

Dear Joanne: Here's your December 2019 review of what you might have missed or forgotten about US Federal Legislation, Regulation, Litigation, Policy, Requests for Comment on Federal Regulations. Plus links to International Policy Issues. At your fingertips.

[View this email in your browser](#)

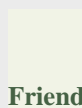


### Your promo here.

Contact 301-644-1395 or [info @ AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org](mailto:info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org) for details.

*If you find this newsletter useful, share the news. Please forward to three friends.*

[t @AdvancedBioFuel](#) [f Friend Us](#) [✉ Forward To A](#)



Friend



We can use your help. Please donate today. Also, you can choose Advanced Biofuels USA as your [AmazonSmile charity](#).

### Table of Contents

- [2020 Election Activities](#)
- [Policy: US and International](#)
- [Federal Legislation](#)
- [Federal Regulations](#)
- [Regulations Open for Public Comment](#)

- [Federal Litigation](#)
  - [By and About Advanced Biofuels USA](#)
  - [Advanced Biofuels USA Policy Analyses and Statements](#)
- 

## 2020 Election Activities

Watch our new category [2020 Election Activities](#) for Presidential campaigning, as well as House, Senate and local/regional election activities. Also, the category [White House](#) focuses on Presidential involvement with biofuels.

Here are a few examples:

[Deep Dive: Climate Change and U.S. Farmers](#)

---

[Sunrise 2020 Presidential Candidate Scorecard](#)

---

[Klobuchar Leads Letter Expressing Concern that the Newly Proposed Renewable Fuel Standard \(RFS\) Blending Targets Will Be Undermined by Continued Abuse of 'Hardship' Waivers](#)

---

[Joe Biden Wants to Launch Low-Carbon Transportation Strategy](#)

---

[Iowa Poll: Despite State Impacts, Registered Republicans Approve of How Trump Has Handled Trade with China](#)

---

[How Iowans Drove The National Debate On Carbon Farming](#)

---

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Policy: US and International**

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

[Transportation Fuels Policy](#)

[Energy Policy](#)

[Environmental Policy](#)

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

---

## Federal Legislation



For more legislative news (including Executive Orders), [click here](#). Scroll down for Regulations and Litigation news.

---

### [House Bill Sets New Standard for GREEN Streets](#)

by Emily Mangan (Transportation for America) Last week, Rep. Jared Huffman (CA-02) introduced a bill that would measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled on our roadways. This would be transformative. ... Transportation is the single largest source of greenhouse gases (GHG), contributing 29 percent of the ...

December 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [McEachin, Haaland, Dingell, Blumenauer, Tonko & Pingree Introduce 100% Clean Legislation](#)

(Office of A. Donald McEachin (D VA-04)) Today, Congressman A. Donald McEachin (VA-04) introduced the 100% Clean Economy Act of 2019 with Representatives Deb Haaland (NM-01), Debbie Dingell (MI-12), Earl Blumenauer (OR-3), Paul Tonko (NY-20) and Chellie Pingree (ME-01). This legislation sets a nationwide goal of achieving a 100 percent clean energy ... December 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Bipartisan Solutions to Protect the Environment and the Economy](#)

(House Energy & Commerce Committee Republicans) “There are bipartisan bills in Congress that we could pass right now to ensure the United States remains a global leader in emissions reduction, economic productivity, and clean energy production, all at once.” That’s what Energy and Commerce Republican Leader Greg Walden (R-OR) said in September, calling on Democrats ... December 9, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Rep. Escobar to Visit Rio Valley Biofuels Plant in El Paso, Texas](#)

by Ron Kotrba (Biodiesel Magazine) U.S. Rep. Veronica Escobar, co-sponsor of the Biodiesel Tax Credit Extension Act (H.R. 2089), is scheduled to visit Rio Valley Biofuels, a biodiesel production facility in El Paso, Texas, on Nov. 26. Escobar serves Texas’ 16th District, the seat previously held by former Democratic presidential candidate ... November 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Farm Credit Head: Stabilize Ethanol, Pass USMCA](#)

(The Fence Post/The Hagstrom Report) Farmers need the Trump administration to stabilize the biofuels market and Congress to approve the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement on trade, Farm Credit Administration Chairman and CEO Glen Smith told the House Agriculture Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit Subcommittee today. Asked by House Agriculture Committee

Chairman Collin Peterson, ... November 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Democrats Unveil Draft of GREEN Act that Includes Extending Biofuel Tax Credits](#)

by Meghan Sapp (Biofuels Digest) In Washington, House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures Chairman Mike Thompson (CA-05) and Committee Democrats released a discussion draft of the Growing Renewable Energy and Efficiency Now (GREEN) Act. This draft legislation is a comprehensive approach to tackling climate change by using the ... November 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [REG Puts \\$30 Million Seneca Expansion on Hold Due to Tax Credit Extension Delays](#)

by Meghan Sapp (Biofuels Digest) In Iowa, local press reports that the Renewable Energy Group has decided to halt its \$30 million expansion project at its Seneca plant, saying the 22 months since the biodiesel producers tax credit lapsed has left uncertainty in the market. It said it didn't know when ... [November 21, 2019 Read Full Article](#)

---

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

---

## Federal Regulation



See also articles in Legislation and Litigation for overlapping topics.

---

### [Ethanol Industry Leaders to Governor Noem: E30 Ready for Prime Time](#)

(South Dakota Farmers Union/Governors' Biofuels Coalition) Following her remarks at the Glacial Lakes Energy annual shareholders meeting last week, a broad group of ethanol, agriculture, and clean air supporters commended South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem for her leadership in advancing 30% ethanol blends. Long considered the “sweet spot” for optimum ethanol ...December 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [The Kodak Moment: The World's Airlines Consider Their Low-Carbon Options in an Era of Flight-Shaming](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) ... Now, the airlines were just about the first customers to clamor for advanced biofuels. In 2006, Richard Altman of the recently-formed Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative showed up at one of the earliest advanced biofuels events, and when he laid out the intent of the ... December 14, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Govs. Walz and Noem for Support of E30](#)

(Grand Rapids Herald Review) Recently, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, the chair of the Governors' Biofuels Coalition, along with South Dakota Gov. and coalition vice chair Kristi Noem, sent a letter to President Trump urging the administration to consider 30 percent ethanol blends, or E30, as a way to reduce toxic aromatics ... December 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [How Ethanol Plant Shutdowns Deepen Pain for U.S. Corn Farmers](#)

by Mark Weinraub and Stephanie Kelly (Reuters) ... (Indiana farmer Paul) Hodgen's troubles reflect the increasing difficulties faced by America's corn farmers as a meltdown in the ethanol industry hits the corn market – adding strains to farmers already facing poor weather and the U.S. trade war with China. Some 13 ... December 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Carbon Capture and Storage Projects Advancing at Ethanol, Coal Plants](#)

by Amy R. Sisk (Bismarck Tribune) As a Richardton ethanol facility gears up to store its carbon emissions underground, the company that runs a coal-fired power plant north of Washburn has secured funding to help determine whether it should pursue similar technology. Red Trail Energy, which turns corn into ethanol ... December 11, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---



## [For Trump Loyalist Rep. Jim Hagedorn, Ethanol Rules Pose a Challenge](#)

by Gabe Schneider (MinnPost) In August, Corn Plus, one of the oldest biofuel plants in the state of Minnesota, closed. Forty employees lost their jobs. The reasons for a slump in the biofuels industry are many, but one stands out: a Trump administration policy allowing a substantial number of gasoline refineries ...

December 11, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Report from Growth Energy Debunks Unsupported Claims Regarding Endangered Species](#)

(Growth Energy) Growth Energy, the nation's largest association of biofuel producers, released a new report demonstrating how claims on the Renewable Fuel Standard's (RFS) alleged impact on endangered species "relies on unsupported assumptions and speculation." The report was authored by Ramboll, a global research and management firm specializing in sustainable development, at the ... December 10, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Trump Says U.S. Will Finalize New Fuel Efficiency Rules Next Year](#)

by David Shepardson (Reuters) U.S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that his administration will finalize its rollback of Obama-era vehicle emissions standards next year and expected it would provoke a new legal challenge by California. ... Trump

said on Friday that the dispute was over “a tiny amount of ... December 10, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [IMO 2020: What Fleets Need to Know and How to Prepare](#)

by Bill Zobel (Trillium/ACT News) Will the looming IMO 2020 sulfur regulation impact domestic diesel prices? How on-road fleets can turn to domestically produced fuels to avoid price volatility. — There’s much debate about how the upcoming International Maritime Organization (IMO) regulation on sulfur emissions, going into effect on January 1st, ... December 6, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Choices at the Pump: Convenience Matters Dives into What It Will Take to Add E15 to Your Fuel Lineup.](#)

(National Association of Convenience Stores) On this week’s episode of Convenience Matters, “Increasing Fuel Options for Consumers,” NACS hosts John Eichberger, executive director for the Fuels Institute, and Donovan Woods, director of operations for the Fuels Institute, discuss the future of liquid fuels with Kristi Moriarty, senior engineer at the National ... December 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [OPINION: Pipe Dope and Higher Ethanol Blends](#)

by Cassie Mullen (Renewable Fuels Association/Ethanol Producer Magazine) The compatibility of pipe dope associated with underground storage tank systems for blends of ethanol

above 10 percent has been a subject of controversy for many years and has been repeatedly misrepresented by those hoping to suppress market adoption of additional blends. Ethanol ...

December 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Larry Kudlow Hatches New Plan to Boost Biofuel Mandates](#)

by Jennifer Jacobs, Jennifer A. Dlouhy and Mario Parker (Bloomberg News/Transport Topics) White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow is developing a new plan to bolster biofuel-blending requirements after ethanol allies in politically important farm states complained the current proposal doesn't do enough to compensate for waivers exempting some small refineries from ...

December 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Klobuchar Leads Letter Expressing Concern that the Newly Proposed Renewable Fuel Standard \(RFS\) Blending Targets Will Be Undermined by Continued Abuse of 'Hardship' Waivers](#)

(Office of Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)) Klobuchar has spent months calling for an end to the harm caused by abuse of hardship waivers — U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) led a public comment letter last week to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler expressing concern over the proposed supplemental ...

December 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Reynolds Requires All New State Diesel Vehicles to Use Fuel at Least 20% Biodiesel](#)

by Donnelle Eller (Des Moines Register) Gov. Kim Reynolds gave a boost Tuesday to Iowa's renewable fuels industry, requiring that all new state-owned diesel-powered vehicles — from cars and trucks to snowplows and graders — be able to use at least 20% biodiesel. Reynolds signed the executive order at the Iowa Farm ... December 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [More than 11,700 Comments Filed on EPA's SRE Proposal](#)

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The public comment period of U.S. EPA's supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking that addresses the agency's plan to reallocate future Renewable Fuel Standard volumes lost to small refinery exemptions (SREs) closed Nov. 29. More than 11,700 comments were filed on the proposal, according to data ... December 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [New Consumer Reports Analysis Shows Near-Freeze of Fuel Economy Rules Would Cost Consumers \\$300 Billion](#)

(Consumer Reports) Rolling back fuel economy requirements down to 1.5% annual increases would raise net cost per vehicle by \$2,100 — As the federal government reportedly moves closer to finalizing plans to weaken fuel economy and vehicle emissions standards, Consumer Reports has analyzed several

likely scenarios, including the recently-reported possibility of ...  
December 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [From Waste Woody Biomass to Carbon Negative Transportation Fuels via CCUS](#)

by Philipp Stratmann (Velocys/Biofuels Digest) At this year's ABLC Next Conference in San Francisco Velocys presented on the opportunity to produce negative emission fuels at our planned Bayou Fuels facility in Natchez, Mississippi. Whilst we were not the only company presenting on advanced biofuel products at the conference, our integration of ... December 3, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Reducing Toxic Aromatics: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to High Octane Low Carbon Ethanol](#)

Ethanol is better for your health and "What a difference a year makes." That's what Douglas Durante, Executive Director of Clean Fuels Development Coalition told the audience recently at the World Ethanol and Biofuels conference in Brussels. The latest on how ethanol grows in this seemingly conflicting universe, trends that ... December 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [ACE Urges EPA to Get RFS Back on Track](#)

(American Coalition for Ethanol) The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) submitted comments today to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on its proposed supplemental

rulemaking to the 2020 Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). ACE CEO Brian Jennings detailed three areas in which the proposal falls short in ACE's written ... November 29, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [New Jersey Senator Calls for 45Q Probe](#)

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez called on the IRS' watchdog to open an investigation into potentially fraudulent claims for the tax credit to capture carbon, known as 45Q. In a letter dated Nov. 19 to Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration J. Russell George, ... November 28, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Low Hanging Fruit on the Climate Change Tree: Renewable Fuels in Gas and Diesel Engines](#)

(Diesel Technology Forum) ... As more governors look to California for leadership on climate change, they should look to what's working in California...and it doesn't have to do with electric cars, but with use of low-carbon renewable biofuels in internal combustion engines. Newly elected governors are turning to California for ... November 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Stop the Anti-Ethanol Ridiculousness—An Open Letter Reply to an Unmistakable Editorial Failure](#)

by Marc J. Rauch (The Auto Channel) This past Saturday, a media outlet called THE ATLANTIC published an anti-ethanol

editorial titled “STOP THE ETHANOL MADNESS.” ... The following is my rebuttal to him and THE ATLANTIC: Dear Editors – The anti-ethanol editorial written by Mario Loyola, “STOP THE ETHANOL MADNESS,” is highly ... November 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Governors Ask President Trump to Remove Gasoline’s Deadly Aromatics](#)

(Governors’ Biofuels Coalition) Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem Say Poisonous Aromatics Put Our Health at Risk — In a letter to President Trump today, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem asked him to enforce a provision of the Clean Air Act that ... November 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [White House Asks Iowa Senator for Input on Biofuels Policy: Sources](#)

by Stephanie Kelly, Jarrett Renshaw (Reuters) The White House has asked Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley’s office for input on the administration’s latest proposal to boost the ethanol market in 2020, according to two sources familiar with the matter on Friday, after a flurry of conversations between President Donald Trump and corn-state ... November 25, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Calgren Dairy Fuels' Lagoon Digester Cluster Project: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Pooping Cows Bringing Us Biofuel](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Methane – we all know there's too much of it and much of it comes from farting and pooping cows. But Calgren has been doing something about that for years, before cow manure memes became cool. Calgren turns dairy manure biogas into biofuels as well as ... November 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Cellulosic Production Idled Citing EPA Decisions, POET-DSM Converting Cellulose Plant to Research, Development](#)

by Chris Clayton (DTN Progressive Farmer) In another response to EPA's actions regarding the Renewable Fuel Standard, POET-DSM Advanced Biofuels LLC announced Tuesday the company will "pause" production of cellulosic ethanol at its Project Liberty plant in Emmetsburg, Iowa. POET-DSM Advanced Biofuels is a 50-50 joint venture between Royal DSM and ... November 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

## [Iowa Poll: Despite State Impacts, Registered Republicans Approve of How Trump Has Handled Trade with China](#)

by Donnelle Eller (Des Moines Register) Three-fourths of Iowa's registered Republicans back President Donald Trump's approach to trade with China, and half say his tariffs have done more to help than harm Iowa agribusiness, a new Des Moines Register/CNN/Mediacom Iowa Poll shows. The poll includes



502 registered Republicans who do not plan to caucus ...

November 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Sec. Perdue Comments on Ethanol and SREs](#)

by Chuck Zimmerman (Energy.AgWired.com) During a visit to the National Association of Farm Broadcasting (NAFB) annual convention on Friday, Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue was asked about EPA's supplemental proposal to account for small refinery exemptions and to address the concerns of the industry that it is insufficient. "I want to put it ... [November 19, 2019 Read Full Article](#)

---

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Regulations Open for Public Comment**

---

[\*MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS\*](#)

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

---

## **Federal Litigation**



For more on federal litigation, [click here](#).

---

### [Trump Says U.S. Will Finalize New Fuel Efficiency Rules Next Year](#)

by David Shepardson (Reuters) U.S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that his administration will finalize its rollback of Obama-era vehicle emissions standards next year and expected it would provoke a new legal challenge by California. ... Trump said on Friday that the dispute was over “a tiny amount of ... December 10, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [ACE Urges EPA to Get RFS Back on Track](#)

(American Coalition for Ethanol) The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) submitted comments today to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on its proposed supplemental rulemaking to the 2020 Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). ACE CEO Brian Jennings detailed three areas in which the proposal falls short in ACE’s written ... November 29, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

### [Colorado Business Owner Convicted in \\$7 Million Biodiesel Tax Credit Fraud Scheme](#)

(U.S. Department of Justice) A federal jury in Denver, Colorado, found Martin Fields guilty yesterday of conspiracy to defraud the United States, conspiracy to commit money laundering, making

false claims against the United States, and money laundering, announced Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Richard E. Zuckerman of the Justice Department's Tax ... November 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

---

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

### **By and About Advanced Biofuels USA**

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](#)

For example, a suggestion for taxing the non-renewable part of transportation fuels is [here](#).

Back to [Table of Contents](#)

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. So, please **share this newsletter**.

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.***

We are doing something about that every day.

If you would like to help, please give me a call at 301-644-1395 or send an email to info @ AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org. Or send a donation by clicking [HERE](#) or on the [DONATE](#) button below.

OR, we can earn our keep, too. Advertise with us. Contact me for details.

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 our [NEWS page](#). *And [Click HERE to Subscribe to the new Education Newsletter \(Free\).](#)*

Watch for it the first week of each month. Watch for the policy newsletter and conference calendar the third week of each month.

## Help Us Continue to Provide Outstanding Service. Please DONATE!



Advanced Biofuels USA, a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization (NOT a trade organization) relies on Individual Contributions, Corporate Donations, In-Kind Donations and the Work of Many Volunteers to enable this organization to promote the understanding, development and use of advanced biofuels and to inspire action.

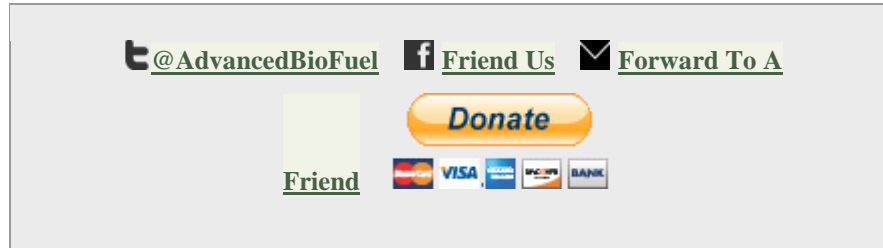
You can now make a secure donation to Advanced Biofuels USA via PayPal by clicking on the "[Donate](#)" button below. It's quick, easy and safe. Make it a year-long gift by making monthly installments automatically.

You can make your gift in memory or in honor of someone special. Just let us know. Call (301-644-1395) or send an email: [info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org](mailto:info@AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org). We'll send a special card acknowledging your gift.

Don't let this opportunity slip away! [DONATE](#) Today! Thank you for your support.

You have received this newsletter because you indicated to us an interest

in Advanced Biofuels USA. We hope you find it useful. If you want to stop receiving these occasional newsletters, just follow the instructions below.



A rectangular box containing social media and donation links. At the top, there are three links: a Twitter icon followed by [@AdvancedBioFuel](#), a Facebook icon followed by [Friend Us](#), and an envelope icon followed by [Forward To A](#). Below these links is a yellow square placeholder, a yellow button with the word [Donate](#) in blue, and the word [Friend](#) in blue. At the bottom, there are five small logos for payment methods: Mastercard, VISA, American Express, Discover, and BANK.

---

*Copyright © 2019 Advanced Biofuels USA, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website or expressed an interest to us in joining our email list.

**Our mailing address is:**

Advanced Biofuels USA  
507 North Bentz Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)