Happenings on Capitol Hill, at the White House and in Federal Agencies

#GIVING TUESDAY
Tuesday, November 28, 2017

#GivingTuesday is a global giving movement that harnesses the collective power of charities, families, businesses, and individuals to encourage philanthropy worldwide.

Mark your calendars and please support the Advanced Biofuels USA this #GivingTuesday. Click the DONATE button above to make a secure donation—on #Giving Tuesday or any day—like TODAY.

Latest Federal Legislation Posts

As you prepare to talk with your Senators and Members of Congress over the Thanksgiving recess—or as you just prepare for some animated Thanksgiving dinner conversation, scroll down for the latest legislative initiatives.

E15 items continue on the list with more carbon tax discussions joining them. Reactions to the tax bill from a variety of sources provide a range of perspectives almost squeeze out Farm Bill considerations.

For more legislative news (including Executive Orders), click here.

We also follow policy developments in the US, other countries and states. For more
information on those topics, click on the name of the country or state that appears along the right margin of our website at www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org.

**Ethanol Industry Focuses on RVP Waiver for E15**
November 15, 2017 – by Ken Anderson (Brownfield Ag News)  Giving consumers year-round access to E15 fuel is a major focus of the ethanol industry. Emily Skor, CEO of Growth Energy, says getting the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) waiver extended to …

**A Carbon Tax by Any Other Name Would Smell "Tax"**
November 13, 2017 – by Richard Gilmore (Biofuels Digest/GIC Group) … The carbon tax alliance is led by prominent Republicans along with some fence sitting Dems and their respective linesmen from public policy think tanks. While seemingly counter-intuitive in light of …

**US Congress Act 'Would' Fix Biogas and AD Tax Credit Inequality**
November 7, 2017 – (Bioenergy Insight) The American Biogas Council (ABC) has welcomed the introduction of a new bill in Congress which would extend the renewable electricity tax credit to include anaerobic digestion (AD) and biogas technology.

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik’s bill, …

**Republican Tax Package Leaves Out "Orphaned" Renewables, Biodiesel**
November 6, 2017 – by Jessie Stolark (Environmental and Energy Study Institute) On November 2, House leaders announced their Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (H.R. 1). Among the major proposed changes to the U.S. tax code, there are significant changes to the …

**NBB Responds to House Republican Comprehensive Tax Reform Proposal**

**BIO Applauds MLP Parity Act, Thanks Senate and House Sponsors**
November 1, 2017 – (Digital Journal/BusinessWire) The Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) today thanked Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Representatives Ted Poe (R-TX) and Mike Thompson (D-CA) for reintroducing the Master Limited Partnerships Parity Act of 2017. …

**NATSO Statement on Biodiesel Tax Credit Letter**
November 1, 2017 – (PR Newswire/NATSO) On October 31, a diverse group of biodiesel producers, fuel retailers, and trucking interests sent a letter to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee in support of extending and phasing out …
If You Build It, They Will Come: Biofuels Industry Sees Renewable Chemicals as New Strategy
October 30, 2017 – by Jesse Stolark (Environmental and Energy Study Institute)  To create additional value in the biobased economy, companies and investors are turning toward the production of renewable chemicals and products. They argue that in prioritizing higher-value chemicals …

BIO Applauds Senate Introduction of Renewable Chemicals Tax Credit
October 27, 2017 – (Biotechnology Innovation Organization/Business Wire)  The Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) today thanked Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and co-sponsors Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Susan Collins (R-ME), Chris Coons (D-DE), and Al Franken (D-MN) for introducing the Renewable Chemicals …

BIO Asks for Reauthorization of Section 9003 Program in Farm Bill
October 26, 2017 – (Biotechnology Innovation Organization/Ethanol Producer Magazine)  The Biotechnology Innovation Organization and 66 renewable chemical producers recently asked leaders of the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture to reauthorize the Farm Bill’s Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Manufacturing …

5 Years in, Fuel Economy Standards Put Savings in Drivers’ Pockets
October 17, 2017 – by David Friedman (The Hill/Consumers Union)  What if our government rolled back a program that saved consumers over $45 billion on fuel since 2010? What if they did this despite the fact that the industry involved …

Hirono Secures Federal Funding for Clean Energy Research and Development in Hawaii
October 17, 2017 – (Office of Senator Mazie K. Hirono (D-HI))  Senator Mazie K. Hirono today announced that two Hawaii businesses will receive $1.5 million in U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) funding to develop offshore seaweed as a potential clean energy …

Latest on Federal Regulation
Lots of letter-writing going on in Washington, DC these days. Plus horse-trading with Trump Administration appointees. Some refineries continue to push for a change in obligated parties regulations in the Renewable Fuels Standards, using the wonky policy issue to clamor publicly against biofuels in general.

And renewable volume obligations numbers have made it to the White House.
Also, it's nice to see comments supporting biofuels coming from cities like New York, not just from rural areas.

Scroll down for information about regulations related to these topics and others among our latest postings. Others you'll find in the Federal Regulations category online.

---

**For First Time, Biodiesel Leadership Weighs In With President Trump on RFS, Calls out Contradictions in Refiners' Arguments**

November 16, 2017 — (National Biodiesel Board) NBB’s Governing Board Members Emphasize That Growth in RFS Volumes is Needed — Today the executive leadership of the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) sent a letter to President Trump regarding the Renewable Fuel Standard …

**RFA Refutes PMAA’s ‘Grossly Overstated’ Claims in Letter to Senate EPW Chairman**

November 16, 2017 – (Renewable Fuels Association) The Petroleum Marketers Association of America (PMAA)’s recent claims that underground storage tanks at fueling stations cannot legally store gasoline containing 15% ethanol (E15) are “grossly overstated” and the group’s conclusion that Renewable …

**Ethanol Industry Focuses on RVP Waiver for E15**

November 15, 2017 – by Ken Anderson (Brownfield Ag News) Giving consumers year-round access to E15 fuel is a major focus of the ethanol industry. Emily Skor, CEO of Growth Energy, says getting the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) waiver extended to …

**Struggling Philadelphia Refiner Sells Biofuel Credits, Raises Cash: Sources**

November 15, 2017 – by Jarrett Renshaw, Chris Prentice (Reuters) Oil refiner Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) has raised tens of millions of dollars in cash by selling U.S. biofuels credits in recent weeks, according to sources familiar with the transactions, an …

**RFA Analysis: Automakers Approve E15 in Nearly 90% of New 2018 Vehicles**

November 15, 2017 – by Rachel Gantz (Renewable Fuels Association) Nearly 90 percent of new 2018 model year (MY) vehicles are explicitly approved by the manufacturer to use 15 percent ethanol blends (E15), according to the results of an annual analysis of …

**Cruz to Iowa: Come to the Table or Northey Gets It**

November 15, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) Sen. Ted Cruz, having seemingly failed to secure a meeting with Midwestern senators brokered by the White House, has turned to newly felled Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds to try and …

**Presentations Posted for Can Fuel Efficiency Standards Be Met Cost-Effectively?**
The Potential for High-Octane, Low-Carbon Fuels
November 14, 2017 — (Environmental and Energy Study Institute) The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) held a briefing examining how high-octane, low-carbon fuel can enable CAFE compliance. Research suggests that high-octane, low-carbon fuel is the lowest-cost compliance option for both consumers …

Delaware, Regional Leaders Take on Trump’s EPA
November 14, 2017 — by Scott Goss (The News Journal/DelawareOnline) Delaware City Refinery rally to call on President Trump to fix the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and protect well-paying jobs for East Coast refiners and manufacturing workers.

Area oil refineries, union …

Growth Energy Driving Ethanol Podcast from National Association of Farm Broadcasting
November 13, 2017 — (Energy.AgWired.com) CEO Emily Skor attends National Association of Farm Broadcasting convention

The Growth Energy Driving Ethanol podcast this week comes from the National Association of Farm Broadcasting 74th annual convention in Kansas City last week. Growth Energy …

Risk Has Arrived for RFS Advanced Pool
November 13, 2017 — by Michael McAdams (Biomass Magazine/Advanced Biofuels Association) On Oct. 4, the U.S. EPA published a Notice of Data Availability soliciting input on lowering the renewable volume obligation (RVO) mandates even further than the proposed 2018 volumes …

Can California Eliminate Gas Cars?
November 10, 2017 — by Anne C. Mulkern, ClimateWire (Scientific American) State leaders are discussing banning the sale of cars that run on gasoline or diesel — … Switching to all clean cars would require a herculean transformation in the Golden State. …

Mail Call! Thanks, Mr. President!
November 9, 2017 — by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) A group of advanced biofuel producers, including ethanol giants Archer Daniels Midland and POET, sent a letter to Trump thanking him for past support of the ethanol industry and …

USDA to Re-Engage Stakeholders on Revisions to Biotechnology Regulations
November 8, 2017 — (US Department of Agriculture) The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) today
announced it is withdrawing a proposed rule to revise the Agency’s biotechnology regulations and will re-engage with …

**Carper Leads Letter Requesting FTC Investigate and End RIN Market Manipulation**

**Diamond Green Diesel Initiates Engineering Review for Proposed Expansion to 550 Million Gallons Annually**
November 8, 2017 – (Darling Ingredients Inc./PR Newswire) Darling Ingredients Inc. (NYSE: DAR) and Valero Energy Corporation (NYSE: VLO) (“Valero”) announced today that in anticipation of growing demand for renewable diesel due to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and global …

**Stop Me if You’ve Heard This Before — Kathleen Hartnett White’s Nomination**
November 7, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) Two corn-state Republican EPW senators – Deb Fischer and Joni Ernst – are publicly undecided about Kathleen Hartnett White’s nomination to run the White House Council on Environmental Quality after …

**The Public Pulse: Investing in Biofuels Pays off**
November 7, 2017 –by Brendan Sullivan, Kyle J. Nixon (World-Herald) Novozymes was honored to have Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts join us earlier this year to announce a $36 million expansion in Blair, Nebraska, where we’re pioneering technologies that will …

**US EPA Sends Final RFS Volumes to White House for Review**
November 6, 2017 – by Brian Scheid (Platts) The US Environmental Protection Agency has sent for review the final renewable fuel volume standards for 2018 and biomass based diesel volume for 2019, making it likely that the agency will release …

**Team Ethanol Fires Back**
November 6, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) If Trump watches the ads on Fox & Friends, then he’s getting an earful on the Renewable Fuels Standard these days. Starting today and through the Nov. 20, Fuels …

**RFA Statement on Pennsylvania Governor RFS Waiver Request**
November 6, 2017 – by Emily Druckman (Renewable Fuels Association) In a letter to EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt on Thursday, Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf (D) asked the agency to waive Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) for the …

**Our Editorial: End the Ethanol Mandate**
October 30, 2017 – (Detroit News) … His (Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)) defense of the mandates was as a jobs program.
That’s a poor basis for energy policy, and the president was wrong to cave... EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt had proposed only ...

**Trump Is Fulfilling His Promises on Ethanol**
October 30, 2017 – by Bob Dinneen (Renewable Fuels Association/Wall Street Journal) President Trump is faithfully sticking to his campaign promise to “do all that is in my power as president” to achieve the goals of the Renewable Fuel Standard. ...

**Pruitt Wants RIN Fraud Crackdown**
October 30, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt called for “some reforms” to the program under the Renewable Fuel Standard through which companies buy credits to comply with biofuels mandates during a Sunday radio …

**EPA Won’t Back Down From Ethanol Requirements. What Do Automakers Say?**
October 28, 2017 – by Ken Silverstein (Environmental Leader) … Some automakers like Toyota and Lexus have warned drivers that if they fill up with E85 that their warranties may not cover engine damage, a Fox story had said. To be clear, there are ...

**The Energy 202: Trump Administration Stuck between Two GOP Sides on Ethanol**
October 27, 2017 – by Dino Grandoni (Washington Post) The Environmental Protection Agency, in its ambitious effort to roll back the previous administration’s energy and environmental policies, has had a significant stumble with Republicans lawmakers. On both sides of the ethanol …

**Lake Erie’s Toxic Algae: Does Ethanol Mandate Make it Worse?**
October 26, 2017 – by Mary Kuhlman (Public News Service) The huge algal bloom in Lake Erie is receding, but clean water advocates say the annual problem won’t go away without changes in federal policies.

One measure raising concerns is the …

**US Ethanol Is Modern-Day Farm Policy; Future Profitable: Green Plains CEO**
October 26, 2017 – (Platts) The US ethanol industry represents a modern-day farm policy as the primary means of creating demand for ever-growing corn supplies, and the industry maintains a profitable outlook, Green Plains CEO Todd Becker said Tuesday.

“This is …

**Letter from Washington: The Grand Alliance Flashes V for Victory in Renewable**
Fuels Fight
October 25, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest)  It’s been a very busy week in Washington DC, the high point being a letter to seven senators sent late Thursday by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, who took significant (and as …

Lawmakers Urge Consistent Approach to Federal Regulation of Biotechnology
October 25, 2017 – by Todd Neeley (DTN The Progressive Farmer)  In a letter to three federal agency heads on Tuesday, a group of 79 bipartisan members of the United States House of Representatives expressed concern about the direction being …

Putting Major RFS Concessions into Writing
October 20, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy)  Sen. Joni Ernst released a letter late Thursday from EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt outlining a number steps the agency intends to take on the Renewable Fuel Standard that will …

New York City Submits Strong Comments to EPA Supporting Biodiesel
October 20, 2017 – (NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services/Biodiesel Magazine)  New York City submitted comments to the U.S. EPA Oct. 19, protesting any rollback of the Renewable Fuel Standard, which calls for minimal use levels for renewable fuels like …

NBB Holds Firm In Its Request for 2.5 Billion Gallons of Biomass-Based Diesel, 4.75 Billion Gallons of Advanced Biofuels
October 20, 2017 – (National Biodiesel Board)  EPA Letter Does Not Include a Commitment to Raise Biomass-Based Diesel Volumes — Yesterday the National Biodiesel Board (NBB) responded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Notice of Data Availability (NODA), focusing on …

Trump Tells EPA to Boost Biofuels After Iowa Uproar
October 19, 2017 – by Jennifer A Dlouhy , Jennifer Jacobs, Ari Natter (Bloomberg)  Market for biofuel credits rebounds after lawmakers weigh in; Iowa governor says Trump affirms commitment to biofuel program

President Donald Trump intervened personally with the Environmental Protection Agency amid pressure from Republicans in …

Sen. Tammy Duckworth Blocks Key EPA Nominees, Cites Ethanol Stance and Ties to Koch Industries
October 19, 2017 – by Ben Wolfgang (The Washington Times)  Citing one nominee’s stance on the federal ethanol mandate and another's supposed ties to Koch Industries, Sen. Tammy Duckworth, Illinois Democrat, on Wednesday placed holds on two key nominations for top-level jobs …

Heard on the Floor at ABLC Next 2017: Fulcrum Prices Bonds, GOP Governors'
Pro-Biofuels March on DC
October 19, 2017 – by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) … In the biggest news sweeping the floor at ABLC Next 2017 and perhaps the biggest industrial biotechnology update of 2017, the long-awaited financing is approaching completion for Fulcrum Bioenergy’s highly-anticipated …

A Vote for Bill Wehrum Is a Vote against the RFS
October 18, 2017 – by Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) (The Hill) There is a reason that the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), our nation’s policy governing the production and sale of biofuels, has broad bipartisan support in Congress. This policy is …

Grassley Says Midwestern Senators Who Are Upset over EPA’s New Renewable-Fuel Proposals Could Hold up Agency’s Nominees
October 18, 2017 – by Joseph Morton (Omaha World-Herald) The head of the Environmental Protection Agency sought Tuesday to calm Midwestern senators who could block his nominees if the agency sets renewable fuel mandates too low. All four GOP senators from …

Farmers Push for Support of Renewable Fuels
October 18, 2017 – (Public News Service) Farmers in North Dakota and across the country are pushing policymakers in Washington to support renewable fuels.

The National Farmers Union, in conjunction with the North Dakota Farmers Union and counterparts in other states, …

Iowa Plant Receives EPA Approval for Cellulosic Production
October 18, 2017 – (Edeniq Inc./Ethanol Producer Magazine) Edeniq Inc., a leading cellulosic and biorefining technology company, recently announced that the U.S. EPA has approved Flint Hills Resources’ registration of its 100 million gallons per year Iowa Falls, Iowa, ethanol …

Pruitt’s Charm Offensive Has Few Actual Promises
October 18, 2017 – by Anthony Adragna (Politico’s Morning Energy) Seven corn-state Republican senators emerged smiling from what they deemed a “good” meeting with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt on Tuesday but they got no concrete policy promises on the Renewable …

Ethanol Has Replaced Oil Trains as Hidden Safety Risk in N.J.
October 17, 2017 – by Curtis Tate (NorthJersey.com) … The flammable biofuel is transported in trains that look virtually identical to the oil trains that have attracted so much attention, and controversy, in the country’s energy boom of the past decade. But …
Republican Governors Express Concern to President Trump Over EPA Actions on RFS
October 17, 2017 – (National Biodiesel Board) “We Were Drawn to Your Explicit Promises to Our Farmers… But Now We Are Concerned” — Today four Republican Governors sent a letter to President Trump with concerns on the recently proposed changes to …

ABFA Sends Letter to President Trump Opposing Proposed Decreases to 2018 RVOs
October 17, 2017 – (Advanced Biofuels Association) On October 13, members of the Advanced Biofuels Association (ABFA) sent a letter to President Trump expressing their opposition to the proposals in the EPA’s October 4th Notice of Data Availability (NODA), which requests …

Heitkamp Leads Bipartisan Effort to Protect Biofuel Production & Support Rural Jobs

Latest in Federal Litigation
Federal litigation news sometimes overlaps with Federal regulation or legislation items, so check both sections.
International trade disputes take center stage, with subpoenas for information related to Carl Icahn’s work as a White House advisor and the effect of his advocacy on his bottom line entering the stage.
Find more items about federal litigation on our website, click here.

U.S. Subpoenas Icahn Over Biofuel Action While Trump Adviser
November 9, 2017 – by Miles Weiss, Jennifer A Dlouhy, and Mario Parker (Bloomberg) U.S. Attorney for Southern District of N.Y. seeks information; Icahn Enterprises discloses request in securities filing — Federal investigators have issued subpoenas for information on Carl Icahn’s efforts …

Biodiesel and the Ever-Changing Political Landscape
October 30, 2017 – 4:26 pm | No Comment
by Ron Kotrba (Biodiesel Magazine) Industry stakeholders and legal experts discuss the recent RFS court ruling, the ongoing U.S. trade cases against Argentina and Indonesia, and the biodiesel tax credit in context of U.S. EPA’s Notice …
U.S. Sets Antidumping Duties on Argentine, Indonesian Biodiesel
October 25, 2017 – by Eric Walsh (Reuters) The U.S. Commerce Department set preliminary antidumping duties on imports of biodiesel from Argentina and Indonesia, after an initial finding that the products used as motor fuel were being sold at prices …

Refiners Make America-First Pitch to Cut Biofuels
October 4, 2017 – (Argus Media) US independent refiners seized on protectionist themes and two key biofuel industry victories this year to argue regulators must reduce federally mandated blending of renewable fuels.

Refiners framed a US-first pitch to slash more than …

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

Chris Tindal Joins Advanced Biofuels USA’s Board of Directors
November 15, 2017 – For Immediate Release November 15, 2017—Frederick, MD
Chris Tindal, former Director for Operational Energy working for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, has joined the Advanced Biofuels USA board of directors. Advanced …

From Seed … to Sky: Delmarva Energy Beet-to-Jetfuel Project Summary Published
November 9, 2017 – (Advanced Biofuels USA) Advanced Biofuels USA has added a summary of the findings of its USDA-funded feasibility study based on 2016 energy beet project at University of Maryland Eastern Shore. New charts and graphs based …

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

NEW EDUCATION NEWSLETTER! Advanced Biofuels USA sends three newsletters: Conference Calendar; Policy, Legislation, Regulations, Happenings; and a NEW Education Newsletter. All can be found archived on our NEWS page, And Click HERE to Subscribe to the new Education Newsletter (Free). Watch for it the first week of each month.
Help Us Continue to Provide Outstanding Service. Please DONATE!

Do you find yourself forwarding this email? Then, you must value it. Please make a contribution today so that we can continue to provide this service.

You are invited to assist us in raising funds to keep Advanced Biofuels USA providing independent information about advanced biofuels to the world.

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 above. 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. 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.