

## **WPMAEXPO**<sup>®</sup>

**46 DAYS LEFT**

**Register Now for the *WPMAEXPO!***

Time is running out!  
Only 46 days until **WPMAEXPO** begins.

Registration ends **February 2nd.**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE 2024 WPMAEXPO!**



### **DONATE TO THE SILENT AUCTION!**

The WPMA Scholarship Foundation is seeking fun, unique, and high-quality items valued at \$100 or more for our Silent Auction. Either mail your item to WPMA or let us know what you are bringing.

Please contact Emily Perry at [emilyp@wpma.com](mailto:emilyp@wpma.com) with questions regarding Silent Auction donations.

The following information provided by:  
**EMA-Energy Marketers of America**



### **Urge Your House Lawmakers to Cosponsor Legislation to Streamline Federal Background Checks**

The Energy Marketers of America (EMA) endorses H.R. 5840, the Transportation Security Screening Modernization Act, sponsored by Reps. Graves (R-LA), Green (R-TN), Guest (R-MS), Smith (D-WA), Titus (D-NV), and Carbajal (D-CA), which would direct the Department of Transportation to work with the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to eliminate costly background check redundancies within the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC), Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME), and TSA PreCheck programs. The nation's supply chains are continually impacted by bureaucratic red tape requiring our nation's essential workers to undergo many different security clearances to do one job. For example, a driver operating a truck with hazardous materials from a port must receive credentials from multiple Federal agencies, including Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). This cumbersome process hinders America's supply chain from operating at its full capacity.

"By combining each of the different steps along the credentialing process into one cohesive process, this legislation will help eliminate this logjam and get these drivers out on the road more quickly while, at the same time, maintaining the same levels of scrutiny," said EMA President Rob Underwood. In fact, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) had recommended these steps be taken in 2007 especially since all it does is smooth out an unnecessarily cumbersome credentialing process.

**CLICK HERE TO URGE HOUSE LAWMAKERS TO COSPONSOR THE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY SCREENING MODERNIZATION ACT**

## **Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Rates for 2024**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has released the annual minimum employee random drug and alcohol testing rates for 2024. The test rates are the minimum percentage of employees subject to U.S. DOT drug and alcohol requirements who must undergo a random test during the 2024 calendar year. The number of random *drug tests* conducted by employers for 2024 must equal at least 50 percent of applicable employees. This is the same rate for random testing as 2023. The random *alcohol test* rate for 2024 is set at 10 percent, also unchanged from 2023.

EMA Contact: Mark S. Morgan, Regulatory Counsel [markmorgan@verizon.net](mailto:markmorgan@verizon.net)

**[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL EMA COMPLIANCE BULLETIN](#)**

## **EMA Compliance Bulletin Reminder: 2024 Superfund Tax Rate**

The Superfund tax was reinstated beginning 1/01/23 and is adjusted annually for inflation. The inflation adjusted rate for 2024 is \$0.26 cents per barrel of crude beginning 01/01/2024. The tax is paid by refiners and crude oil importers. Refiners and importers pass the tax down as a cost folded into the wholesale rack price of petroleum products and not as a tax. While some downstream marketers break out the Superfund rate on invoices or contract bids, they are not required to do so. In fact, it is best not to break the per gallon superfund rate out on invoices and contract bids because it creates confusion among downstream tax-exempt parties who believe they are not required to pay it. However, tax exempt parties must pay the superfund rate because it is a cost not a tax once product passes the refinery gate. The Superfund rate is not refundable to any party along the petroleum refining and distribution chain.

**[CLICK HERE TO READ THE FULL EMA COMPLIANCE BULLETIN](#)**

## **Inside the Beltway Update**

Congress returns to Washington next week, but the slim majorities in the House of Representatives and Senate may continue to lengthen policy debates searching for consensus. This Congress has enacted the least legislation in its first year compared to the last decade of congressional output. As of December 26, 2023, less than 35 bills and joint resolutions were enacted into law over the course of the year. As more legislation is typically passed in the second session of a congress compared to the first, and the current Congress has several deadlines driving its agenda, the legislative pace is set to accelerate.

At risk of sounding like a broken record, the top priority for Congress will be passing government funding legislation before the two-part funding package expires on January 19 and February 2, 2024. Congress also faces deadline-driven authorizing bills such as Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization, the Farm Bill, and potential tax extenders. To address these must-pass items, agreement will need to be found between members of the same party, between Democrats and Republicans, between the two chambers, and between Congress and the White House. With the shadow of the ballot box growing darker by the day, agreement will be more difficult to reach as we get closer to the November elections.

Meanwhile, agencies are moving quickly in 2024 to implement the policies passed as part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Top of mind is the “foreign entity of concern” rule which prohibits automakers from sourcing any battery components from certain foreign suppliers if they want their vehicles to be eligible for the federal EV tax credit. The rule took effect on Monday. It’s already culled the number of cars that are eligible for the lucrative subsidy of up to \$7,500 — and comes at a critical juncture for EV adoption. The number of qualifying electric and plug-in hybrid models fell from around two dozen to 12, according to a list maintained by the IRS that now excludes popular models like the Nissan Leaf, Volkswagen ID.4, Tesla Cybertruck and Ford Mustang Mach-E.

When House Republicans return to Washington next week, they have their sights set on the green policies being advanced by the Biden Administration. On January 10, the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing titled “Protection Clean American Energy Production and Jobs by Stopping EPA’s Overreach.” Committee leadership said, “maintaining America’s leadership in emissions reductions—while also ensuring people have access to affordable, clean energy—should be a top priority for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Unfortunately, recent steps taken by the agency will impose regulations on methane that stifle innovation, increase operational and energy costs, and dramatically expand the agency’s regulatory reach.”

## **Continue to Urge Congress to Support the Credit Card Competition Act!**

EMA continues to urge all jobbers and retailers to reach out to their Senators and ask them to VOTE YES on the Credit Card Competition Act. This bill would reduce swipe fees and allow retailers a choice of network to handle the transaction through competition which would save Americans and businesses around \$15 billion in swipe fees per year. Our industry’s share of that comes to around \$9,000 per store per year.

**[CLICK HERE TO URGE SENATORS TO SUPPORT THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION](#)**

## WEEKEND READS

[Why America's Car Buyers Are Rethinking EVs](#)

[Democrats and Climate Activists Are on a Collision Course in 2024 | The New Republic](#)

[Most voters want Virginia ban on gas-powered cars to be repealed, poll shows | Washington Times](#)

[2024 Energy Predictions: Rural Renewables, 45V Hydrogen Fight, Election Year Electric Vehicles, Carbon Utilization | Forbes](#)

[Meet America's Newest Oil-Trader Extraordinaire: Joe Biden | Wall Street Journal](#)

[How Electric Vehicles Are Losing Momentum with U.S. Buyers, in Charts | Wall Street Journal](#)

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## Federated Insurance

**Back to the Basics: Common OSHA Citations and Recordkeeping Review**



Thursday, January 18, 2023 (1:00 PM CST)  
60 minutes | Complimentary | Advance registration required

This webinar offers a concise overview of OSHA's commonly cited standards and the essential recordkeeping protocols that most organizations must adhere to. By participating, you'll gain a comprehensive understanding of potential compliance pitfalls, enabling you to proactively address them and help avoid costly penalties. Additionally, you'll learn about requirements for maintaining and submitting accurate injury and illness records, helping safeguard both your employees and your bottom line.

[CLICK HERE to REGISTER](#)

Please always feel free to contact your **Federated** regional representative or EMA's National Account Executive **Jon Medo** at 800.533.0472 for any additional information or risk management questions.

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**EMA JOURNAL - The Official Publication of the Energy Marketers of America**

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The EMA Journal fall issue is now available.

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as of January 5, 2024



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## PLEASE NOTE UPCOMING DATES FOR WPMA EVENTS

January 30-31, 2024 - Washington WIDE Day on the Hill - Olympia, WA

February 13, 2024 - Utah UPMRA Day on Capitol Hill - 12:00 - 1:30 pm - Salt Lake City, UT

February 20-22, 2024 - WPMAEXPO - Mirage/Hard Rock Resort - Las Vegas, NV

April 1, 2024 - Hawaii (HEMA) Golf Tournament - 11:30 am - Oahu Country Club - Honolulu, HI

April 25-26, 2024 - Nevada (NPM&CSA) Big Dogs - Red Rock & Siena Golf Course - Las Vegas, NV

June 4-5, 2024 - Montana (MPMCSA) Convention - Fairmont Hot Springs Resort - Fairmont, MT

June 17-19, 2024 - Washington Energy Convention - Suncadia Lodge - Cle Elum, WA

July 14-16, 2024 - Oregon (OFA) Conference - Sunriver Resort - Sunriver, OR

August 7-9, 2024 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention - Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID

## REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENT



### WPMAEXPO

Click [here](#) to register for the **WPMAEXPO** at The Mirage Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada held February 20-22, 2024

Application Due March 1st <b>2024</b> Happy New Year	<b>\$4,000</b> <b>SCHOLARSHIP</b> <b>OPPORTUNITY!</b>		<b>CLICK HERE</b> for <b>WPMA</b> <b>SCHOLARSHIP</b> Information and to Apply Online!
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**Petro Pete:** What if soy milk were just regular milk introducing itself in Spanish?

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If you do not wish to receive information via fax or e-mail, please contact:  
WPMA at: (801) 263-9762, Fax: (801) 262-9413, or e-mail: [kimw@wpma.com](mailto:kimw@wpma.com) Thanks.