Dear Joanne: Here's you monthly review of what you might have missed or forgotten about: Federal Legislation, Regulation, Litigation. Policy. Requests for Comment on Federal Regulations. Plus links to International Policy Issues. At your fingertips.

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Advanced Biofuels USA Policy Analyses and Statements

#### **2020 Election Action**

Watch our new category <u>2020 Election Activities</u> for Presidential campaigning, as well as House, Senate and local/regional election activities. Also, the category <u>White House</u> focuses on Presidential involvement with biofuels.

Here are a few examples:

#### Trump in Iowa Touts Ethanol while Bashing Biden

by Miranda Green (The Hill) President Trump gave rallygoers in lowa on Tuesday a sign of what might come in 2020, speaking to them about ethanol while taking hard jabs at Democratic ... June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

### As Biden Tours Iowa, Farmers Want to Know Where He Stands on Ethanol

by Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters) Joe Biden may have an ethanol problem. The former U.S. vice president has pledged support for advanced biofuels as part of his bid for the 2020 Democratic presidential ...June 11, 2019 Read Full Article

<u>Daily on Energy: Inslee Sees a Place for Corn in Plan to Scrap EPA's Ethanol Mandate</u>

by John Siciliano and Josh Siegel (Washington Examiner) Democratic presidential hopeful Jay Inslee says there would be a place for corn ethanol in his plan to replace the nation's renewable fuel program with one ... June 10, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Opinion: Presidential Candidates Need a Vision for Biofuels

by Rob Hogg, Amanda Ragan and Bill Couser (Des Moines Register/Biofuels Vision 2020) As presidential candidates visit Iowa ahead of the caucuses, Biofuels Vision 2020 – a coalition of biofuels supporters – ... June 10, 2019 Read Full Article

#### DNC Tells Inslee It Won't Host Climate Debate

by Tal Axelrod (The Hill) Democratic presidential hopeful and Washington Gov. Jay Inslee announced Wednesday that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) is rebuffing his repeated entreaties for a primary debate focused on climate ... June 7, 2019 Read Full Article

### The Energy 202: Green New Deal Is Alive and Well in Liberal Cities and States

by Dino Grandoni (Washington Post) The Green New Deal may be floundering in Washington. But it is alive and well in left-

leaning states and cities across the country. From Maine to California, Democratic politicians ... June 3, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Democrats Must Win in Rural America — and Here's How

by Jennifer Rubin (Washington Post) ... Heitkamp (former senator Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.)) told me in a phone interview that there was "a steady but persistent erosion" of support for Democratic ...

May 31, 2019 Read Full Article

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#### **Policy: US and International**

There's lots of overlap with policies, legislation, regulations and litigation. Find articles about <u>policy developments</u> in the **US**, **other countries and states** <u>here</u>. For details, click on the name of the country or state that appears along the right margin of our <u>website</u>. Or click on tags such as:

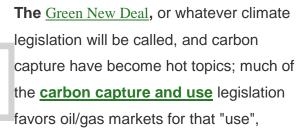
Transportation Fuels Policy

**Energy Policy** 

**Environmental Policy** 

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#### **Federal Legislation**



however.

<u>Tax credit</u> extenders and other tax legislation are getting attention, as are carbon tax/cost/price.

And various efforts to reform the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), particularly to address the <u>small refinery</u> <u>exemptions</u> (SREs), are in the news.

For more legislative news (including Executive Orders), <u>click</u> <u>here</u>. Scroll down for Regulations and Litigation news.

### Feinstein, Bennet Introduce Bill to Lock In a Science-Based Method to Determine the Cost of Carbon Pollution

(Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)) Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) and 15 of their collegues reintroduced the Carbon Pollution Transparency Act (S. 1745), legislation to ensure the federal government

implements a science-based process to account for the cost of carbon pollution in regulations through a standard metric. The bill was ...June 17, 2019 Read Full Article

### U.S. Farm State Senators Unveil Bill to Overhaul Biofuel Waiver Program

by Jarrett Renshaw and Richard Valdmanis (Reuters) Two Midwest senators said on Friday they have introduced a bill to reform the Environmental Protection Agency's opaque biofuel waiver program, which the corn industry says helps oil companies at the expense of farmers here by threatening ethanol demand. The bill, introduced by Republican Deb Fischer of ... June 17, 2019 Read Full Article

### Bipartisan Legislation Would Help Finance Carbon Capture and Storage Projects

(Office of Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO)) U.S. Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Rob Portman (R-OH) today reintroduced a bill to make it easier for power plants and industrial facilities to finance the purchase and installation of carbon capture, utilization, and storage equipment. "Reducing carbon pollution while creating good-paying jobs is something ...June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

Letter Urges Extension of 3 Biofuel-Related Tax Credits

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Reps. Abby Finkenauer, D-Iowa, and Josh Harder, D-Calif., authored a letter June 3 urging the House Ways and Means Committee to extend, and retroactively apply, several expired biofuel tax credits. The letter was signed by 17 additional members of the House. The letter specifically addresses ... June 11, 2019 Read Full Article

### The Energy 202: Green New Deal Is Alive and Well in Liberal Cities and States

by Dino Grandoni (Washington Post) The Green New Deal may be floundering in Washington. But it is alive and well in left-leaning states and cities across the country. From Maine to California, Democratic politicians have begun adopt the Green New Deal brand — a progressive movement to dramatically tackle climate change over the next decade ... June 3, 2019 Read Full Article

### All For One: The American Coalition for Ethanol's Annual Washington, D.C., Fly-In

by Lisa Gibson (Ethanol Producer Magazine) During a meeting with three attendees of the American Coalition for Ethanol's 2019 Washington, D.C., fly-in, Jaqueline Schmitz, senior policy advisor for Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., said New Jersey voters are against ethanol. They don't like the emissions and they don't want to use it ...May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

### Duckworth Accuses EPA of Deception, Calls for Probe into Ethanol Waivers

by John Siciliano (Washington Examiner) Illinois Democrat Tammy Duckworth asked the Environmental Protection Agency's inspector general Thursday to investigate whether the agency broke the law in granting dozens of waivers to the oil industry to not blend corn ethanol into the gasoline supply. Duckworth said new documents show that EPA has ...May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

### Bill Would Increase SRE Transparency, Reallocate Waived Volumes

by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) Reps. Collin Peterson, D-Minn., and Dusty Johnson, R-S.D., introduced legislation May 23 that aims to increase transparency surrounding Renewable Fuel Standard small refinery exemptions (SREs) and ensure any waived volumes are reallocated. The bill, titled the "Renewable Fuel Standard Integrity Act of 2019," would ensure key ...May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

### Wyden, Merkley Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Promote Cleaner Transportation Fuel, Healthier Forests

(Office of Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)) Legislation allows the use of biomass waste from certain federal lands in the making of renewable fuels — U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley today introduced bipartisan legislation to allow the use of

biomass from certain federal lands needing ecological restoration in the making of ...May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Senators Collins, Heinrich Lead Bipartisan Group in Introducing Energy Storage Bill to Bolster Renewables, Fight Climate Change

(Office of Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine)) The bipartisan bill authorizes \$300 million over five years to reduce the cost of promising grid-scale energy storage systems, similar to DOE's SunShot Initiative that decreased the price of solar by 75% — In order to accelerate the development of next-generation energy storage, U.S. Senators Susan ...May 23, 2019 Read Full Article

### Agriculture Industry Groups Call on Congress to Immediately Extend the Biodiesel Tax Credit

(National Biodiesel Board) Congress can address the growing economic crisis in the agriculture sector, trade groups write — Thirteen trade groups representing farmers, rural lenders, crop and biobased oil producers, and biodiesel producers today wrote leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate, asking them to take action on bipartisan legislation to ...May 23, 2019 Read Full Article

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#### **Federal Regulation**

The **E15 waiver** was announced in time for the 2019 summer driving season, aggravating petroleum and allied interests

as the RINs issues remain in limbo. "Sub-sim" issues continue.

<u>Small refinery exemptions</u> and resulting "demand destruction" continue as not only legislative, but also regulatory and federal <u>litigation</u> issues.

**Trade** tariffs are taking a stiff toll on ethanol demand and production, with 2020 candidates and rural economy analysts starting to recognize, or at least discuss, this.

And don't forget <u>CAFE/SAFE</u> and California regulations interaction. State/region-oriented <u>Low Carbon Fuel Standard</u>-type strategies are bubbling up. And frustration with EPA RFS <u>pathways</u> starts to get attention on Capitol Hill.

See also articles in <u>Legislation</u> and <u>Litigation</u> for overlapping topics.

### Could the RFS Move Toward a Low Carbon Program Like LCFS?

by Jeff Barber (OPIS) The idea of revising the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to operate more like the Low Carbon Fuel

Standard (LCFS) appears to be getting a fresh look. The rise in prices for California's LCFS credits may be a motivating factor.

More about that in a minute.... Let's first look back to ...June 18, 2019 Read Full Article

### Biofuels Industry Stakeholders Call on EPA to Remove RFS Regulatory Barriers

(Advanced Biofuels Association) Today (June 12, 2019), member companies and organizations from the Advanced Biofuels Association (ABFA), the Coalition to Address Removal of Regulatory Impediments (CARRI), and others with interest in deploying sustainable fuels sent a letter to Assistant EPA Administrator Bill Wehrum to urge the Agency to finalize provisions in ... June 17, 2019 Read Full Article

### NUVU Fuels Making E15 Lead Fuel Product Following Approval of Year-Round E15 Sales

(Growth Energy) Growth Energy announced that the Michigan-based fuel retailer NUVU Fuels will make E15 – a fuel with 15 percent renewable biofuel – the standard blend available to customers at all NUVU Fuels locations beginning this summer. NUVU Fuels will offer flex vehicle owners the choice of higher biofuel blends ... June 13, 2019 Read Full Article

The Oil Industry and Environmentalists form an Odd Alliance against Trump on Ethanol

by Emily Moon (Pacific Standard) It could be years before farmers see any gains from the rollback of E15 restrictions—or before oil interests and environmental groups see any losses. — ... For ethanol's biggest opponents, the deregulation could usher in a whole host of plagues, including environmental hazards and falling oil profits. While ...June 13, 2019 Read Full Article

### Growth Energy: American Drivers Reach 10 Billion Miles Driven on E15

(Growth Energy) Growth Energy announced that drivers across the United States have reached a new milestone, logging 10 billion miles on the road using E15. The news comes on the heels of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of year-round sales of E15 – a fuel approved for cars 2001 and newer ... June 13, 2019 Read Full Article

### Letter Urges EPA to Process Pending RFS Fuel Pathway Applications

by Erin Vogele (Biomass Magazine) A bipartisan group of 21 members of Congress, led by Reps. John Shimkus, R-III., and Chellie Pingree, D-Maine, sent a letter to U.S. EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler June 4 urging the agency to take action on pending Renewable Fuel Standard fuel pathways. According to the representatives, ...June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

### Senators Urge EPA Administrator Wheeler to Stop Issuing RIN Waivers

by Anna-Lisa Laca (AgPro) "We request that you cease issuing any further small refinery exemptions, immediately reallocate the remaining gallons, and make public the information regarding any recipients of these exemptions," they wrote. (Farm Journal) U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) on Tuesday, along with 10 other ...June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

#### How Trump (and Iowa) Changed How You Fuel Your Car

by Mario Parker and Jennifer A Dlouhy (Bloomberg) Ethanol, the intoxicating alcohol found in beer, wine and liquor, has been powering automobiles in the U.S. since the era of the Model T more than a century ago. Since the 1970s, when oil became more expensive and subject to international disputes — and ...June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

#### What Trump's New Ethanol Rules Mean for You

by Brittany De Lea (Fox Business) President Trump is in Iowa on Tuesday, just weeks after he lifted restrictions on ethanol – which could be a boon to both farmers and some drivers. At the end of May, the Trump administration announced it would allow for the year-round sale of gasoline with higher concentrations ... June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

### EPA's Internal Advisory Board Recommends Investigating Science behind Auto Emission Rollback

by Miranda Green (The Hill) The Environmental Protection
Agency's (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) is recommending
a review of the agency's decision to roll back a prominent
Obama-era policy on auto emissions. The independent group
made up of researchers and scientists wrote in a May 18
memorandum first obtained by Bloomberg that the department's
justification for ...June 12, 2019 Read Full Article

#### US EPA Readies Proposal for 2020-21 Biofuel Mandate

by Meghan Gordon (S&P Global Platts) EPA says on track to release final volumes on time; Trump to tour lowa ethanol plant Tuesday; Warren criticizes small refinery waivers — The US Environmental Protection Agency is close to releasing its proposal for how much biofuel refiners must blend into the US transportation fuel supply next ... June 11, 2019 Read Full Article

#### <u>Climate Policy Foes Seize on New White House Rule to</u> Challenge Endangerment Finding

by Marianne Lavelle (Inside Climate Today) The rule opened new ways for the fossil fuel industry to challenge science-based policy. One group is using it to try to shatter the foundation of climate policy. — ... The Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), a conservative Washington, D.C., think tank and steadfast ally of the .... June 7, 2019 Read Full Article

### EPA Switches Career Officials Running Auto, Climate Offices

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) Chris Grundler, the career official who heads the EPA office that oversees vehicle emissions and the Renewable Fuel Standard, will switch jobs with the head of another division that works on climate change as well as programs on acid rain and the ozone layer, ...June 7, 2019 Read Full Article

### Top Automakers Warn Trump about Plan to Rollback Emissions Standards

by John Bowden (The Hill) Many top-selling automakers around the world sent a letter to President Trump on Thursday urging the Trump administration to scrap plans to roll back fuel efficiency standards set during the Obama administration. In a letter signed by 17 major automakers including General Motors, Ford and Toyota, the companies wrote that ... June 7, 2019 Read Full Article

### Expanding E15 Availability Is Only a Step Toward Best Use of Biofuels

(Solutions from the Land) At long last, after years of appeals from biofuel interests, clean air advocates and rural Americans, EPA has lifted the summertime ban on the sale of 15-percent ethanol-blended gasoline (E15). The rule lifting the selective, if

not scientifically questionable, prohibition is now in place, having become effective ... June 7, 2019 Read Full Article

#### RFA: Your Source for E15 Information That Matters

(Renewable Fuels Association) ... The following key RFA resources on E15 are available publicly: RFA's Model Misfuelling Mitigation Plan, which has become the de-facto gold standard approved and promoted by the EPA. Prior to selling E15, retailers must have plans in place outlining the measures they will take to reduce the ... June 6, 2019 Read Full Article

# Attorney: E15 Rule on Solid Ground Ethanol Groups Predict Year-Round E15 Sales Will Lead to Long-Term Market Growth

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) Predicting how a legal case plays out can be dangerous territory, but an attorney representing ethanol interests in an expected petroleum industry challenge to EPA's final E15 rule said the agency appears to be on solid ground with the rule. In a Renewable Fuels Association ... June 4, 2019 Read Full Article

### From Ethanol Plants to Protein Factories: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Green Plains

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) The Digest's new "Stocks Worth Tracking" Multi-Slide Guide Series highlights hot companies that are making strides in the bioeconomy. Today's "Stock Worth

Tracking" is Green Plains. Green Plains corn milling platform has changed and improved the dry mill corn process, but their technologies are now going ... June 3, 2019 Read Full Article

### EPA Finalizes E15 Rule Agency Leaves Potential Biofuel Credit Reforms on Table for Later Time

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) EPA beat the clock in finalizing year-round E15 on Friday, one day ahead of the beginning of the summer driving season. The agency announced a final rule that also takes a much softer approach on reforms to the biofuel credits market than what was originally ... June 2, 2019 Read Full Article

### Renewable Fuels Program Hobbled by Small Refinery Exemptions

by William C. Schillaci (EHS Daily Advisor) The EPA's implementation of the small refinery exemption is one of the more disputed aspects of the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. The major question associated with the exemption appears to be how does the Agency make decisions to approve or deny applications for ... June 2, 2019 Read Full Article

#### EPA Allows Year-Round Sales of E15

by Eric Pfeiffer (Hoosier Ag Today) The EPA announced Friday morning that they have met the deadline for the summer driving

season to allow year-round sales of E15, a fuel blended with 15 percent ethanol. "Corn farmers have been long-time advocates of higher blends of ethanol such as E15, touting its benefits to ....

May 31, 2019 Read Full Article

### Strategy for Growth: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Pacific Ethanol

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) The Digest's new "Stocks Worth Tracking" Multi-Slide Guide Series highlights hot companies that are making strides in the bioeconomy. Today's "Stock Worth Tracking" is Pacific Ethanol. Pacific Ethanol was originally founded in 2003 as the first pure-play ethanol company and now has nine bio-refineries in the ... May 31, 2019 Read Full Article

#### EPA Ready to Scrap Biofuel Market Reform in Bid to Boost Ethanol

by Jennifer A Dlouhy and Mario Parker (Bloomberg) Agency initially planned to bar some traders and cap positions; Rush to propel high-ethanol fuel by June 1 complicated effort — The Environmental Protection Agency is poised to jettison proposed trading restrictions on a \$5.2 billion market for biofuel compliance credits in a coming rule, casting aside ... May 29, 2019 Read Full Article

Commentary: The Trade Barriers You Don't Hear About

by Gary Truitt (Hoosier Ag Today) ... While we are struggling to export corn, there is a market that is ready buy U.S. corn just in a different form. Ethanol exports have been booming and could expand even more if the EPA would allow more ethanol production. Its slow pace on ... May 28, 2019 Read Full Article

# The Daily 202: Trump Keeps Trying to Pick Winners and Losers – from the Bailout for Farmers to a Border Wall Contract

by James Hohmann (Washington Post) ... Trump proceeded to tout initiatives he's taken to help corn growers. He noted that he directed the EPA to make it easier to sell more ethanol in vehicle fuel, lifting summertime fueling restrictions on E15 gasoline, which means it contains as much as 15 percent ... May 28, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Houston We Have a Problem...

by Doug Durante (Biofuels Digest/Clean Fuels Development Coalition) and Dave VanderGriend (Urban Air Initiative) Floods, horrible chemical fires, and now a barge accident in the port resulting in a chemical spill that further reveals the dirty little secret of gasoline — that it is toxic and can kill you. As CNN and ... May 27, 2019 Read Full Article

All For One: The American Coalition for Ethanol's Annual Washington, D.C., Fly-In

by Lisa Gibson (Ethanol Producer Magazine) During a meeting with three attendees of the American Coalition for Ethanol's 2019 Washington, D.C., fly-in, Jaqueline Schmitz, senior policy advisor for Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., said New Jersey voters are against ethanol. They don't like the emissions and they don't want to use it ... May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Exclusive: EPA to Unveil Less Ambitious U.S. Biofuel Credit Reform – Sources

Humeyra Pamuk and Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to unveil a narrowed-down version of its proposed biofuel credit market reform this month after regulators concluded many of the agency's initial ideas required more time to study, according to four people briefed on the matter. ... It ... May 24, 2019 Read Full Article

#### Dems Say Wheeler Misled Congress

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) Senate
Environment and Public Works ranking member Tom Carper and
House Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone are
calling on Wheeler to provide documents related to the agency's
public defense of its proposed Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient
Vehicles rule. In their letter, the Democrats say ...May 24,
2019 Read Full Article

#### EPA Sends RFS Reset Plan to OMB For Review

(DTN Progressive Farmer) EPA has sent its proposed plan for a reset of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), one of the final stages before the plan will be released. There are no indications regarding levels EPA is proposing at this stage for 2020, ... May 23, 2019 Read Full Article

### Hemp Is Hot! The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Industrial Hemp

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Holland & Knight, a law firm based in Washington, D.C. and in the know of the fast changing federal regulations and rules, spoke at the Digest's webinar this week about the road ahead for industrial hemp. Is it a smooth road ahead for hemp? Check out ... May 23, 2019 Read Full Article

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## Regulations Open for Public Comment

IRS to Seek Comment on Key Issues to Be Interpreted in Section 45Q Tax Credit

(Hunton Andrews Kurth) The Department of Treasury ("Treasury") and Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") have released Notice 2019-32 (the "Notice") seeking comment on key issues to be interpreted in the Section 45Q carbon oxide sequestration tax credit. Congress significantly enhanced the Section 45Q tax credit in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 ...

May 17, 2019 Read Full Article

#### MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS

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#### **Federal Litigation**

As expected, petroleum representatives filed suit against the E15 waiver policy. Multiple suits continue on EPA's "small" refinery exemptions and reallocation

of the <u>waived gallons</u> with a hoped-for injunction denied without explanation.

For more on federal litigation, click here.

U.S. Refiner Group Sues Trump EPA over High-Ethanol Gasoline

by Richard Valdmanis (Reuters) The main U.S. refining industry association said on Monday it sued to block the Trump administration's effort to expand sales of higher ethanol blends of gasoline, arguing the move exceeded the administration's authority. The legal challenge from the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM) association escalated a ... June 11, 2019 Read Full Article

#### "Volkswagen Settlement State Scorecard" Gets a Failing Grade, Places Technology Favorites over Clean Air, State Independence

by Allen Schaeffer (Diesel Technology Forum) Report Ignores
Basic Premise of Settlement, Wrongly Vilifies States that
Diversify Spending and Chose Clean Air First — Statement
from the desk of Allen Schaeffer, executive director of the Diesel
Technology Forum, in response to a report issued ... by US
Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) and Environment ...May
29, 2019 Read Full Article

### Ethanol Blog Biofuels Group's Small Refinery Waivers Lawsuit Runs into Trouble in Court of Appeals

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) The EPA and a handful of small refiners won a partial victory in federal court on Friday, in a lawsuit filed by a biofuels interest group calling itself Producers of Renewables United for Integrity, Truth and

Transparency, or PRUITT, aimed at stopping the agency's issuance ... May 28, 2019 Read Full Article

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#### By and About Advanced Biofuels USA

For the lastest news by and about Advanced Biofuels USA, click here.

### 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

For example, a suggestion for taxing the non-renewable part of transportation fuels is <u>here</u>.

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Joanne: If you read some of these articles and say to yourself, "That's really important!", you understand the need for biofuels education. Biofuels is not an easy topic to understand.

Reporters (and those who read their articles and make purchasing and investing decisions based on them) may not

have much background in renewable energy or transportation fuels and engines, let alone the intricacies and nuances of the places where the rubber of policy meets the road of legislation, regulations and litigation. Heck, even the people working on those laws and regulations could use a refresher.

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