

WASHINGTON *Independent Energy Distributors Report*



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Executive Director



Another Huge Price Increase on Fuel Begins January 1st in Washington State

As part of the Climate Commitment Act passed in the Washington Legislature, Department of Ecology has recently released their rules and impacts of this three-pronged program to include a Cap and Trade Program, LCFS, and Green House Gas Program.

The Cap-and-Trade Mandate is the most stringent and unrealistic mandate in the entire nation, even surpassing California standards. California started at a 1.8%/year CO₂ reduction, where Washington is starting at 7% reduction, with no justification or studies that even say that goal is attainable. Logic and common sense do not seem to be present in the current regulatory process at Department of Ecology, and certainly the interests of our Washington consumers are not at heart. This “out of the gate” requirement is three times more aggressive than California.

Experts say there is no real way Washington Fuel Distributors can comply with this rule come January 1, 2023. As part of the LCFS, if you purchase and resell fuel in Washington State, the new costs will be included in the rack price. If you purchase in ID or OR, and bring back into the state, you will be responsible for collecting the cost of credits needed on that fuel – a price that has not been established yet.

Analysts predict that consumers will see a 47-cent increase on gasoline and a 57-cent increase on diesel in 2023. This is outrageous considering there is very negligible improvement to the environment (admitted by Department of Ecology) and most of the benefits will be to those out of our own state, while Washingtonians bear the full brunt of the cost of this program.

Stop Being Reckless with the Economy and Environment

Washington consumers are mostly unaware that come the first of the year, they will be hit with another massive price hike in their fuel costs. In fact, in a recent poll conducted by the Affordable Fuels Washington, 2/3 of those polled said our Legislature should go back to the drawing board on this overreaching Climate Commitment Act.

Internal Combustible Engine (ICE) Ban is coming our way too

According to the Washington Legislature, 100% of all vehicles sold in Washington State must be electric vehicles by 2035. But furthermore, did you know that they also want WA to have 35% of all sales of vehicles to be EV by 2026? Currently, Washington has only reached 2% of EVs in our statewide fleet, and California has currently only reached 3% of all vehicles sold. These mandates are overreaching and void of planning and common sense. Not to mention the lack of adequate infrastructure available for EV charging stations, availability of electricity on the grid, and lack of new electric generating areas such as hydroelectric dams in the PNW. And if you read to this point, and enjoy my articles, please email me expressing your favorite parts, *and I will enter you into a drawing for \$100 for actually reading this magazine, before January 31st, 2023!*

Washington State NEW Lobbyist Partner



The Association has made a shift in our lobbying representation in Olympia for the coming years. Your new Legislative/GR Committee and Executive Committee is very excited to officially announce the selected new Lobbyist for our Association. Diana Carlen, a Partner with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Government

Relations, is officially our new lobbyist. Diana may be new to Washington Independent Energy Distributor members, but she’s well known around the state capitol, having served as senior staff with the Washington State Senate Republican Caucus advising caucus members on energy and environment issues; and she has been a contract lobbyist since 2014.

Diana currently represents businesses, agriculture and public energy utilities in Olympia. Some examples of clients she represents include wheat and potato growers, food processors, energy utilities and FedEx. As a result, she has a strong background in and understanding of key issues of interest to the Washington Independent Energy Distributors, including energy, natural resources, transportation, labor and budget issues. She enjoys working with associations, and is

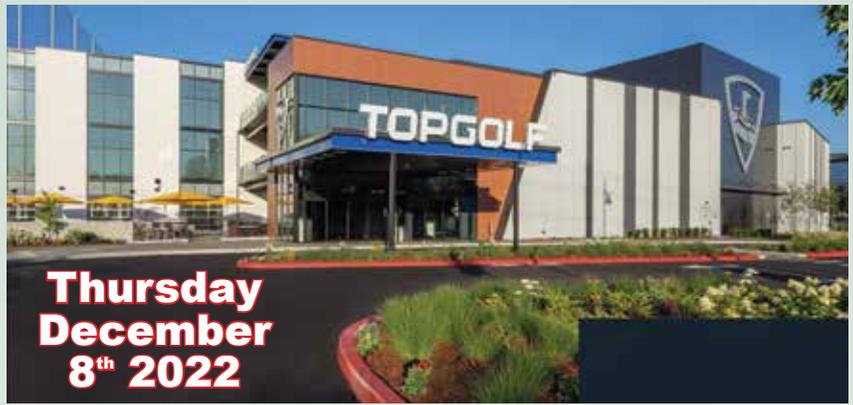
WIED Association *continued*

very experienced and successful at growing PAC funds as well. She came highly recommended from all.

Diana grew up in Olympia and graduated from the Seattle University School of Law. She has an undergraduate degree in political science from Pepperdine University and now lives in University Place with her husband, son and yellow lab.

Please take a moment to reach out to Diana, and welcome her to our family. She is amazing and we look forward to having her on our team. Her contact information is: Diana Carlen, DCarlen@gth-gov.com, 1201 Pacific Ave., Suite 2100, Tacoma, WA 98401, c: 425.890.0610, o: 253.620.6636, www.gth-gov.com

We are excited for our fresh future.



Holiday Party was held December 8th at Topgolf!

On December 8th Washington Independent Energy Distributor members joined together for a fun-filled evening at TopGolf in Renton, WA. Dinner was served during golf in the bays. All attendees had a delightful evening of fun and fellowship.

Easy Holiday Recipe that is always a hit!

Spinach and Artichoke Dip *workweeklunch.com/spinach-and-artichoke-dip-recipe/*

14 oz canned artichokes drained, squeezed of excess water, and roughly chopped

Enjoy!

Ingredients:

Cooking Spray

8 oz cream cheese, softened at room temperature

1/3 cup sour cream

1 Tbsp mayo optional,
or sub more sour cream

3/4 cup mozzarella cheese shredded

1/3 cup parmesan grated

2 cloves garlic minced, divided

1 Tbsp parsley, plus more for garnish

1 tsp red pepper flakes (skip if you don't like heat)

10 oz frozen spinach, defrosted and drained well

Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

Prepare a 1.5 quart/liter baking dish (9x9 or smaller) with cooking spray. Preheat oven to 375° F.

In a large mixing bowl, combine the cream cheese, sour cream, and mayo until it is smooth. Fold in 1/2 of the mozzarella, parmesan, 1/2 of the garlic, parsley, red pepper flakes, spinach, and artichoke hearts. Mix everything until well combined. Taste the mixture and add salt and pepper if necessary.

Transfer the dip to a prepared baking dish. Smooth the mixture evenly and top with the remaining mozzarella and garlic.

Bake for 20 minutes until melted and bubbly. Optional: Finish in the broiler for 2-3 minutes to create a golden crust. Serve warm with chips, crackers, or bread.



WIED Convention June 19-21, 2023

