



Merry Christmas

WPMA OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 26, 2016 - MERRY CHRISTMAS

BIODIESEL BLENDER CREDIT EXPIRES AT 11:59PM ON DECEMBER 31, 2016

The \$1.00 per gallon federal biodiesel blender credit expires at 11:59 pm on December 31, 2016. This means that blenders may not file for the \$1.00 per gallon credit for any blends created after this expiration date. However, claims for credits on blends produced before midnight on December 31, 2016 may still be filed in a timely manner during 2017.

Claim Procedure for Blends Created During Calendar Year 2016

- **Claim Procedure** - Sections 6426(a) and (c) of the Internal Revenue Code allow a person producing a biodiesel mixture during calendar year 2016 to claim a \$1.00-per-gallon credit against its tax liability under section 4081 (federal motor fuel excise taxes). The blender filing the claim **must first** apply the biodiesel mixture credit against its federal motor fuel excise tax liability on IRS Form 720 or Form 720X. To the extent the claim **exceeds** its federal motor fuel excise tax liability, the claimant may file a claim for a payment of that excess amount on IRS Form 8849, *Claim for Refund of Excise Taxes, and attach Schedule 3 (Form 8849), Certain Fuel Mixtures and the Alternative Fuel Credit*.
- **Quarterly Claims** - IRS Section 6427(i)(3)(C) requires claims for payment of the \$100 per gallon biodiesel tax credit to be filed on or before the last day of the first quarter following the earliest quarter of the claimant's income tax year included in the claim. For example, a calendar-year claimant's claim for a biodiesel mixture sold or used during November and December by March 31, 2017. Use IRS Form 720 or 720X.
- **Annual Claims** - If a claimant does not timely file a quarterly claim for the \$1.00 per gallon blender credit payment under section 6427(e), then the claimant may file a claim for the amount as a *refundable income tax credit*. Annual claims for the \$1.00 per gallon credit must be filed on IRS Form 4136, *Credit for Federal Tax Paid on Fuels*, and attached to the claimant's income tax return. Income tax claims for the \$1.00 per gallon biodiesel blender credit must be made within three years from the time the claimant's income tax return was filed or two years from the time the income tax was paid, whichever is later.
- **Payment of Claim** - If the IRS has not paid pursuant to a claim filed within 45 days of the date of the filing of such claim (20 days in the case of an electronic claim), the claim shall be paid with interest.
- **Forms** – IRS Forms 720, 720X, 8849 and 4136 can be downloaded [here](https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs) (<https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs>).

Contact Mark S. Morgan, PMAA Regulatory Counsel with questions about biodiesel mixture credit claim procedures.

CONGRESS UNSURE ABOUT LENGTH OF OBAMACARE TRANSITION PERIOD

It is well-known that the first priority of President-elect Donald Trump and the Republicans in Congress is to repeal Obamacare. However, it is unknown how long it will take for Congress to replace Obamacare. Trump's new pick for Health and Human Services Secretary, Rep. Tom Price (R-GA), recently told reporters that there are ongoing discussions about how long the transition period to a new healthcare system will be once Congress inevitably repeals Obamacare during the early months of next year. House Speaker Paul Ryan also stated that it is too early to know exactly how long the transition period will be.

According to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), the Senate will begin the process of piecing together a budget resolution that will include *reconciliation** instructions to repeal Obamacare when it returns on January 3. Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, Orrin Hatch (R-UT), has said that he prefers a three year transition period, although many House Republicans have stated they prefer two years or less. The two chambers will ultimately have to come to an agreement to pass a budget resolution early next year. Furthermore, Governors from both parties are communicating that federal funding for the states should remain in place as Congress considers ACA replacement.

* Created by the Congressional Budget Act in 1974, *reconciliation* allows for expedited consideration of certain tax, spending and debt limit legislation which only requires 51 votes in the Senate to pass. Reconciliation was used last year to repeal Obamacare, but President Obama vetoed the legislation, and therefore, required the necessary 67 votes to override

the veto. It is a different story now with a GOP controlled Congress and Executive Branch so it is likely that portions of Obama will be on the chopping block.

PMAA strongly supports the effort to repeal Obamacare's employer mandate.

MCCONNELL SAYS TRUMP INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLY CONSTRUCTED

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is eager to see the details of President-elect Trump's infrastructure plan. Last week, he stated that Trump's infrastructure plan should be developed "carefully and correctly." He cautions that the plan should avoid the same failures of the 2009 stimulus package in which \$1 trillion was spent with not much to show for it.

While the details of Trump's infrastructure plan are still in flux, he offered clues on the campaign trail about how he would work to repair the nation's weak transportation system. According to a ten page blueprint on Trump's website, private financing will be the cornerstone of his infrastructure plan. The proposal would offer \$137 billion in federal tax credits to private investors who want to back transportation projects, which the blueprint says would unleash up to \$1 trillion worth of infrastructure investment over ten years.

Many Republicans have already stated that they will not support any plan that adds to the nation's deficit. In Congress, Republicans are leaning toward funding infrastructure through revenue from repatriation, a process by which taxes are collected on corporate earnings stored abroad when they return to the United States. However, a key factor in Trump's plan that can attract conservatives support is that he plans to cut regulatory "red tape" that slows down construction projects.

MANHATTAN INSTITUTE OFFERS ENERGY RECOMMENDATIONS

Last week, The Manhattan Institute published its' transition team memo entitled "Ideas for the New Administration: Energy." The Manhattan Institute (MI) is a think tank whose mission is to develop and disseminate new ideas that foster greater economic choice and individual responsibility.

The transition team document lays out three steps that Congress and the new Trump administration can take to rework energy policy. The document recommends expanding and enhancing the national nuclear fleet through some taxpayer subsidies, repealing the Renewable Fuel Standard and doing away with tax credits for electric vehicles. MI calls for emphasizing nuclear power and de-emphasizing government mandates and high-cost, inefficient subsidies to other energy sources. According to MI, there is no economic or environmental justification for the EV tax credit. Motorists purchase vehicles that suit their needs while low-income taxpayers should not be subsidizing wealthy motorists who buy EVs.

FINAL SNAP EBT RULEMAKING

The USDA has issued a final rule which provides a plan for states that wish to implement a photo requirement for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries. The final rule which was released last week will go into effect on January 12, 2017.

In its rulemaking, the agency sets implementation requirements for those states requiring, or wishing to require, photos on EBT cards. The rule establishes procedures to ensure: Any other appropriate member of the household or authorized representative (including any individual permitted by the household to purchase food on its behalf) who is not pictured on the photo EBT card may use the card; placing photos on EBT cards does not affect the eligibility process and does not impose additional conditions of eligibility or adversely impact the ability of appropriate household members to access the nutrition assistance they need. Failure by a State agency to adhere to the provisions of this rule may result in penalties, including loss of federal funding.

IMPORTANT EMV™ UPDATE

Card brands delay EMV liability shift for fuel merchants

Worldpay, a PMAA Corporate Silver Partner, remains dedicated to keeping our sellers, merchants and partners informed about progress in EMV chip card acceptance.

To this end, we want to acknowledge that three card brands – Visa Inc., Mastercard, and Discover/PULSE –recently announced updates to their respective business rules that change the EMV liability shift date for automated fuel dispensers (AFD). The date moved from October 1, 2017, to October 1, 2020, and applies to domestic card brands only. Foreign card liability shift at AFDs remains at October 1, 2017.

FEDERATED'S RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER CAUTION: SEVERE WEATHER DRIVING AHEAD

If you live in an area that gets wintery weather, does the first snowfall of the season seem to bring on a rash of fender benders and crashes? Even though we all know what happens to the roads in the cold weather, that first dose of winter can be a real eye-opener on how to drive on snowy, wet, and slippery roads or when visibility is poor.

To avoid getting caught off-guard when road conditions go from good to bad, a little advance preparation—for you and your car—may help you steer clear of those fender benders.

First, don't drive unless absolutely necessary. The best way to avoid an accident is to not be on the roads in the first place. If driving is unavoidable,

- Slow down and plan ahead. Allow some extra travel time so you're not rushed and tempted to take risks.
- Leave tailgating for the football game. Following too closely in perfect driving conditions is risky enough, but it's just asking for trouble when driving is hazardous. Don't be "that guy."
- Pay attention. Driving in poor conditions is no time for even the slightest distraction. Keep your mind on your driving, hands on the wheel, and eyes on the road. Put your phone out of reach. Learn your route ahead of time to reduce reliance on distracting navigation devices. Or have a passenger navigate.
- Make sure your lights and wipers work properly. Top off your windshield washer fluid. Inflate the tires to the recommended level. Use chains if your state allows or mandates them.
- Get enough rest. Fatigue and winter driving are a dangerous combination. Add in nighttime driving and it can be a recipe for disaster.
- Drive defensively. Watch out for others whose driving may not be sensible for the conditions.

Extra cautious driving in poor weather can help you get to and from your destination safely.

For additional information or to discuss further, please contact your [Federated](#) regional representative or PMAA's National Account Executive [Jerry Leemkuil](#) at 800.533.0472. Federated is a PMAA Corporate Platinum Partner.

PASSING OF SCOTT LYSTAD, CHEVRON

We are saddened to report the passing of Scott Lystad of Brea, California, a well-known representative for Chevron Products Co. Scott passed away unexpectedly December 11, 2016.

A Celebration of Life and Visitation was held on Wednesday, December 21, and a Memorial Service followed on Thursday, December 22, at the St. Angela Merici Catholic Church in Brea California. Scott was a long-time member and generous supporter of The Western Petroleum Marketers Association and the WPMA state associations. WPMA sends our heartfelt condolences to Scott's family and associates. He will be sorely missed by the marketing industry.

2017 WPMAEXPO - LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



Mark your calendars for February 21-23, 2017. Make plans now to attend the 2017 WPMAEXPO. It will be held once again at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.

THE WPMA SCHOLARSHIP SILENT AUCTION IS GOING HIGH-TECH!

New in 2017, you can bid on silent auction items from your phone!

With any type of mobile device, you can browse auction items, place bids, and pay for your items with the tap of a finger. Should any guest feel technologically-challenged, our WPMA Staff members will be there to offer hands-on assistance at any time.

Here are some of the great features of our new online auction -

- Receive Instant Outbid Notifications
- *BUY IT NOW* Pricing Will Still be Available
- Bid Winners Receive Notification of Their Winning Bid
- Pay for Your Purchases on Your Phone
- Bid from Anywhere
- Access through WPMAEXPO App – No Extra App Required!

Please donate an item to the 2017 Silent Auction - help make this the best auction ever!

To donate an item to the 2017 Scholarship Silent Auction, download a form at www.wpma.com/scholarship and return it to kathym@wpma.com, or fax to 801-262-9413, no later than January 22, so that brochures can be printed in time for the convention.

We hope to have your support in this worthwhile endeavor!

Thank You **WPMA EXPO 2017 TOP SPONSORS**

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21-23, 2017 – WPMA Convention & Expo – Mirage Hotel– Las Vegas, Nevada

March 1, 2017 – Utah (UPMRA) Day on Capitol Hill – Salt Lake City, Utah

May 4-5, 2017– Nevada (NPM&CSA) Big Dogs Shootout – TBD, Nevada

June 6-8, 2017 – Montana (MPMCSA) Convention – Northern Hotel – Billings, Montana

June 19-22, 2017 – Washington (WOMA) Convention – Suncadia Resort – Cle Elum, Washington

June 22, 2017 – Utah (UPMRA) Summer Classic PAC Golf Outing – TBD, Utah

August 2-4, 2017 – Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention – Sun Valley Resort – Sun Valley, Idaho

August 21-23, 2017 – New Mexico (NMPMA) Convention – Sandia Resort – Albuquerque, New Mexico

September 13-15, 2017 – Utah (UPMRA) Convention – Zermatt Resort – Midway, Utah

June 18-21, 2018 – Washington (WOMA) Convention – Suncadia Resort – Cle Elum, Washington

August 8-10, 2018 – Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention – Coeur d'Alene Resort – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

NPP WPMA MEMBER SERVICE

WPMA has partnered with NPP to provide members discounts on many products and services. NPP negotiates the rates, and makes them available to WPMA members. Membership with NPP is free, and there is no obligation to purchase. Discounts through Verizon, Expedia, Fastenal, Cradlepoint, and more.

Register Now: <https://associations.mynpp.com/myNPP/memberSavings.xhtml?guid=RB3WUOFG>

WPMA MEMBER SERVICES



Be sure to subscribe to all of our social channels for great tips, industry trends, and insider information about association activities and upcoming events!



Petro Pete: "What goes "oh, oh, oh"? Santa walking backwards."

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