25, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Rural Business Service to shut down; BCAP, REAP, loan guarantees gone; food stamps, crop insurance slashed. Want to understand what USDA is targeting, cutting, growing or eliminating — but don't have ...

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### [Congress: E15 Waiver Hearing Still Coming and First Step on RFS Reform](#)

May 25, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) It's not scheduled yet, but Senate EPW Chairman John Barrasso told reporters Wednesday that legislation allow year-round sale of gasoline blends with 15 percent ethanol would still get an EPW ...

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### [Renewables Nuked; Nukes Renewed: Bioenergy Slashed 69% as US DOE Budget Gets Detail: The Digest's 7-Minute Guide to the DOE Budget](#)

May 24, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) In Washington, the US Department of Energy submitted a request for a \$1.433B cut, or 69.3 percent to the Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy annual budget, and targeted a \$168.4M ...

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### [Hope Glimmers in the Garbage for Advanced Biofuels](#)

May 23, 2017 – by John Fialka (E&E News/Climatewire) In May 2016, investigators from the Government Accountability Office assembled a panel of 19 experts in Washington to explore what had happened to a program to develop a commercial market ...

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### [Peters, Alexander & Stabenow Reintroduce Vehicle Innovation Act Bipartisan Bill Boosts R&D for Fuel Efficient Vehicle Technologies](#)

May 23, 2017 – (Office of Senator Gary Peters) U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI), Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) today announced they are reintroducing the bipartisan Vehicle Innovation Act to encourage investments in research and development of ...

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### [Talking RFS Revamp](#)

May 19, 2017 – By Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) Rep. John Shimkus, chairman of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on the Environment, said he expected to begin a series of meetings on how to potentially revamp the Renewable ...

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### [Ethanol Producers Must Engage in Upcoming Farm Bill Debate](#)

May 18, 2017 – by John Duff (Ethanol Producer Magazine/National Sorghum Producers) A drastically changed farm economy means the next bill will likely be very different than past ones. ... — It is hard to believe the current ...

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### [Senate Republicans Urge Vote on Pro-Ethanol Bill](#)

May 17, 2017 – by John Siciliano (Washington Examiner) Republican lawmakers from corn-producing states are hoping to get a vote on a pro-ethanol bill as soon as possible after striking a deal ahead of last week's failed repeal of ...

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### [Senate Deregulatory Push Picks Up](#)

May 17, 2017 –by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) After months of the House passing bills taking shots at the regulatory reform process, the Senate today kicks off its own overhaul efforts in earnest with a Homeland Security ...

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### [Rising Conservative Voices Call for Climate Change Action](#)

May 15, 2017 – by Saskia de Melker and Laura Fong (PBS News Hour) STEPHANIE SY: In the rising Eco-Right

movement, you could say these are the Eco-Righteous.

EVANGELICAL MARCHERS: Hey, hey! ho, ho! Fossil fuels have got to go!

STEPHANIE SY: ...

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## Latest on Federal Regulation



Concerns about Carl Icahn's inside-the-White House lobbying (or advising) about changing the point of obligation under the Renewable Fuels Standard--and the financial benefits he reaped as a result--continue.

CAFE vehicle emissions standards rejoin the headlines. It's boating season, too, and E0, E10 and E15 fuel concerns rise again; and are met with soothing facts.

Finally, octane is getting the recognition it seriously deserves.

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.

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### [Coalition Promises 'Vigorous' Legal Action to Maintain Vehicle Emissions Standards](#)

June 15, 2017 – by Lauren Tyler (NGT News) Leading a coalition of 13 attorneys general and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, New York Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman has given notice to the Trump administration that any effort ...

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### [Don't Spill That Ethanol! Those Cellulosic Fuels Are Worth \\$4.33 a Gallon.](#)

June 14, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) The value of cellulosic fuels has reached \$4.33 per gallon in the California market. That's real-world, today, including the energy and the low-carbon attributes, and not based on speculation. The ...

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### [Trump and the EPA Should Stay Out of Point of Obligation Fight](#)

June 9, 2017 –by Gary Baise (OFW Law/Morning Consult) ... Like the EPA, the vast majority of the liquid fuel industry is also strongly opposed to shifting the RFS point of obligation for a variety of regulatory and economic reasons. ...

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### [Biofuels Work for Oregon](#)

June 7, 2017 – by Jim Talent (Capital Ag Press/Americans for Energy Security and Innovation) Unfortunately, even as fracking reached new heights, America's total domestic crude oil production declined in 2016. According to new data from the U.S. Energy ...

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### [RFS Has Been 'Tremendous Success' Since Adoption, According to RFA Analysis](#)

June 7, 2017 – by Emily Druckman (Renewable Fuels Association) More than a decade after the original renewable fuel standard (RFS) was signed into law, tremendous progress has been made toward its goals of energy security, clean air and ...

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### [Review of Auto Standards Raises Concerns From Former EPA Officials](#)

June 6, 2017 – by Iulia Gheorghiu (Morning Consult) Former Environmental Protection Agency officials worry the

Trump administration's review of auto emissions standards could slow down U.S. innovation on fuel efficiency.

Stricter standards place a burden on automakers because of ...

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#### [CFTC Says It Is Not Probing Icahn's Activity in Biofuels Credits](#)

June 6, 2017 – by Timothy Gardner (Reuters) The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission informed eight Democratic U.S. senators last month that it is not investigating biofuels credits after the lawmakers had urged it to probe billionaire Carl Icahn's ...

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#### [Regs Under the Microscope](#)

June 5, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico's Morning Energy) Trump's OMB has dramatically ramped up the number of EPA regulations it is reviewing and has begun taking lots more meetings to gather input from interested parties, Pro's Alex ...

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#### [The RFS, Now and Beyond: The Digest's 2017 Multi-Slide Guide to the EPA's Renewable Fuel Program](#)

June 5, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) The EPA administers the US Renewable Fuels Standards out of the Office of Transportation and Air Quality, and management of the Standard has come under increasing scrutiny from critics of ...

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#### [Koehler Letter: Renewable Energy](#)

June 2, 2017 – by Neil Koehler (Pacific Ethanol/Idaho Statesman) ... The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) has played a vital role in protecting the environment and American consumers. Without it, oil companies would once again have free rein to limit choices ...

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#### [Boating, Biofuels and Dirty Politics](#)

June 2, 2017 – by William Delahunt\* (Special to Advanced Biofuels USA) Washington, D.C. is full of advocates. Some are very effective champions for important causes, but others get sucked into the maelstrom of competing special interests. Lately, I've seen ...

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#### [10 Industrial Biotechnology Wave Trends to Watch](#)

May 26, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) There are news items, then there are trends, and finally there are wave trends — trends of critical importance and that carry the likelihood of having long-lasting impact. Like the fast ripples ...

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#### [Billionaire Carl Icahn Reaps \\$60 Million as Trump Adviser](#)

May 25, 2017 – by Mario Parker (Bloomberg/Southwest Farm Press) Government work has paid off handsomely for billionaire Carl Icahn. CVR Energy Inc., his oil refining company, saved about \$60 million in the first quarter because of expectations that ...

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#### [Cultivating Homegrown Energy Solutions](#)

May 24, 2017 – by Rick Santorum (Washington Times/Americans for Energy Security and Innovation) ... With all the publicity around fracking, it's easy to assume that America's own domestic oil production is more than enough to fuel a growing ...

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#### [We Need a Disruption to Grow](#)

May 24, 2017 – by David VanderGriend (Ethanol Producer Magazine/Urban Air Initiative/ICM) ... Urban Air Initiative will be part of a group with diverse perspectives on what can be done to disrupt the establishment in order to access

higher blends. ...

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#### [Rate of EPA Chemical Regulation Ramps Up Since Toxics Law Update](#)

May 24, 2017 – by Pat Rizzuto (Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs, Inc.) The Environmental Protection Agency has been regulating more new chemicals since the Toxic Substances Control Act was overhauled than it did before, according to a snapshot ...

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#### [Living La Vida Octane: The Quest for Torque and Affordable, Sustainable Vroom](#)

May 23, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) ... In recent days, we've been updating some very useful industry charts relating to costs, carbon, and biofuels — and here's another highly useful chart from the University of Illinois that ...

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#### [Driving GHG Down, Bringing Capacity Up](#)

May 22, 2017 – by Susanne Retka Schill (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Increasing efficiency is the ethanol industry's top goal, and proving it to the U.S. EPA opens the way for expanded ethanol production. — The number to beat to ...

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#### [EPA Can Improve Its Implementation of the Renewable Fuel Standard in 6 Ways: BIO](#)

May 22, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) In Washington, the Biotechnology Innovation Organization called on the US EPA to "improve its implementation of RFS," and noted six key improvements.

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#### [Ethanol and Biodiesel: Dropping Below the Production Cost of Fossil Fuels?](#)

May 19, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) ... As you can see from the hard data, the production cost for ethanol today is \$1.22 per gallon, which translates to \$51.24 per barrel. Now, on an energy basis — ...

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#### [Trump Admin Delays Greenhouse Gas Measurement Rule for Highways](#)

May 19, 2017 – by Timothy Cama (The Hill) The Trump administration is delaying enforcement of an Obama administration regulation that would have required state and local officials to measure greenhouse gas emissions related to the use of specific ...

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#### [Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. and ABA Books Release New TSCA: A Guide to the Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act and Its Implementation](#)

May 19, 2017 – (Bergeson & Campbell) Bergeson & Campbell, P.C. (B&C®) is pleased to announce the publication of New TSCA: A Guide to the Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act and Its Implementation, released today by the American Bar Association ...

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#### [QUOTE OF THE WEEK](#)

May 18, 2017 – Joel Kurtinitis in an opinion piece in the Des Moines Register: These aren't just farmers and businessmen, they're chemists and biologists and engineers, too. There's an immense amount of research behind ethanol production, fuel blending, ...

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#### [With the RFS in doubt, Ethanol Pros Need the EPA to Back off](#)

May 18, 2017 – by Joel Kurtinitis (Des Moines Register) ... The RFS is an oddball issue that sees free-market libertarians allying with big oil corporatists, and liberal Democrats with Corn Belt Republicans — proof of the time-honored adage that politics ...

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#### [Importation, Interstate Movement, and Environmental Release of Certain Genetically Engineered Organisms: Public Meetings — June 6, June 13 and June 16, 2017 — Kansas City, MO; Davis, CA; Riverdale, MD](#)

May 18, 2017 – (US Department of Agriculture/Federal Register) A Notice by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on 05/18/2017

We are advising the public that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is hosting a series of public ...

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[Senators Call on SEC, EPA, CFTC to Investigate Trump Advisor Carl Icahn for Possible Insider Trading, Market Manipulation in Renewable Fuel Credit Market](#)

May 18, 2017 – (Office of Senator Elizabeth Warren) U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Debbie Stabenow (D-Mich.), Tom Carper (D-Del.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.), and Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), called on the ...

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[EPA Approves Fuel Pathway for REG Geismar](#)

May 17, 2017 –by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) The U.S. EPA recently posted a notice to its website approving a fuel pathway for Renewable Energy Group Inc.'s Geismar, Louisiana, biorefinery. The plant can now generate D5 advanced biofuel ...

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[Biofuel Groups Ask EPA to Ease Regulatory Burdens](#)

May 17, 2017 – by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Several biofuel trade groups have filed comments with the U.S. EPA asking for changes to regulations that are hindering the growth of U.S. ethanol production and use. On February 24, ...

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[National Biodiesel Board Submits Comments to Ease the Administration of the Renewable Fuel Standard for Biodiesel Producers](#)

May 17, 2017 – (National Biodiesel Board) Today (May 16, 2017) the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) submitted comments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in response to President Trump's Executive Order 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," ...

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[Helping Trump Help Bioenergy](#)

May 17, 2017 –by Douglas L. Faulkner (Cleantech Conservative/Biofuels Digest) ... The Trump Administration's two recent Executive Orders on "Promoting Energy Independence and Economic Growth" and especially, "Promoting Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in America" (March 28 & April 25, ...

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## Latest in Federal Litigation



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

It should be good news when there's not much litigation news. Updates on on-going litigation stemming from various lawsuits against KiOR.

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

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[Biofuel Case: \\$4.5M for Investors under Federal Settlement](#)

June 12, 2017 – by Jeff Amy (Fox Business/Associated Press) A federal judge has approved a \$4.5 million settlement for private shareholders of failed biofuel maker KiOR, and a lawsuit by the state of Mississippi seeking to recover a ...

## Advanced Biofuels USA Current Policy Analyses and Suggestions

Links to policy papers, statements and handouts can be found on the Advanced Biofuels USA home page. Or, [READ MORE](#)

## Grant Opportunities

For a list of grant opportunities, [CLICK HERE](#).

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