Message

From: Advanced Biofuels USA Joanne Ivancic [info@advancedbiofuelsusa.org]
Sent: 7/21/2020 6:29:51 PM
To: Charmley, William [charmley.william@epa.gov]
Subject: Latest News on Policy, Regulation, Legislation, Litigation for Biofuels, Bioeconomy, Renewable Fuels, Recycling Carbon-July 2020 Advanced Biofuels USA

Hi William! Here's your quick June 2020 review of 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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Table of Contents

- 2020 Election Activities
- Policy: US federal, state 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:

COVID-19 Response and November Election: The Digest's 2020 Multi-Slide Guide to 2020 Biofuel Issues to Watch

Polling Shows Importance of Engaging Ag Leaders In Discussions on Climate Change

Biden Has a New Climate Road Map. Here's What's Missing

Our View: Politics: What Rural Areas Need from Legislators

By Election, Trump Pressures Brazil to Increase Imports of American Ethanol

Greenfield: Wheeler Must Step Down Immediately

Biofuel and Oil Seek Federal Help to Deal with Sharp Decline In Production and Prices

Biofuels Caucus Town Hall Talks Ethanol Issues

U.S. Biofuel Group in Talks with Biden, Trump Campaigns to Boost Industry

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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

Link to state renewable fuel legislation.

Back to Table of Contents

Federal Legislation

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

NEW! Link to state renewable fuel legislation.

U.S. Iowa Senators Hope to Include Biofuels Aid in Next Coronavirus Relief Package

by Stephanie Kelly (Reuters) U.S. lawmakers from Iowa are trying to add aid for the biofuels industry into a pending coronavirus relief package in the Senate, U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley said on Friday. Grassley and his Iowa colleague, Senator Joni Ernst, hope to include a subsidy for feedstock for the ethanol industry ... July 20, 2020 Read Full Article

RFA Analysis: Ethanol Industry's COVID-Related Economic Losses Already Top $3.4 Billion, Could Reach Nearly $9 Billion by 2021

(Renewable Fuels Association) The COVID-19 crisis has already led to more than $3.4 billion in lost revenues for the U.S. ethanol industry, according to an economic analysis released today by the Renewable Fuels Association. Based on the latest projections from the Energy Information Administration and the Food and Agriculture Policy Research ... July 17, 2020 Read Full Article

COVID-19 Response and November Election: The Digest's 2020 Multi-Slide Guide to 2020 Biofuel Issues to Watch

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Michael McAdams from Advanced Biofuels Association shared this short but illuminating slide guide at ABLC Digital last week to look at the big 2020 issues to watch affecting the biofuels industry. From tax credits, regulatory issues, COVID-19 legislation and responses, and the big fork in ... July 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Sustainable Aviation Fuel's Affordability: The Digest's 2020 Multi-Slide Guide to Airlines for America's Viewpoint

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) At ABLC last week, Airlines for America's Nancy Young shared this illuminating presentation that outlines what airlines need to deploy sustainable aviation fuel as well as progress, gaps, opportunities and action to scale up supply and commercial viability. Even with COVID-19 impacting airline travel around the ... July 14, 2020 Read Full Article

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Ethanol Prophet Tilts at Petroleum

by Mikkel Pates (AgWeek) South Dakota ethanol promoter Orrie D. Swayze likes to hear promotions for 30% ethanol blends in gasoline but thinks 50% would be better for the environment and human health. — … Swazey, 76, … became worried about Middle Eastern oil imports, and thought ethanol made from ... July 13, 2020 Read Full Article

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Bustos Secures Agriculture Wins for Rural America in $152 Billion Appropriations Bill

(Office of Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL)) Today, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL) helped pass a comprehensive Agriculture and Rural Development funding bill out of the powerful House Appropriations Committee that would deliver more than $152 billion in agriculture and rural support. "Democrats are building up our rural communities, and this package reflects the critical ... July 13, 2020 Read Full Article

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Takeaways: 10 Big Bioeconomy Trendlines at ABLC for Fuels, Chemicals, Materials, Food and Feed

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) Here are the Top 10 Trendlines we saw and heard from the 8000+ delegates and viewers at ABLC 2020. 1. The thundering herd. One informed firm that does extensive amounts of technology scouting, due diligence and market price forecasting referred to a thundering herd of investors that are ... July 13, 2020 Read Full Article

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Biden Has a New Climate Road Map. Here's What's Missing

by Adam Aton (E&E News) Climate investment goals, green job targets and key decarbonization deadlines were missing from an environmental platform published yesterday by a joint team of Joe Biden backers and Sen. Bernie Sanders supporters. The gaps point to potential sources of liberal conflict next year if Democrats retake control ... July 9, 2020 Read Full Article

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Biofuel Elements of Bipartisan EICDA: The Digest's 2020 Multi-Slide Guide to Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest) You've heard of BioPreferred and Renewable Fuel Standard, but what about the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act? Find out all about EICDA in this slide guide from Business Climate Leaders that was shared at a recent DigestConnect webinar. From how EICDA works like carbon fees ... July 6, 2020 Read Full Article

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Rebuilding Minnesota's Ethanol Industry

by Timothy J. Rudnicki (Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association) … That is why it is imperative for the Senate to include the financial aid package for the ethanol industry that was introduced by Sen. Chuck Grassley and Sen. Amy Klobuchar in the next COVID-19 relief bill. While this aid package is much needed ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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The Congressional Action Plan for a Clean Energy Economy and a Healthy, Resilient, and Just America Majority Staff Report: Is It Worth Supporting?

by Robert Kozak* (Advanced Biofuels USA/Atlantic Biomass, LLC) Today the US House of Representatives Democratic Select Committee on Climate Change released their ideas for a "Clean Energy Economy." Interestingly, this document is not proposed legislation. Instead, it is simply a compilation of potential government programs that are not organized in ... June 30, 2020 Read Full Article

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Select Committee Democrats Releases 'Solving The Climate Crisis', A Congressional Roadmap For Ambitious Climate Action

(House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis) Plan Would Put Americans Back To Work, Save Lives, And Help the United States Reach Net Zero By 2050 — On Tuesday, led by Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Chair Kathy Castor (D-FL), members of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis unveiled a comprehensive plan titled "Solving the ... June 30, 2020 Read Full Article

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Bamboo Forests in the Desert

David Liepman (Disruptive Nation) … Strong commercial applications of bamboo include sustainable branded products such as pulp paper, timber, lumber and textiles. And, in line with tissue and textile major brand owner concerns, bamboo is twice as soft as cotton and doesn't require pesticides and fertilizers in its crops. As a ... June 26, 2020 Read Full Article

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Biofuel Groups Urge Congress to Extend Tax Biofuel Credits

by Erin Voegele (Ethanol Producer Magazine) The Advanced Biofuels Business Council, Algae Biomass Organization, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, Growth Energy, National Biodiesel Board and Renewable Fuels Association sent a letter to the House Ways and Means Committee on June 19 expressing support for the proposed extension of tax incentives for advanced biofuels. ... June 26, 2020 Read Full Article

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Republicans Back Bill to Help Oil Sector

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) REPUBLICANS BACK BILL TO HELP OIL SECTOR: Texas Sen. John Cornyn introduced legislation on Tuesday to help the hard-hit oil sector during the coronavirus pandemic by reducing the royalty rate for payments due from oil, gas, minerals and coal during a national emergency. The bill would also extend the ... June 24, 2020 Read Full Article

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NACSAA Submits Policy Recommendations to Senate Climate Crisis Panel

(North America Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance) The North America Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance (NACSAA) submitted last week a detailed set of policy and program recommendations to the Senate Democrats' Special Committee on the Climate Crisis. The submission, which was made in response to the Committee's request for input from agriculture and ... June 22, 2020 Read Full Article

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Democrats Unveil $1.5 Trillion Infrastructure Plan

by Rebecca Beitsch (The Hill) House Democrats unveiled a $1.5 trillion infrastructure plan Thursday that calls for a huge increase in funding to repair roads and bridges while expanding broadband access in rural areas. Democrats described the bill as the biggest legislative effort to fight climate change, with Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) saying ... June 19, 2020 Read Full Article

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Slip-up Reveals Chevron Ties to Architect of Climate Attack

by Corbin Hiar (E&E News) It was an audacious messaging campaign: White environmentalists are hurting black communities by pushing radical climate policies that would strip them of fossil fuel jobs. The email to journalists, sent by a public affairs firm at the height of national protests over systemic racism earlier this ... June 19, 2020 Read Full Article

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Bill Would Push Biofuels Innovation

by Cindy Zimmerman (Energy.AgWired.com) Sen. John Thune (R-SD) has introduced legislation, together with Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), to approve some advanced biofuel pathways under the Renewable Fuel Standard, which have been delayed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Under the legislation, EPA would also be required to render a decision within 90 days on ... June 18, 2020 Read Full Article

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Biofuels Caucus Town Hall Talks Ethanol Issues

by Cindy Zimmerman (Energy.AgWired.com) Members of the Congressional Biofuels Caucus held a virtual town hall Wednesday to discuss the challenges currently facing the ethanol industry and what can be done to help. Participating in the meeting were caucus members including Reps. Collin Peterson (D-MN), Roger Marshall (R-KS), Dave Loebsack (D-IA), and Rodney Davis ... June 18, 2020 Read Full Article

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EPA to Propose Splitting 500-Million-Gal RFS Remand in 2021, 2022: Sources

by Jordan Godwin (OPIS) EPA is expected to propose as early as next month a 250-million-gal increase in the 2021 Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) and another 250-million-gal boost in the 2022 RVO to comply with a remand order the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued ... June 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Committee Leaders Unveil the INVEST in America Act, a Transformational Surface Transportation Bill to Bring Nation's Infrastructure into a New Era

(U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure) Chair DeFazio: "The INVEST in America Act is our opportunity to replace the outdated systems of the past with smarter, safer, more resilient infrastructure that fits the economy of the future, creates millions of jobs, supports American manufacturing, and restores U.S. ... June 16, 2020 Read Full Article

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Back to Table of Contents

Federal Regulation

See also articles in Legislation and Litigation for overlapping topics.

DOE Still Reviewing Gap-Year Small Oil Refiner Petitions

(Fairfield Sun Times/NAFB) … (U.S. Energy Secretary Dan) Brouillette argued there were differing legal opinions on the ruling's impact on 'gap-year' waivers, but conceded DOE's method for analyzing and recommending EPA reject the same waivers in earlier years hasn't changed. Which gave (Dave) Loebsack (D-IA 2nd District) an opening. "Well, … July 20, 2020 Read Full Article

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Taking Corn Fiber to the Max — Ethanol Producer Awards: Project of the Year to ACE Ethanol

by Tom Bryan (Ethanol Producer Magazine) When the U.S. EPA approved Ace Ethanol's Part 80 registration for corn-fiber-to-ethanol production this spring—qualifying the facility to generate D3 RINs—it was not just another project milestone, but a critical validation and definitive green light to go. "Securing that D3 approval was never in … July 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Senators Press USDA for Biofuel Infrastructure Grant Flexibility

(Kansas Ag Connection/US AgNet) U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Tina Smith (D-MN) are pressing U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Sonny Perdue to allow businesses that have received grants under the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) to use grant funds to cover project costs incurred any time in July 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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EPA Now Considering 58 Gap-Year SRE Requests

(DTN's Washington Insider) At least 58 retroactive small refinery exemption (SRE) requests have been received by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), according to the latest update from the agency. The push by refiners for the retroactive "gap-year" exemptions stems from a 10th Circuit Court ruling that held they are only eligible for ... July 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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USDA Issues Rule to Streamline 4 Loan Guarantee Programs Comments DEADLINE: September 14, 2020

by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) The USDA on July 13 issued a final rule that aims to increase private investment in rural communities by making it easier for lenders to access four guaranteed loan programs, including the Rural Energy for America Program. The rule is scheduled to take effect Oct. July 15, 2020 Read Full Article

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Growth Energy Testifies on Low-Carbon Ethanol, EPA Test Fuels

(Growth Energy/Ethanol Producer Magazine) Today (July 13, 2020), Growth Energy Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs Chris Bliley offered testimony during a virtual public hearing on the U.S. EPA's test protocols for U.S. fuels. The agency is currently updating Tier 3 Motor Vehicle Emission and Fuel Standards to reflect the modern transition to ... July 14, 2020 Read Full Article

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Trump Administration Has Been Underestimating Costs of Carbon Pollution, Government Watchdog Finds

by Rebecca Beitsch (The Hill) The Trump administration has been systematically underestimating the damage caused by carbon pollution, slashing figures used under the Obama administration to weigh the impacts of policy, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO). The reduced figure, known as the social cost of ... July 14, 2020 Read Full Article

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Feedstock-Conversion Interface Consortium Launches New Website

by Helena Taveras Kennedy (Biofuels Digest) In Washington, D.C., the Feedstock-Conversion Interface Consortium released their revamped website which features renovated content describing the FCIC's eight main research areas. Each research area will enable the consortium to help biorefinery developers understand and mitigate biomass feedstock and process variability. The FCIC develops science-based knowledge ... July 13, 2020 Read Full Article

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Policy and Investment Failures Doomed the Biofuel Revolution

by Todd Woody (Bloomberg Green) To reignite the industry, biofuels need the type of government incentives that allowed solar and wind companies to flourish, analysts say. — … Technology from Honeywell's subsidiary UOP had refined the camelina into renewable jet fuel, and as we reached cruising altitude executives settled into wide ... July 9, 2020 Read Full Article

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RFA Supports EPA's Proposed 'Anti-Backsliding' Determination, but Says Agency Used 'Outdated and Unreliable' Modeling

(Renewable Fuels Association) In comments submitted today to the Environmental Protection Agency, the Renewable Fuels Association expressed support for the Agency's proposal to determine that no additional measures are necessary to mitigate "potential adverse air quality impacts" associated with the Renewable Fuel Standard. However, RFA's comments also challenged the flawed air … July 9, 2020 Read Full Article

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Ethanol's Rough 2020 Ride: Trade Wars, COVID-19 and Waivers Alter Its Momentum

by Jennifer M. Latzke (High Plains Journal) … And still, shortly after Trump's visit, the EPA granted 31 small refinery waivers from the Renewable Fuels Standard in the fall that would have wiped out any traction that year-round E15 approval had gained the industry. Looking back, that was one bump ... July 6, 2020 Read Full Article

U.S. EPA Puts 2021 Biofuel Blending Mandate Proposal on Hold Indefinitely, Sources Say

by Stephanie Kelly (Reuters) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has put on hold indefinitely a proposal for the amount of biofuels refiners must blend into their fuel next year, two sources familiar with the matter said. Many anticipated the proposal would come out in late June or early July. The EPA ... July 6, 2020 Read Full Article

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Ethanol Ad Urges Visiting Trump to 'Tear down That (Blend)' Wall'

by Mikkel Pates (Ag Week) Ethanol proponents try to make some political hay with President Donald Trump when he visits Rapid City. They ask that he "tear down that wall" of 10% ethanol blends, and allow ethanol to climb to 30% blends. They say the Environmental Protection Agency should do ... July 3, 2020 Read Full Article

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Potential Feedstocks, Biofuel Markets, Corn and Cellulosic Ethanol: The Digest's 2020 Multi-Slide Guide to Increasing Feedstock Production for Biofuels

by Jim Lane (Biofuels Digest)The Biomass Research and Development Board published a report that looks at how to address the constraints surrounding availability of biomass feedstocks for biofuels. Four questions guide the analysis: What feedstocks and at what price? What is the regional distribution of feedstock production? What are the ... July 3, 2020 Read Full Article

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Sen. Cruz to EPA: No Relief for Refinery Workers, No Consent for EPA Nominee

(Office of Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX)) U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) today issued the following statement on the nomination of Doug Benevento to be Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): "The price of RINs has more than quadrupled since the beginning of the year, and now sits around ... July 2, 2020 Read Full Article

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John J. Mooney: An Appreciation of Performance Directed Engineering Greatness

by Robert Kozak* (Atlantic Biomass/Advanced Biofuels USA) I was sad to see an obituary today for the great engineer John J. Mooney. Who was John J. Mooney you ask? He was the co-inventor of both the 2-way and the 3-way motor vehicle catalytic converter. The "3-way cat," as it is referred ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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More Evidence of Causal Link between Air Pollution and Early Death

(Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health) Strengthening U.S. air quality standards for fine particulate pollution to be in compliance with current World Health Association (WHO) guidelines could save more than 140,000 lives over the course of a decade, according to a new study from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The study, ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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Review of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Particulate Matter on Behalf of the Urban Air Initiative (UAI)

(Urban Air Initiative) On behalf of the Urban Air Initiative (UAI), we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the above Proposed Rulemaking (Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2015-0072). UAI is a not for profit technical organization with a particular focus on automotive emissions and fuel composition. We are disappointed that EPA fails ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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Covid-19 Fears Spur More Cars on Roads, Threatening Air Quality

by Amena H. Saiyid with assistance from Sylvia Carignan and Christina Brady (Bloomberg Law) Some who normally use mass transit seek safer commute option; State, local officials watch data for air quality impact — … More cars on the roads in congested urban centers like New York City—the virus epicenter ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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Farming, Biofuels, Health Groups Challenge EPA on SAFE Rule

(Morning Ag Clips/South Dakota Farmers Union) Broad coalition challenges the Safer Affordable Fuel Efficiency Vehicle Rule; In response to EPA's failure to credibly consider and advance mid-level ethanol fuel blends as an alternative to conventional fuels, the groups filed a petition for review in the Superior Court of the District ... June 30, 2020 Read Full Article

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EPA to Propose Splitting 500-Million-Gal RFS Remand in 2021, 2022: Sources

by Jordan Godwin (OPIS/Governors Biofuels Coalition)EPA is expected to propose as early as next month a 250-million-gal increase in the 2021 Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) and another 250-million-gal boost in the 2022 RVO to comply with a remand order the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ... June 30, 2020 Read Full Article

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CEO Reflects on Ethanol Industry Crises a Year after Trump Visit

by Glenn Minnis (The Center Square) … The president was there to help industry executives celebrate his administration's removal of a regulation that up until then prohibited companies from selling gasoline containing 15% ethanol year-round. "It was a terrific event for my company and the renewable fuels industry, drawing nearly ... June 25, 2020 Read Full Article

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Greenfield: Wheeler Must Step Down Immediately

by Paul Deaton (Blog for Iowa) At a June 22 press conference U.S. Senate candidate Theresa Greenfield said since Joni Ernst hasn't called for the resignation of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler over 52 new Renewable Fuel Standard waivers she will. And she did. … Today, businesswoman and ... June 23, 2020 Read Full Article

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52 Petitions Filed by Refineries Seeking RFS Exemptions

(Renewable Fuels Association/National Biodiesel Board/Farm Progress) Renewable Fuels Association, National Biodiesel Board critical of these petitions, say refiners are trying to circumvent court ruling. — The U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency today disclosed that 52 new petitions have been received from small refineries seeking retroactive exemptions from their Renewable Fuel Standard requirements ... June 19, 2020 Read Full Article

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Biofuel and Oil Seek Federal Help to Deal with Sharp Decline In Production and Prices

(RFD TV) … Both the oil and ethanol sectors are asking the federal government to step in as each one sees a sharp decline in prices and production. Oil groups say that the pandemic pushed the industry over the edge, while it was battling an already downward demand trend. … June 18, 2020 Read Full Article

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Solutions from the Land's Letter to Senate Democrats' Special Committee on the Climate Crisis

(Solutions from the Land) In response to a call for input from the Senate Democrats' Special Committee on the Climate Crisis for input on tools, programs, and support useful to address the impacts of severe weather and climate change on their community and business, we have constructed a response … June 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Grassley Says RFS Debate Could Explode Come 2022

by Marc Heller (E&E News) If the politics around ethanol seem charged today, just wait two years — that's when Congress may really step into the fray. READ MORE Grassley discusses SRE gap filings, future of RFS program (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Excerpt from Ethanol Producer Magazine: In the legislation that ... June 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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EPA to Propose Splitting 500-Million-Gal RFS Remand in 2021, 2022: Sources

by Jordan Godwin (OPIS) EPA is expected to propose as early as next month a 250-million-gal increase in the 2021 Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) and another 250-million-gal boost in the 2022 RVO to comply with a remand order the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit issued .. June 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Validating the Need to Test Real-World Fuels

by Steve VanderGriend (Ethanol Producer Magazine/Urban Air Initiative) While much of the industry's energy has been focused on issues like Reid vapor pressure relief, a new technical paper demonstrates the need to focus on aromatics, and the fact that ethanol can reduce the need for other carcinogenic octane enhancers. … June 17, 2020 Read Full Article

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Ethanol's Carbon Underground

by Luke Geiver (Ethanol Producer Magazine) Positioning into the low-carbon biofuels marketplace, ethanol producers are moving forward with sequestration strategies. A more lucrative federal tax credit, along with a reduced minimum production requirement, is making the economics attractive. After more than 20 years of research, sponsored largely by the U.S. ... June 16, 2020 Read Full Article

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EPA Proposes Honest Accounting Standard to Improve Future Clean Air Act Rules PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: July 27, 2020

(Environmental Protection Agency) Today (June 4, 2020), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a proposal to improve the rulemaking process under the Clean Air Act by establishing requirements to ensure consistent, high-quality analyses of benefits and costs are provided to the public for significant rules. This proposal, when finalized, will ... June 16, 2020 Read Full Article

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Back to Table of Contents

Regulations Open for Public Comment

EPA Proposes Honest Accounting Standard to Improve Future Clean Air Act Rules PUBLIC COMMENT DEADLINE: July 27, 2020

(Environmental Protection Agency) Today (June 4, 2020), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a proposal to improve the rulemaking process ... Read Full Article

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Solicitation of Input From Stakeholders on Agricultural Innovations DEADLINE August 1, 2020

(U.S. Department of Agriculture/Federal Register) The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is soliciting comments and suggestions on objectives and opportunities leading to research goals and informed product goals to facilitate transformative breakthroughs to enable U.S. agriculture to meet the Department's goal of increasing agricultural production by 40 percent to ... Read Full Article

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Godot Arrives: Carbon Capture Regs Released Public Comment DEADLINE: August 3, 2020

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The IRS on Thursday released proposed rules for an expanded carbon capture and utilization tax credit, ending a more than two-year wait for the regulations. Congress expanded the carbon capture credit in early 2018 as part of a bill that funded the government, but ... Read Full Article

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Vehicle Test Procedure Adjustments for Tier 3 Certification Test Fuel DEADLINE: August 11, 2020

(U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to make adjustments to certain laboratory tailpipe emission testing procedures for automobiles, light trucks, and heavy-duty pickup trucks and vans as the result of a test fuel change that was finalized as a part of EPA's 2014 Tier 3 vehicle emissions ... Read Full Article

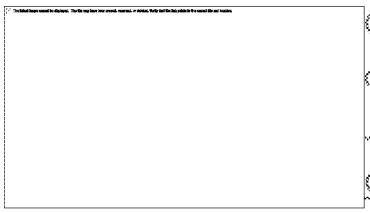
USDA Issues Rule to Streamline 4 Loan Guarantee Programs Comments DEADLINE: September 14, 2020

by Erin Voegele (Biomass Magazine) The USDA on July 13 issued a final rule that aims to increase private investment in rural communities by making it easier for lenders to access four guaranteed loan programs, including the Rural Energy for America Program. The rule is scheduled to take effect Oct. ... July 15, 2020 Read Full Article

MORE OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS

Back to Table of Contents

Federal Litigation



Check Federal Legislation and Federal Regulations for overlap. For more on federal litigation, click here.

Green Plains Sues ADM, Alleging Ethanol Market Manipulation

by P.J. Huffstutter (Reuters) Green Plains Inc, one of the biggest U.S. ethanol producers, sued Archer Daniels Midland Co on Tuesday, accusing the global grain trader of manipulating the price of the biofuel to profit from its positions in the derivatives market. Green Plains filed the proposed class action with ... July 15, 2020 Read Full Article

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DOJ Asks Court to Block Automakers from Suit

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The Trump administration on Thursday asked a court to block Ford, Honda, Volkswagen and BMW from becoming directly involved with litigation over the SAFE Vehicles rule (Reg. 2060-AU09). The automakers, which struck a voluntary emissions deal with California, last week moved to join the ... July 10, 2020 Read Full Article

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Weighing in: A Bipartisan Group of Former EPA and Transportation Department Chiefs Filed a Friend-of-the-Court Brief

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) A bipartisan group of former EPA and Transportation Department chiefs filed a friend-of-the-court brief this week criticizing the Trump administration's revocation of California's fuel economy waiver as having no "no valid legal, factual, or logical basis," Alex also reports for Pros. The Trump administration ... July 8, 2020 Read Full Article

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Farming, Biofuels, Health Groups Challenge EPA on SAFE Rule

(Morning Ag Clips/South Dakota Farmers Union) Broad coalition challenges the Safer Affordable Fuel Efficiency Vehicle Rule; In response to EPA's failure to credibly consider and advance mid-level ethanol fuel blends as an alternative to conventional fuels, the groups filed a petition for review in the Superior Court of the District ... June 30, 2020 Read Full Article

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Date Set for Oral Arguments in Small Refinery Exemption RFS Case

by Kelsey Tamborrino (Politico's Morning Energy) The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments on Sept. 25 in a case that could determine whether EPA must deeply curtail its program of exemptions from the RFS. The case mirrors a 10th Circuit case in which the court found that ... June 18, 2020 Read Full Article

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Back to Table of Contents

By and About Advanced Biofuels USA

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

John J. Mooney: An Appreciation of Performance Directed Engineering Greatness

by Robert Kozak* (Atlantic Biomass/Advanced Biofuels USA) I was sad to see an obituary today for the great engineer John J. Mooney. Who was John J. Mooney you ask? He was the co-inventor of both the 2-way and the 3-way motor vehicle catalytic converter. The "3-way cat," as it is referred ... July 1, 2020 Read Full Article

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Goias State in Brazil Approves "When Filling Your Tank, Choose Ethanol" Policy

by André Luiz Cançado Motta* (Federal University of Goiás for Advanced Biofuels USA) The President of the Legislative Assembly of the State of

Goiás, Deputy Lissauer Vieira (PSB, the Brazilian Socialist Party), approved, on June 18, at the Remote Ordinary Session, with 25 votes in favor and none against, the new State Policy ... June 25, 2020 Read Full Article

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The Importance of Renewable Fuels and Their Different Processes

by Pedro Malpartida* (Advanced Biofuels USA) This paper, prepared in partial completion of graduation requirements at George Mason University, presents information about the topic of biofuels and renewable fuels and the different processes, which were studied as part of an internship with Advanced Biofuels USA. This paper summarizes information learned ... June 19, 2020 Read Full Article

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Advanced Biofuels USA Publishes Updated "What's the Difference between Biodiesel and Renewable (Green) Diesel?" Adds "What Renewable Fuels Can Be Used in Compression Ignition Engines?"

(Advanced Biofuels USA) Since 2011, one of Advanced Biofuels USA's most popular publications has been "What's the Difference between Biodiesel and Renewable (Green) Diesel?" The update of this paper has been expanded to answer the question, "What Renewable Fuels Can Be Used in Compression Ignition Engines?" This paper begins by ... June 8, 2020 Read Full Article

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.

Plus, a popular white paper, How to De-Fossilize Your Fleet: Suggestions for Fleet Managers Working on Sustainability Programs.

Back to Table of Contents

William: **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.

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Thanks,
Joanne Ivancic, Executive Director

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