

Dear Joanne: Here's your November 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.

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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:

[Environmental Justice Takes the Spotlight](#)

[Amy Klobuchar: Donald Trump's Presidency of Broken Promises Is further Dividing America](#)

[For Trump, Hints of Trouble in Ethanol Country](#)

[Young Voters Rank Climate #1 Voting Issue, Will the Political Parties Take Note?](#)

[Iowa Farm Leaders Warn Trump Could Lose Rural Voters unless He Makes Good on Ethanol Deal](#)

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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](#)

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Federal Legislation



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

[Congress Now Offers Venues for Ag to Address Threats from a Changing Climate](#)

(Solutions from the Land) The testimony of SfL Co-Chair Fred Yoder before the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis (HSCCC) two weeks ago represented an early opportunity for farmers, ranchers and forestland owners to advance proven, pragmatic and practical solutions that produce win/win outcomes for those who work the land ...November 15, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Rep. Welch, Sen. Udall Introduce Legislation to Reform the Renewable Fuel Standard to Benefit the Environment](#)

(Office of Representative Peter Welch (D-VT)) Bill would phase out corn ethanol mandate, reverse tide of habitat destruction, and boost the mandate for advanced biofuels that reduce greenhouse gases — Today (November 14, 2019), Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) introduced companion bills in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. ...November 15, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[NBB Releases New Report on the Importance of the Biodiesel Tax Incentive](#)

(National Biodiesel Board) The tax incentive is crucial to continued growth of the U.S. biodiesel industry — Today (November 12, 2019), the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) released a new report, “The Importance of the Biodiesel Tax Credit,” showing how the emerging biodiesel industry relies on the combined values of the tax ...November 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

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

by Isabella Murray (Iowa Starting Line) ... (Beto) O’Rourke had read a guest op-ed by Leonard and Matt Russell, executive director of Interfaith Power and Light — a group that pushes for faith-based solutions to climate change — in the New York Times about how to win rural America. O’Rourke wanted to learn ...November 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Making the Carbon Tax Pitch](#)

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico’s Morning Energy) More than 800 volunteers across the U.S. will be on Capitol Hill today to meet with lawmakers on the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763 (116), on behalf of the Citizens’ Climate Lobby. The group’s “lobby day” today follows the release of ...November 12, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Senate Interior Appropriations Bill Requires EPA to Act on eRINs](#)

(RFS Power Coalition/Biomass Magazine) The RFS Power Coalition today applauded the passage of H.R. 3055 (116), the Senate's Interior Appropriations bill. The Interior-EPA portion of the spending package includes a provision led by Senator Susan Collins, R-Maine, requiring the EPA to take swift action on existing eRIN applications: Electric Pathway.—The Committee ...November 6, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[New Senate Climate Caucus Rooted in Industry Shift](#)

by Abby Smith (Washington Examiner) When the Senate's new bipartisan climate caucus meets for the first time this week, members will be joined by another group looking to engage more in climate policy discussions on Capitol Hill: industry CEOs. The choice of guests reflects how the caucus formed. Democratic Sen. Chris ...November 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Senate Dems Hope to Investigate Dark Money in Climate Politics](#)

(Our Daily Planet) Senate Democrats' Special Committee on the Climate Crisis held a hearing titled "Dark Money and Barriers to Climate Action" that explored the fossil fuel money which has funded years of climate denial in America. Groups like the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce have long ...October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[House Energy Hearing Pits Ethanol vs. EPA, Administration](#)

by Matt Kaye (FarmWeekNow.com) Renewable Fuels Association chief Geoff Cooper called the proposed supplemental rule issued by EPA a “bait and switch.” — ... During a hearing before a U.S. House Energy subcommittee, Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) chief Geoff Cooper accused EPA of secretly granting Small Refinery Exemptions (SRE) as ... October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Senate Dems Propose Major Clean Cars Push As Court Rejects Challenge to Clean Car Rollback](#)

(Our Daily Planet) Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer, along with Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Michigan, Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, and Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon, on Friday announced a \$450 billion/10 year “Clean Cars For America Climate Proposal” to accelerate the transition to net-zero carbon emissions by mid-century by making clean cars ...October 28, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[House Committee Approves Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act](#)

by Lynn L. Bergeson (TSCAblog) On October 17, 2019, the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology unanimously approved the Sustainable Chemistry Research and Development Act (H.R. 2051), a companion bill to legislation

introduced in the Senate by Senators Chris Coons (D-DE), Susan Collins (R-ME), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), and Shelley ...October 26, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[E&C Subcommittee Announces Legislative Hearing to Address EPA's Mismanagement of Renewable Fuel Standard Program](#)

(U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Subcommittee) Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) and Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee Chairman Paul Tonko (D-NY) announced today that the Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee will hold a legislative hearing on Tuesday, October 29, at 10:30 am in the John D. Dingell October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Lawmakers Pitch Plan to Trash Ethanol Mandate Amid Industry Clashes](#)

by Brian Dabbs (National Journal) ... Now, though, two retiring Republican House members want to carve out a new future for U.S. liquid transportation fuel policy. Rep. John Shimkus of Illinois, who represents some of the most prolific corn-producing counties in the U.S., and Rep. Bill Flores, a petroleum-backing Texan, ...October 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

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Federal Regulation



See also articles in Legislation and Litigation for overlapping topics.

[Ethanol Blog: Senators Ask Trump to Stick to Biofuels Agreement](#)

by Todd Neeley (DTN Progressive Farmer) A group of United States senators asked President Donald Trump in a letter on Friday to make sure an EPA proposal to account for small-refinery exemptions to the Renewable Fuel Standard will account for actual gallons waived. The letter is signed by Sens. Charles Grassley, ... November 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[The Trouble with Biofuels](#)

by Clair L. Jarvis: ... Perhaps the most interesting thing about the expansion of the biofuels industry — as a share of the fuel market and a lobbying power — is that the general public hasn't really noticed. Compared with fracking or coal, biofuels aren't the subject of many policy reports .. November 15, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[EPA Small Refinery Exemptions in the Renewable Fuel Standard Explained](#)

(U.S. Department of Energy Energy Information Administration)
... The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) mandates the amount of renewable fuels refineres must blend into the U.S. transportation fuel supply. As part of the RFS program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) can grant annual waivers to some petroleum refineries, called small refinery exemptions (SREs), which ... November 15, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Fuels Institute Resource Helps Navigate Biofuel Regulations — The Report Helps Retailers Better Understand Their Responsibilities.](#)

(National Association of Convenience Stores) Biofuels are playing an increasingly important role in the U.S. fuel supply due to a combination of regulatory programs, market developments and technological advancements, but navigating the federal requirements pertaining to the storage and dispensing of such fuels can be confusing. To provide greater clarity in ...November 15, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[EPA Grants Request for Reconsideration of Title V Ethanol Rule](#)

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The U.S. EPA announced Nov. 6 it is granting a request for reconsideration filed by the National Resource Defense Council in March 2009 related to the agency's exclusion of ethanol plants from Title V permitting

requirements under the Clean Air Act. A proposed rule published ... November 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Man with the Plan – Millions Projected for New Projects: The Digest's 2019 Multi-Slide Guide to Aemetis' Multi-Million \\$ Dairy Biogas and Wood Waste Plants](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Aemetis is known for their advanced renewable fuels by many, like their California ethanol plant and India biodiesel plant, but what you may now know is that they are building a \$56 million dairy biogas digesters, pipeline and cleanup system and a \$200 million cellulosic ethanol plant ... November 12, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Whose Side Is Trump on? The Fight Continues...Corn Country and Oil Country Still Battling It out in Washington, DC](#)

by Helena Tavares Kennedy (Biofuels Digest) ... It's a back and forth game of Trump's promises to help farmers and agriculture and support ethanol and biofuels, EPA giving small refinery waivers to big oil companies, (T)he latest responses from Midwest Senators, the American Coalition for Ethanol, how both ... November 11, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[How Big Ethanol Plans Will Rock Global Corn and Sugar Markets](#)

(Gro Intelligence) ... Today, a record amount of ethanol is produced globally, and expectations are for further growth as three of the world's largest ethanol producing countries move ahead with expansion plans. US proposals, which are aimed at shoring up demand for corn, could break a longstanding barrier that has capped ethanol ... November 8, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Ernst Says President Trump Is Upset by EPA's Biofuels Rules](#)

by O. Kay Henderson (Radio Iowa) Iowa Senator Joni Ernst today said she's talked directly with President Trump about the furor over proposed EPA rules which Ernst says do not fulfill the deal Trump struck in September on the renewable fuels standard. "I did visit with the president actually, again, two .. November 8, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[LETTER: Iowa Ag Secretary: EPA Is 'Undermining' RFS](#)

by Mike Naig (Sioux City Journal/Iowa Department of Agriculture) There's a growing sense of frustration across America's heartland, and it's not hard to understand why. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is undermining the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS), which is hurting farmers, biofuels producers and rural communities across Iowa. ... EPA ... November 7, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Salem Plant Turning More Cooking Oil into Biodiesel than Ever](#)

by Pete Danko (Portland Business Journal) SeQuential, the Oregon company that collects used cooking oil and turns it into biodiesel, has boosted production capacity at its Salem plant by 30 percent. It credited a state program with helping drive increased demand. Output has been growing every year since the southeast Salem .. November 6, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[North American Outlook on Biofuels Challenges and Opportunities](#)

by Steve Hartig (Biofuels Digest) The North American biofuels market can be split into three main segments all of which have major dynamics. What I would like to do is give a high-level overview of what I see as some of both the challenges and opportunities across these. Ethanol which is a ... November 6, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Buttigieg Says There's Real Cost to Trump's Broken RFS Promises](#)

by Bob Fisher (KGLO/Radio Iowa) Democratic presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg says President Trump isn't keeping his promises to Iowa's agricultural community when it comes to the Renewable Fuels Standard. "Actions speak louder than words and the president says he cares about farmers, but if you look

what he's done with the RFS ... November 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Rural Leaders Ask President Trump to Uphold Biofuel Promise](#)

(Renewable Fuels Association) A broad coalition of biofuel and farm advocates today sent a letter to the White House calling on President Trump to fix a flawed proposal from the Environmental Protection Agency, which “fails in its mission to reinvigorate farm economies and reopen biofuel plants across America’s heartland.” The letter ... November 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Fractionation Processes Can Improve Profitability of Ethanol Production](#)

(EurekAlert!/University of Illinois) The U.S. is the world’s largest producer of bioethanol as renewable liquid fuel, with more than 200 commercial plants processing over 16 billion gallons per year. Plants typically use dry grind processing methods; however, implementing fractionation techniques that separate corn components prior to fermentation can improve profitability, a ... November 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[ABLCNext Top 10 Takeaways – What Was the Industry Buzzing about in San Francisco?](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) At ABLC Next last week, there was lots of buzz and tons of discussion about all sorts of things,

but what were the key takeaways? Let's start with Sustainable Aviation Fuels, CRISPR, new food, the law, and more. In today's Digest, find out what the ... November 5, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[EPA Refinery Exemptions Reduced Renewable Fuel Blending Requirements in 2018](#)

(U.S. Energy Information Administration) On August 9, 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it had granted 31 Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Small Refinery Exemptions (SRE) for the 2018 compliance year, or 4 fewer than were approved for the 2017 compliance year. As of October 2019, two SRE applications ... November 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Correcting the Record on the Impact of Small Refinery Exemptions](#)

by Geoff Cooper (Renewable Fuels Association) Earlier this week, I had the honor of testifying before a House Energy & Commerce Committee subcommittee on the devastating impact of small refinery exemptions (SREs) on the U.S. ethanol industry. My testimony described the demand destruction that has occurred as a consequence of the massive increase ...November 4, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[The Digest's 2019 State of the Industry Address](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) It's ABLC Week and the semi-annual State of the Industry Address was a highlight at the opening of the on-stage presentations — known as a networking event but also featuring a slide deck and commentary on US and international bioeconomy trends. READ MORE November 1, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[John Phipps: Why the Current Ethanol Debate Could Be Trivial By 2023](#)

by John Phipps (Farm Journal Ag Web) ... The current dispute could be child's play a few years from now – 2023 – when RFS mandated volumes will be set by at EPA discretion. By that time the effect of electric vehicles, the gradually slowing economy, and further trade breakdown could October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[House Energy Hearing Pits Ethanol vs. EPA, Administration](#)

by Matt Kaye (FarmWeekNow.com) Renewable Fuels Association chief Geoff Cooper called the proposed supplemental rule issued by EPA a “bait and switch.” — ... During a hearing before a U.S. House Energy subcommittee, Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) chief Geoff Cooper accused EPA of secretly granting Small Refinery Exemptions (SRE) as ... October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Trump's Push for Ethanol Not Reaching Pumps](#)

(Finance & Commerce/Bloomberg) Donald Trump's effort to boost corn demand by allowing year-round sales of ethanol-blended gasoline has run into a logistical problem. Few stations offer it. In corn country, gasoline with a 15% blend of ethanol is now pretty accessible year-round. But in large population states including California, New York ... October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[The Race Is on to Repurpose Garbage](#)

by Marc S. Reisch (Chemical & Engineering News) Despite a spotty track record, companies keep trying to convert trash into energy, fuels, and chemicals — ... Local press reports noted weather-related construction delays, a challenge to the plant's environmental permits, and difficult markets for recycled materials. Those delays point to ... October 31, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Views from Napa Valley: A Peak at California's Low Carbon Fuels Program \(2019\)](#)

by Michele Rubino (Biofuels Digest) ... Take California's climate change mitigation efforts – and specifically the LCFS (Low Carbon Fuels Standard), the State's flagship Program aimed at decarbonizing the transportation sector. Back in 2015 the Program was emerging from years of vicious lawsuits, aimed at damaging and delaying it. The ... October 30, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Car Clash Hits Cap Hill: Motor Madness](#)

by Gavin Bade (Politico's Morning Energy) House lawmakers will hold a hearing today to critique the White House plan to roll back vehicle fuel economy standards, a day after GM, Fiat Chrysler and Toyota said they would side with the Trump administration on the proposal. ... Lawmakers on the House Committee ...
October 29, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Moving beyond the RFS](#)

Douglas A. Durante (Clean Fuels Development Coalition/Governor's Biofuels Coalition) The global biofuels community is without a doubt watching the developments in the US with the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and might be understandably confused. How is a program that was passed by the U.S. Congress and supported by Democrats and Republicans ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[One Issue that Unites Republicans and DFLers in Minnesota? Biofuels](#)

by Walker Orenstein (Twin Cities Business) Minnesota lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have come out in support of ethanol and biodiesel, which they believe could help boost agriculture and reduce carbon emissions. — In turbulent times for trade-dependent corn and soybean farmers, elected officials

across the political spectrum in ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[White House Sides with EPA over USDA Objections on Biofuel](#)

by Jennifer A. Dlouhy (Bloomberg/Detroit News) Administration officials warned that an EPA plan for boosting biofuel-blending requirements violated the spirit of a deal brokered by President Donald Trump. The White House blessed it anyway. The back and forth is revealed in newly released documents from a White House review of the Environmental ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[No Giant Package Necessary](#)

By Ron Lamberty (American Coalition for Ethanol/Ethanol Producer Magazine) ... Contrary to oil industry and media talking point headlines portraying Trump's attempts to fix what his EPA's policies have destroyed as a "payoff" or "hush money," farmers and the ethanol industry merely want the law to be enforced as written—and ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[New Evidence on the Environmental Benefits of Biofuels](#)

by Emily Skor (Growth Energy/Ethanol Producer Magazine) Growth Energy report highlights ethanol's environmental benefits as EPA contemplates RFS reset. — ... Right now, the agency is also crafting a rule that will set new goal

posts for renewable energy in 2021 and 2022. When Congress established the Renewable Fuel Standard, ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Biofuels Producers Merit Recognition for Contributions to Climate Change Mitigation](#)

(Solutions from the Land) Tomorrow marks the seventh annual Bioenergy Day, during which more than 40 organizations all over the United States and Canada – businesses, non-profits, universities, and state and local governments – are showcasing the many ways they benefit from bioenergy. The day facilitates interaction between bioenergy projects and ... October 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Climate Change, Short Lived Climate Pollutants, Black Carbon and Clean Diesel](#)

(Diesel Technology Forum) Thanks to the introduction of ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel, more efficient engines and more effective emissions control technologies, diesel engines, vehicles and equipment are a small and declining contributor of black carbon emissions globally. Technology and policy opportunities exist for accelerating turnover from old to new technology ... October 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[USDA Biofuel Infrastructure Initiative to Be up and Running Soon](#)

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The USDA hopes to have a new program up and running in early 2020 that will support retail sales of higher ethanol blends, including E15, according to statements made by U.S. Deputy Agriculture Secretary Stephen Censky during an Oct. 17 congressional hearing. Censky appeared before .. October 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Volatility in the Ethanol Market Could Increase – Archer-Daniels-Midland Suffers with the Agricultural Sector](#)

by Andrew Hecht (Seeking Alpha) Summary: Lots of action in ethanol since the 2018 low. Liquidity declines in the biofuel. The trade war impacts ethanol – a policy decision fails to keep a promise. The falling Brazilian currency is also a factor. ADM is an ethanol producer. ... The trade ... October 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[UPDATED — Trump Lays RFS Egg and Perdue Hatches It](#)

by Jim Wiesemeyer (Pro Farmer) President Donald Trump today said a plan to recalculate biofuel-blending requirements to offset waivers exempting refineries from the mandates is approved, done and ready to sign and that the deal is “going to be terrific for the small refiners” that have “been hurt for a long ... October 22, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[OP-ED: Achieving Carbon Emission Reductions with Biofuels](#)

by Pat Gruber (GEVO/American Energy Society) It's a gaping hole in most conversations about fuel: what do we do about liquid transportation fuels? No matter how quickly we try to electrify our transportation sector, gasoline isn't going away. Diesel isn't going away. Jet fuel certainly isn't going away. Even the most ambitious ... October 21, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[EPA: 5 SRE Applications Filed for Compliance Year 2019](#)

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The U.S. EPA published updated small refinery exemption (SRE) data on Oct. 17 that shows the agency has received five SRE applications for compliance year 2019. All five applications are listed as pending. No other changes were made to the EPA's SRE data. In addition ... October 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[EPA Approves RFS Fuel Pathway Filed by Texmark, Neste](#)

by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) The U.S. EPA recently approved a Renewable Fuel Standard fuel pathway filed on behalf of Texmark Chemicals Inc. and Neste US Inc. that will allow renewable diesel produced at Neste's biorefinery in Porvoo, Finland, to be shipped to Texmark's facility in Galena Park, Texas, where it ... October 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[South Dakota Farmers Union Says RFS “Fixes” Lack Vision and Progress](#)

(South Dakota Farmers Union) Following yet another disappointing announcement by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on their management of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), South Dakota Farmers Union President Doug Sombke said it's time to recognize the RFS is broken. “The “big beautiful deal” EPA announced last week raised more ...
October 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[“EPA Reneges on Trump’s Biofuels Deal”: Shocker Details Emerge on US Oil Industry Waivers](#)

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) “EPA Reneges on Trump’s Biofuels Deal”, said the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association in reacting to the US Environmental Protection Agency’s new plans for fulfilling federal renewable fuel requirements. EPA released a proposed supplemental rule for the Renewable Fuel Standard today, and the bioeconomy is up in arms, and ...
October 16, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

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Regulations Open for Public Comment

[House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis Request for Information DEADLINE: November 22, 2019](#)

(House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis) The climate crisis already is harming communities across America. The costs and impacts to the United States in the coming decades could exceed hundreds of billions of dollars annually. To limit global warming to no more than 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, global net carbon ... September 17, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Proposed Volumes for 2020 and Biomass-Based Diesel Volume for 2021: Supplemental Notice COMMENT DEADLINE: November 29, 2019](#)

(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) On October 15, 2019, EPA issued a supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking seeking additional comment on the recently proposed rule to establish the cellulosic biofuel, advanced biofuel, and total renewable fuel volumes for 2020 and the biomass-based diesel volume for 2021 under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. ... October 16, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 6478 — The IRS Is Soliciting Comments Concerning Biofuel Producer Credit. DEADLINE: December 2, 2019](#)

(Internal Revenue Service/Federal Register) ... The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The IRS is ... October 2, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS](#)

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Federal Litigation



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

[RNG Advocates Spurned as DC Circuit Upholds EPA Biofuel Refinery Waivers](#)

by Richard Nemecek (Natural Gas Intel) The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on Tuesday upheld the federal government's waivers for small refineries, which allows them to not include minimum renewables volumes in their transportation fuels to the chagrin of renewable natural gas (RNG) stakeholders. A group ...November 18, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Court Dismisses ABFA's Petition for Review of EPA SRE Methodology](#)

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on Nov. 12 dismissed a petition for review filed by the Advanced Biofuels Association challenging the U.S. EPA's methodology for granting small refinery exemptions (SREs). The court's judgement, however, provides a clearer legal pathway for current ... November 13, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[The New Science Fossil Fuel Companies Fear](#)

by Zack Coleman (Politico) Researchers can now link weather events to emissions – and to the companies responsible. A string of lawsuits is about to give “attribution science” a real-life test. — Richard Heede spent a decade digging through “disheveled, dusty” tomes in libraries around the world searching for the answers ... November 6, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Biofuel Groups File Petition Challenging Trump Administration's Small-Refinery Waivers](#)

by Stephanie Kelly (Reuters) Biofuels groups have filed a petition in the U.S. court of appeals in Washington against the Environmental Protection Agency, challenging the agency's process for granting refineries exemptions to the nation's biofuel blending mandates, the groups said Wednesday. The petition,

filed by groups such as the Renewable ... October 24, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[Michigan Biodiesel Dealer Pleads Guilty to Tax Fraud](#)

(Wisconsin Ag Connection/USAgNet) A Bloomfield, Mich., biodiesel fuel dealer pleaded guilty today to filing a false income tax return, announced Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Richard E. Zuckerman of the Justice Department's Tax Division and U.S. Attorney Matthew Schneider of the Eastern District of Michigan. According to plea documents, Chandra ...October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

[New Court Documents Detail Rampant EPA Abuse of Small Refinery Exemption Program](#)

(Renewable Fuels Association) Newly available court documents assert that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency inappropriately granted Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) compliance exemptions to certain small refineries that did not even qualify for the waivers, and that there was division within the Trump administration about its new approach to small refinery hardship ... October 23, 2019 [Read Full Article](#)

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Advanced Biofuels USA Current Policy Analyses and Suggestions

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

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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. 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.***

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Thanks,
Joanne Ivancic, Executive Director

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