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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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## Open Public Comment Requests

[Pruitt Unveils Controversial 'Transparency' Rule Limiting What Research EPA Can Use](#)  
[COMMENT DEADLINE May 30, 2018](#)

by Juliet Eilperin and Brady Dennis (The Washington Post) Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt moved Tuesday to limit what science can be used in writing agency regulations, a change long sought by conservatives. The proposed rule would ...

[MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS](#)

## 2018 US Senate and House Elections

Some will be making biofuels an issue during this year's US Senate and House of Representatives elections. We'll follow developments [here](#) and on our [website](#) with

category, [2018 Election Activities](#) and tag, [2018 US Senate and House Campaigns](#) .

## Latest Federal Legislation Posts



**Revisions to the Renewable Fuel Standard** and the **Farm Bill**, particularly the **Energy Title** continue to top conversations about potential legislation. Lots of overlap with regulatory issues. The **E15/Reid Vapor Pressure waiver** issue exemplifies the range of options under consideration--legislative and administrative.

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 the website, [www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org](http://www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org).

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### [Biogas as a Waste Management Solution: Turning “Waste” into Resources — May 23, 2018 — Washington, DC](#)

May 14, 2018 – The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) and the American Biogas Council (ABC) invite you to a briefing about the numerous challenges posed by organic wastes—to human health, water and air quality, and to businesses that must manage these ...

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### [Biofuels Production and Consumption in the US: Status, Advances and Challenges](#)

May 11, 2018 – by Mahmood Ebadian and James D. McMillan (IEA Bioenergy Task 39 Newsletter) ... The Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) was enacted in 2007 to enhance domestic production of fuels and spur economic development while reducing reliance ...

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### [Pelosi Visits Central Iowa Farm, Warns RFS under Attack](#)

May 10, 2018 – by O. Kay Henderson (Radio Iowa) California Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi — the top-ranking Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives — toured a central Iowa farm early this morning.

Pelosi's visit follows her speech last (Sunday) night ...

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### [Repeating History with Octane Biofuel Standards Is a Huge Mistake](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Mike Carr (New Energy America/The Hill) Recently, Chet Thompson of American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM) testified before Congress and proposed a “fuel neutral” octane standard as a “potential replacement” for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

Octane is a ...

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### [US EPA Climate Changing on RFS?](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Michael McAdams (Advanced Biofuels Association/Biomass Magazine) At ABFA, we've been keeping our eyes on the U.S. EPA during the first quarter of 2018. The EPA's actions over the next several months will have ripple effects ...

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### [EPA Lacks Power to Administratively Expand Ethanol Waiver](#)

May 9, 2018 – (Institute for Energy Research) The Trump administration is considering expanding the ethanol fuel waiver in the Clean Air Act (CAA) to allow E15 fuel (gasoline containing up to 15% ethanol) to be sold year round. The ...

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### [Mail Call! Biofuels Write to EPA on Strategy](#)

May 4, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) A coalition of

Midwest biofuels associations sent a letter Thursday to EPA asking it to move administrative time and staff away from Renewable Fuel Standard exemptions and instead toward ...

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#### [Ethanol Blog: Is Budget Report Language Cause of RFS Waivers?](#)

May 3, 2018 – by Todd Neeley (DTN The Progressive Farmer) Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, mentioned on Tuesday he wants to change language in recent appropriations bills approved by Congress in the past three years.

Grassley told agricultural journalists the language ...

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#### [Update 2-White House Sets Meeting with Senators on Biofuels Next Week -Sources](#)

May 3, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters/Successful Farming) The Trump administration has invited a group of U.S. senators to the White House early next week to discuss biofuels policy, the latest in a series of such meetings aimed at helping refiners cope ...

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#### [Marathon Petroleum to Acquire Andeavor for \\$23B](#)

May 1, 2018 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) ... The deal creates the largest US oil refiner (and a top-five refiner globally) at 3.1 million barrels per day of capacity — Valero is around the same size, but that ...

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#### [Stay Vigilant: The Importance of Paying Attention and Remaining Active in Ethanol Advocacy.](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Brian Jennings (Ethanol Producer Magazine/American Coalition for Ethanol ) ... The timing of this year's fly-in was fortuitous, amid talk of "win-win" deals for refiners and biofuel producers and a snowstorm that put the citizens ...

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### [How Trump Will Go after California's Auto GHG Authority](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The Trump administration plans to argue that California does not have the authority to enforce stringent greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars, despite the Obama administration's 2009 waiver, according to a ...

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### [Washington Insider: Biofuels Mandates Under Pressure](#)

April 26, 2018 – (DTN The Progressive Farmer) Oil state partisans, including certain refiners, have raged about a credit-trading market within the program that they say causes undue economic pain. The biofuels industry counters that those compliance credits, known as ...

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### [Ag Policy Blog — NFU Opposes House Version of Farm Bill](#)

April 26, 2018 – by Chris Clayton (DTN The Progressive Farmer) In another blow to support for the House version of the farm bill, the National Farmers Union's board of directors early Wednesday passed a unanimous resolution to oppose the ...

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### [ABO Insider Briefing: Algae's Big Winning Streak in DC – How to Take Advantage — May 1, 2018](#)

April 25, 2018 – (Algae Biomass Organization) Algae is on a roll in Congress. Despite a challenging fiscal environment, the latest federal spending bill passed by Congress includes new funding for algae R&D that will be available in FY2018 and, ...

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### [Refinery Workers Return to Capitol Hill to Rally for Renewable Fuel Standard Reform](#)

April 25, 2018 – (United Steelworkers/PR Newswire) The United Steelworkers (USW) today said that on Thursday, April 26, about 100 workers from independent merchant oil refineries owned by Monroe Energy, Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) and PBF Energy will rally for ...

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### [Carbon Capture Could Be a Financial Opportunity for US Biofuels](#)

April 24, 2018 – (Stanford University/Phys.Org) Although considered critical to avoiding catastrophic global warming, the feasibility of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and storing it underground – known as negative emissions – has been in question.

But researchers at Stanford ...

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### [House Committee Passes 2018 Farm Bill](#)

April 20, 2018 – by Erin Voegelé (Ethanol Producer Magazine) ... In a statement, House Ranking Member Collin Peterson, D-Minn., criticized the legislation, calling it “a flawed bill that is the result of a bad nontransparent process.” Cuts to ...

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### [McConnell Introduces the Hemp Farming Act of 2018](#)

April 18, 2018 – by Erin Voegelé (Biomass Magazine) On April 12, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., introduced the Hemp Farming Act of 2018, bipartisan legislation that aims to legalize and clearly define hemp as an agricultural commodity and ...

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### [Carbon Taxes Can Be Both Fair and Effective, Study Shows](#)

April 18, 2018 – (Massachusetts Institute of Technology/EurekAlert!) Several different carbon-pricing approaches would help reduce emissions, and some would be fair as well, researchers report — Putting a price on carbon, in the form of a fee or tax on the ...

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### [Draft 2018 Farm Bill Reauthorizes Energy Title Programs](#)

April 13, 2018 – by Erin Voegelé (Ethanol Producer Magazine) On April 12, House Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway, R-Texas, released a draft

of the 2018 Farm Bill, officially titled the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018. The legislation ...

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## Latest on Federal Regulation



It isn't ALL "**Small refinery waiver**" requests, **E15 Reid Vapor Pressure** "one pound waiver" discussions and **CAFE** (Corporate Average Fuel Economy) **mid-term review** issues and challenges to **California's** authority to set vehicle pollution control standards. There's also dissent about the slow pace of **pathway approvals** by the Environmental Protection Agency, allowing **RINs for exported ethanol** and action in favor of **renewable natural gas**. Concerns about fuel testing protocols and declaration of woody biomass **carbon neutrality, co-optimization** of fuels and engines, and compliance with Food and Drug Administration **food safety** also got attention.

Scroll down for details, for information about regulations related to these topics and others.

Don't forget--you can find links to related articles in the online posts.

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### [UPDATE 2-Trump Biofuel Policy Overhaul to Include Fewer Refinery Waivers – Source](#)

May 14, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw and Chris Prentice (Reuters) The Trump administration will scale back the use of biofuels waivers for small refineries and count ethanol exports toward federal biofuels usage quotas as part of a broad overhaul of ...

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### [Deal or No Deal– Either Way We Need to Keep Moving](#)

May 11, 2018 – by Doug Durante (Clean Fuels Development Coalition/Biofuels

Digest) ... First of all the export RIN issue does raise trade questions but if RINS go back to pennies then it would be hard for anyone to consider ...

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### [Trump Tells World's Top Automakers to Build More Cars in U.S](#)

May 11, 2018 – by Tom Krisher and Ken Thomas (Associated Press/Chicago Tribune) President Donald Trump told leaders of the world's top automakers on Friday that he wants to see more cars built in the United States as his administration weighs plans ...

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### [Trump, Top Car Executives Meet Amid Struggle over Climate Rules for Automobiles](#)

May 11, 2018 – by Chris Mooney (The Washington Post) Executives from top car companies arrived at the White House on Friday amid a looming legal conflict between the Trump administration and primarily Democratic-led states over climate rules for automobiles.

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### [New FSMA Compliance Program Launched for Biodiesel Producers](#)

May 10, 2018 – by Ron Kotrba (Biodiesel Magazine) A new food safety program has been developed by the Iowa Biodiesel Board to help biodiesel producers comply with the U.S. government's Food Safety Modernization Act, deadlines for which are quickly approaching. Glycerin, ...

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### [Groups Ask EPA to Prioritize Cellulosic Pathway Approvals](#)

May 9, 2018 – (Iowa Renewable Fuels Association/Ethanol Producer Magazine) Today (May 3, 2018) five Midwest biofuels associations sent a letter to the EPA asking the agency to shift administrative time and staff away from demand-destroying Renewable Fuel Standard exemptions ...

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### [Growth Energy's Retail Partners Call on Trump for RVP Relief](#)

May 9, 2018 –(Growth Energy/Ethanol Producer Magazine) E15 retailers from across the country are urging President Trump to ensure the Environmental



Protection Agency follows through on his commitment to allow fuel containing 15 percent ethanol to be sold ...

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### [Rallying for RNG](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Anna Simet (Biomass Magazine) The Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas's Marcus Gillette discusses the organization, its goals and progress in expanding the production and use of RNG in North America. — ... The Coalition for Renewable ...

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### [If at First You Don't Succeed: The Looming Fight between the Trump Administration and the State of California over Climate Change Rules for Cars](#)

May 9, 2018 –by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The looming fight between the Trump administration and the state of California over climate change rules for cars will cover some familiar terrain – where the liberal state and ...

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### [EPA Lacks Power to Administratively Expand Ethanol Waiver](#)

May 9, 2018 – (Institute for Energy Research) The Trump administration is considering expanding the ethanol fuel waiver in the Clean Air Act (CAA) to allow E15 fuel (gasoline containing up to 15% ethanol) to be sold year round. The ...

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### [UPDATE 1-U.S. Refiners Reap Big Rewards from EPA Biofuel Waivers](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's expanded use of waivers to free small refineries from the nation's biofuels law has saved the industry as a whole hundreds of millions of dollars, according to ...

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### [Parties to White House Biofuel Deal Disagree What's Agreed](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Jennifer A Dlouhy and Mario Parker (Bloomberg) Tentative agreement struck during a White House negotiation; Refiners could benefit with

biofuel exports allowed for quotas — A tentative deal on U.S. biofuel policy struck at the White House would allow year-round ...

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### [Urban Air Uncovers More Fishy Fuel Testing](#)

May 8, 2018 – (Urban Air Initiative) Urban Air Initiative uncovered what looks to be more fishy fuel testing. Last year, we called out the Coordinated Research Council (CRC) for using flawed fuel blending practices when evaluating ethanol emissions. These CRC studies ...

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### [Pruitt's Renewable Fuel Attacks Cost Him GOP Support in Congress](#)

May 7, 2018 –by Mike Carr (The Hill/New Energy America) As the drip, drip of Pruitt scandals becomes a deluge, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's supporters continue to claim that he should be protected because he's "advancing the president's agenda." But because ...

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### [Carl Icahn's Refinery Investment Has Rebounded by \\$1.4 Billion, Boosted by Trump Energy Policy](#)

May 7, 2018 – by Tom DiChristopher (CNBC) -Shares of CVR Energy have more than doubled since August, resulting in a \$1.4 billion paper gain for Carl Icahn, who holds an 82-percent stake in the company. -CVR Energy's stock price ...

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### [Debate over the RFS Is Playing out on the Political Stage: The Public Discussion Rarely Considers American Consumers.](#)

May 7, 2018 – by Donnell Rehagen (National Biodiesel Board/Biofuels Digest) The biofuels industry found itself in an unusual position for much of the past 12 months. Typically confined to debates in the trade press, biofuels-related headlines are now splashed across ...

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### [Bioenergy \(Biofuels/Biomass\) Low-Carbon Biofuels, Bioproducts Crucial to Two Degree Scenario](#)

May 7, 2018 – by Jessie Stolark (Environmental and Energy Study Institute) In April, the European Commission, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), below50, the Biofuture Platform, and the ART Fuels Forum formally expressed the sense that low-carbon fuels will be ...

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#### [Mail Call! Biofuels Write to EPA on Strategy](#)

May 4, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) A coalition of Midwest biofuels associations sent a letter Thursday to EPA asking it to move administrative time and staff away from Renewable Fuel Standard exemptions and instead toward ...

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#### [How Trump Might Make SUVs Pricier in Seattle than Omaha](#)

May 4, 2018 – by Camille von Kaenel (E&E News) ... The Trump administration's efforts to weaken vehicle pollution requirements could set up a split U.S. market, concentrating fuel-efficient cars in mostly Democratic states and gas guzzlers in the red ...

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#### [Growth Energy Ad Campaign Rallies Midwest Behind E15 Fix](#)

May 4, 2018 – (Growth Energy) A new radio ad launched today by Growth Energy reminds listeners across the heartland that it's "make or break time" for the rural economy. Slated to air alongside a digital ad campaign in Midwestern states, the radio spot ...

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#### [UPDATE 1-Trump to Meet with Automakers to Discuss U.S. Fuel Rules -Sources](#)

May 3, 2018 –by David Shepardson (Reuters) The White House is planning a meeting next week between President Donald Trump and senior leaders of major U.S. and foreign automakers to discuss planned fuel efficiency rule changes through 2026, automakers ...

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### [Ethanol Blog: Is Budget Report Language Cause of RFS Waivers?](#)

May 3, 2018 –by Todd Neeley (DTN The Progressive Farmer) Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, mentioned on Tuesday he wants to change language in recent appropriations bills approved by Congress in the past three years.

Grassley told agricultural journalists the language ...

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### [Update 2-White House Sets Meeting with Senators on Biofuels Next Week -Sources](#)

May 3, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters/Successful Farming) The Trump administration has invited a group of U.S. senators to the White House early next week to discuss biofuels policy, the latest in a series of such meetings aimed at helping refiners cope ...

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### [Trucking Executive Panel Objects to EPA Fuel Economy Rollback Plan](#)

May 2, 2018 – by John O'Dell (Trucks.com) “Stay the course” is the message a panel of leading clean vehicle developers, users and regulators delivered Tuesday in the wake of the Trump Administration’s plan to roll back tough fuel economy ...

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### [RFA: Ethanol Saves Consumers at the Pump](#)

May 2, 2018 – by Cindy Zimmerman (Energy.AgWired.com) ... Energy Information Administration is already warning drivers that they are likely to see the highest gasoline prices in four years. The good news is that ethanol is helping to offset ...

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### [Rounds, Thune Join Bipartisan Group of Senators in Pushing EPA Administrator Pruitt for Year-Round E15 Waiver](#)

May 2, 2018 – (Office of Senator Mike Rounds (R-S.D.)) U.S. Sens. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.) and John Thune (R-S.D.) today joined 16 of their Senate colleagues in writing to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt highlighting the benefits of year-round ...

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### [Utilities, Oil Interests Clash over EV Policy at Conservative Policy Summit](#)

May 1, 2018 – by Gavin Bade (Utility Dive) Utility companies clashed with oil industry interests over electric vehicle and fuel subsidies at a meeting of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), a conservative political group, last Friday. Oil-backed groups led ...

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### [EIA: Subsidies for Renewables Down as Tax Credits Diminish](#)

May 1, 2018 – (U.S. Energy Information Administration/Ethanol Producer Magazine) Federal subsidies for renewable energy—including biofuels for transportation use and renewable generation of electricity—dropped to \$6.7 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2016, a 56 percent decline from FY 2013. Renewable ...

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### [Marathon Petroleum to Acquire Andeavor for \\$23B](#)

May 1, 2018 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) ... The deal creates the largest US oil refiner (and a top-five refiner globally) at 3.1 million barrels per day of capacity — Valero is around the same size, but that ...

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### [Stay Vigilant: The Importance of Paying Attention and Remaining Active in Ethanol Advocacy.](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Brian Jennings (Ethanol Producer Magazine/American Coalition for Ethanol ) ... The timing of this year’s fly-in was fortuitous, amid talk of “win-win” deals for refiners and biofuel producers and a snowstorm that put the citizens ...

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### [Isobutanol: Now on the Radar for USA COMMENTS DUE April 30, 2018](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Jess Hewitt (Biofuels Digest/Lee Enterprises Consulting) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has opened a comment period for the registration of the use of Isobutanol in gasoline. Why is this important? Because since the states banning ...

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### [Exclusive: U.S. EPA Grants Biofuels Waiver to Billionaire Icahn's Oil Refinery – Sources](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw and Chris Prentice (Reuters) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has granted a financial hardship waiver to an oil refinery owned by billionaire Carl Icahn, a former adviser to President Donald Trump, exempting the ...

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### [How Trump Will Go after California's Auto GHG Authority](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The Trump administration plans to argue that California does not have the authority to enforce stringent greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars, despite the Obama administration's 2009 waiver, according to a ...

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### [Urban Air Initiative: Leading Off — Why Did a Retired Oil Refinery Engineer Turn into an Ethanol Advocate?](#)

April 27, 2018 – (Urban Air Initiative) The resistance to ethanol expansion is really about politics and a desire to squash competition. But if you weed through all of PR campaigns and simply evaluate fuel options from the perspective of ...

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### [Washington Insider: Biofuels Mandates Under Pressure](#)

April 26, 2018 – (DTN The Progressive Farmer) Oil state partisans, including certain refiners, have raged about a credit-trading market within the program that they say causes undue economic pain. The biofuels industry counters that those compliance credits, known as ...

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### [EPA Data Shows Small Refiner Waivers Have Lowered 2016, 2017 RFS Blending Obligations by 1.6 Billion Gallons](#)

April 25, 2018 – by Emily Druckman (Renewable Fuels Association) EPA's recent actions in exempting small refineries from their Renewable Fuel Standard blending

obligations for 2016 and 2017 have effectively lowered the volumetric obligations by at least 1.6 billion ...

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### [Refinery Workers Return to Capitol Hill to Rally for Renewable Fuel Standard Reform](#)

April 25, 2018 – (United Steelworkers/PR Newswire) The United Steelworkers (USW) today said that on Thursday, April 26, about 100 workers from independent merchant oil refineries owned by Monroe Energy, Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) and PBF Energy will rally for ...

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### [Is the EU Killing the Magic Plant? The Emerging International Consensus on Low Carbon Fuels Takes Center Stage in \(Spite of\) Brussels](#)

April 25, 2018 –by Steve Bi\* (Advanced Biofuels USA) At one of a series of bioenergy conferences in Brussels, April 10-12, 2018, some combination of hearty guffaws, inward chuckles and solemn nods greeted the predictable but well-delivered punchline ...

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### [Pruitt Unveils Controversial ‘Transparency’ Rule Limiting What Research EPA Can Use](#) [COMMENT DEADLINE May 30, 2018](#)

April 25, 2018 – by Juliet Eilperin and Brady Dennis (The Washington Post) Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt moved Tuesday to limit what science can be used in writing agency regulations, a change long sought by conservatives.

The proposed rule would ...

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### [EPA Announces Biomass from Managed Forests Will Be Considered Carbon Neutral](#)

April 24, 2018 –by Meghan Sapp (Biofuels Digest) In Georgia, in a meeting with members of the forestry community, the Administrator of the Environmental

Protection Agency announced the Agency issued a statement of policy making clear, that future regulatory actions on ...

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### [Renewable Natural Gas Production Facilities Grow by 85% in Four Years](#)

April 23, 2018 – by Alyssa Danigelis (Energy Manager Today) A new map and project database show at least 76 operational renewable natural gas production facilities in the United States and Canada now. That represents an 85% growth from the ...

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### [The New War Over Ethanol, And How It Might Affect You](#)

April 23, 2018 – by F. Todd Davidson (Forbes) A seemingly small action from the Environmental Protection Agency could spark a new war between Big Oil and Big Ag that could have far-reaching effects on the U.S. agricultural, energy, and transportation ...

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### [Farm Bill Delays, Ethanol Waivers Worry SD Sen. Rounds](#)

April 23, 2018 – by Barry Amundson (Grand Forks Herald) U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds, R-S.D, is concerned about two major issues that can affect farmers and ranchers this year.

One is the farm bill that faces an uncertain future as it's set ...

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### [Where Do Biofuels Stand? You Can't Always Get What You Want](#)

April 23, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) Despite efforts by President Donald Trump to settle a long-running dispute between ethanol backers and the refining industry, progress on a biofuels deal has stalled. Instead, the administration has taken ...

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### [Certification Program Will Help Biodiesel Producers Meet FSMA Requirements](#)

April 23, 2018 – (Iowa Biodiesel Board) Iowa Biodiesel Board launches program to meet industry need; Webinar takes place May 10 — Biodiesel producers who want to sell glycerin that can end up as an animal food ingredient will soon be ...

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### [Vehicle Efficiency Transportation 2050: More EVs, but Conventional Vehicles Will Still Dominate](#)

April 20, 2018 – by Jieyi Lu (Environmental and Energy Study Institute) Making Vehicles More Efficient Is Critical to Reduce Emissions — ... Over the next 30 years, electric vehicles (EVs) will grow and fuel economy will increase, but conventional gasoline ...

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### [Ethanol Industry Expected to Meet Growing E15 Demand](#)

April 20, 2018 – by Terry Anderson (Midwest Messenger News) ... One day after President Trump told a group of governors and lawmakers invited to the White House that he supports sales of E15 — 15 percent ethanol and 85 ...

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### [Big Bailout Number Two](#)

April 20, 2018 – by John Siciliano and Josh Siegel (Washington Examiner Daily on Energy) ...The other big bailout concern is the Environmental Protection Agency's waivers to big refining companies to let them off the hook from meeting the national ...

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### [Perdue's Strong First Year at USDA May Be Clouded by Ethanol Doubts](#)

April 20, 2018 – by Chuck Abbott (Successful Farming) ... In May 2017, during his (Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue) first month as secretary, he created the post of undersecretary for trade, a longtime goal of farm groups, as part of ...

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### [Trump's EPA Argues More People Will Die in Car Accidents unless California Fuel Rules Are Weakened](#)

April 20, 2018 –by Evan Halper (Los Angeles Times) The Trump administration is embracing a curious — and some would say dated — argument as it builds its case to weaken federal rules championed by California that require ...

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#### [Anti-Ethanol Pundits Show Iowa Uses Less of Its Own Produce](#)

April 20, 2018 – by John Siciliano and Josh Siegel (Washington Examiner) A study showing that U.S. ethanol leader Iowa doesn't use a lot of its own corn-based fuel is exciting some in the anti-ethanol crowd in Washington. "Iowa — the number ...

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#### [Farm State Senators Tell EPA to Stop Giving Big Oil Refiners a Pass on Biofuels Rules](#)

April 20, 2018 – by Tom DiChristopher (CNBC) Bipartisan senators on Tuesday asked the EPA to stop issuing waivers that allow oil refiners to avoid obligations to blend biofuels into gasoline. –EPA has reportedly issued 25 of the "hardship" ...

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#### [Exclusive Report: The Federal Biofuel Mandate 'Has Failed To Achieve Its Policy Goals'](#)

April 19, 2018 – by Michael Bastasch (The Daily Caller) The federal biofuel mandate "has failed to achieve its policy goals while imposing significant other costs on consumers," according to a new report.

Americans paid out nearly \$77 billion in additional fuel ...

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#### [New Release: Co-Optima 2017 Year in Review](#)

April 18, 2018 – (U.S. Department of Energy) While vehicles and fuels currently on the market get travelers from Point A to Point B, are there new options that could save fuel and money, while also delivering higher performance ...

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#### [Automakers Want 95 Octane Gas To Completely Take Over](#)

April 18, 2018 – by Erik Shilling (Jalopnik) ... Higher compression ratios, and thus

higher octane, can have the additional benefit of greater fuel efficiency if the engine is built that way from the start, however. Which is why automakers are ...

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### [King Tells Iowa RFA: “I Want Ethanol sold TO, THROUGH, and BEYOND the E15 Blend.”](#)

April 18, 2018 – (4-Traders) Congressman King Pledges Continued Biofuel Support to Iowa Renewable Fuels Association — Congressman Steve King, a member of the House Agriculture Committee, released the following statement after meeting today with members of the Iowa Renewable Fuels ...

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### [Cars Threaten Climate Goals in Blue States](#)

April 18, 2018 – by Benjamin Storrow (E&E News) ... Transportation emissions threaten to undercut blue states' climate goals, raising questions about their ability to lead U.S. climate efforts at a time when the federal government is rolling back ...

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## Latest in Federal Litigation



Policy-related litigation filed with complaints about waivers from **RINs** obligations granted to oil refineries and from **California** in response to the **White House** **CAFE** standards review joined criminal charges for **fraud**--in the VW-Gate scandal and for RINs fraud.

The **Urban Air Initiative** stood up to **Sierra Club** erroneous statements about ethanol in a law suit.

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

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

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### [California Man Sentenced to 51 Months in Prison for Renewable Fuel Fraud](#)

May 10, 2018 –(U.S. Department of Justice) Acting Assistant Attorney General Jeffrey H. Wood of the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division and United States Attorney Joseph H. Harrington for the Eastern District of Washington, announced that Jin ...

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### [If at First You Don’t Succeed: The Looming Fight between the Trump Administration and the State of California over Climate Change Rules for Cars](#)

May 9, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico’s Morning Energy) The looming fight between the Trump administration and the state of California over climate change rules for cars will cover some familiar terrain – where the liberal state and ...

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### [Former Volkswagen CEO Indicted Over Emission Testing Scandal](#)

May 4, 2018 – by Sonari Ginton (National Public Radio) Martin Winterkorn, the former head of Volkswagen, was indicted on Thursday along with five other former VW executives on charges of conspiracy and fraud in connection with a years-long scheme ...

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### [Ethanol Blog: Is Budget Report Language Cause of RFS Waivers?](#)

May 3, 2018 – by Todd Neeley (DTN The Progressive Farmer) Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, mentioned on Tuesday he wants to change language in recent appropriations bills approved by Congress in the past three years.

Grassley told agricultural journalists the language ...

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### [UPDATE 1-Biofuel Group Asks U.S. Court to Review EPA's Refinery Waivers](#)

May 2, 2018 – by Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters) A biofuels trade group asked a federal court on Tuesday to rule whether the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency violated the law in granting a growing number of small refineries exemptions from renewable ...

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### [California And 16 Other States Are Suing Trump To Stop Him Destroying Emissions Standards](#)

May 1, 2018 – by Raphael Orlove (Jalopnik) Our emissions standards are probably the biggest booster to automotive performance in the past half century, making our cars not only more eco-friendly but more powerful, too. Trump has been trying to cut it ...

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### [How Trump Will Go after California's Auto GHG Authority](#)

April 30, 2018 – by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The Trump administration plans to argue that California does not have the authority to enforce stringent greenhouse gas emissions standards for cars, despite the Obama administration's 2009 waiver, according to a ...

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### [Urban Air Initiative Discredits Sierra Club's Inaccurate Assumptions About Ethanol](#)

April 6, 2018 – (Urban Air Initiative) In an effort to rebut erroneous assumptions about ethanol's health effects in a lawsuit filed by the Sierra Club, the Urban Air Initiative submitted an amicus brief describing the health benefits of blending ...

## **Advanced Biofuels USA News**

For the latest 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](#)

Joanne: **If you read some of these articles and say to yourself, "That's Just Wrong!"** then you understand the need for biofuels education. This is not easy stuff to understand. And reporters (and folks 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.*

We are doing something about that every day.

AND, we have a special effort to publish an **easy-to-read summary of biofuels developments and issues**. If you would like to help, please give me a call at 301-644-1395 or send an email to [info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org](mailto:info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org) and I'll get you more information.

Thanks,

Joanne Ivancic, Executive Director

**EDUCATION NEWSLETTER, too!** Advanced Biofuels USA sends three newsletters: *Conference Calendar; Policy, Legislation, Regulations, Happenings; and a NEW Education Newsletter*. All can be found archived on

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