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# WPMA / PMAA Washington Conference and Day on the Hill

*The WPMA/PMAA Marketers* just got back from a great meeting in Washington DC for our Washington Conference and Day on the Hill with PMAA. All WPMA members are members of PMAA through their membership with WPMA.

The Conference focused on several Federal Legislation issues. The PMAA Board of Directors has designated these as the main legislative issues affecting Petroleum Marketers. When we met with our Congressman we obviously could not cover all the issues, so each state chose the three or four they felt were most important to their members back home. However, all the issues were presented to our marketer members in a great informational packet provided by PMAA, which reviewed all the legislative issues our industry faces. The attendance of WPMA marketer members at the conference was one of the largest in many years. We should all thank PMAA's Rob Underwood and his staff for doing a great job!

Below are several of the discussion items we are currently working on with PMAA. If you have some expertise in any of these areas or a relationship with one of your Congressmen, please share these informational papers and your view of the effect the legislation will have on your business. If Congress does not hear from our industry on these issues, they will not be able to make informed decisions. Our Congress has so many issues facing them that they cannot be experts in all areas, for all our industries. That is where you, your State Association, PMAA and WPMA come in, to give our members of Congress the information necessary to help them make the right decisions for our industry.

The following issues may also be found on the PMAA website at:  
<https://www.pmaa.org/advocacy/2019-legislative-issues>

These are the **THREE ISSUES** the Utah contingency reviewed with their Representatives and Senators:

## 1. RFS REFORM BACKGROUND

*In November 2018*, the EPA finalized its 2019 biofuel volumes for the RFS which maintained the current 15-billion-gallon ethanol mandate. Because the existing RFS ethanol blending mandates have already pushed E10, a blend of 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline, into virtually every gasoline market in the country, any significant increase in the ethanol blending standard will force refiners to move to E15 blends unless gasoline demand rises to offset new blending mandates.

## UST COMPATIBILITY CONCERNS WITH E15

The demonstration that a UST system is compatible with greater than E10 plus blends is difficult, if not impossible, for most retailers and is a major impediment to dispensing and to the storage of E15. A UST system is made up of approximately 60 components, all of which need to be either UL listed, or manufacturer certified as compatible with the product to be stored and delivered. Federal, state, and local laws and regulations, national and international fire codes, as well as all commercial insurance policies, require the use of UL certified storage and dispensing equipment or a specific demonstration that the UST and dispenser system is compatible, such as a manufacturer acknowledgement. Dispensing ethanol blends higher than 10 percent with non-certified equipment exposes retailers to legal liability for non-compliance with federal and state UST regulations and state fire codes and will subject them to significant civil penalties and possible closures.

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