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2010 WESTERN PETROLEUM MARKETERS CONVENTION & CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO

The 2010 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo is only a month away! We are excited to have as our Keynote Speaker, **Condoleezza Rice**, U.S. Secretary of State (2005-2009). We are also pleased to announce our other speakers, including Michael Davis from NACS, who will be presenting the C-Store Workshop on Tuesday. On Wednesday Jean Jones Wilkinson will present the PEI Workshop, "Dealing with Difficult People", and the ladies attending the convention are invited to attend the Ladies' Luncheon, featuring Alicia Richmond, owner of Chic on a Shoestring, who will host a fashion show and discuss wardrobe essentials. Our Thursday morning workshops include presentations by Dan Gilligan, PMAA President, Pat Cooper from Federated Insurance and Rob Gardner from ExxonMobil.

Register now to attend the 2010 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo. It will be held at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mark your calendars for February 16-18, 2010. You can register online at <http://www.wpma.com>.

EXXONMOBIL TO PRESENT 2010 ENERGY OUTLOOK MANAGEMENT SESSION AT WPMA CONVENTION

Rob Gardner, Manager, Economics and Energy Division, Corporate Strategic Planning Department, ExxonMobil will present a management session on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at the WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo. This session will help attendees prepare for the future energy marketplace. Each year ExxonMobil develops "The Outlook for Energy," a broad in-depth look at the long-term global trends for energy demand and supply. It is a detailed analysis of countries, demand sectors and fuel types. The Outlook is underpinned by economic and population projections, as well as expectations for energy-efficiency gains from advanced technologies and better energy-management practices. ExxonMobil shares this Outlook to help build understanding of the world's energy needs and challenges.

ATV TO BE RAFFLED AT WPMA 2010 CONVENTION

The WPMA Scholarship Foundation is sponsoring a raffle of a Polaris Sportsman 550 Touring EPS ATV. Only 250 tickets will be sold, so the odds of winning are very good. Tickets are being sold through the WPMA office, for a donation of \$100 per ticket. The drawing will be held Thursday, February 18th at the WPMA Convention Buffet Brunch in the trade show area in Las Vegas, Nevada. The winner does not need to be present to win.

All proceeds from the raffle will help fund eight \$4,000 scholarships awarded by the Foundation each year. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the WPMA office at 801-263-9762.

NEW VIRGINIA GOVERNOR URGED TO OPPOSE COMMERCIALIZATION OF REST AREAS

Earlier this week, PMAA and the Partnership to Save Highway Communities, a coalition opposed to the commercialization of rest areas, sent a letter to Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell and Virginia Department of Transportation Commissioner Sean Connaughton urging the new administration to oppose commercializing rest areas in an effort to generate revenue. Governor McDonnell was recently sworn in as Virginia's 71st governor. The letter introduced the coalition to the Governor outlining its concerns and requesting his support for the coalition's mission. Last year, Virginia had closed some Interstate rest stops claiming new revenue from commercialization was needed.

In 1956, community leaders feared that hometown jobs and businesses would shrink as motorists sped by on new Interstate highways. To ease those concerns, Congress prohibited commercial development of government owned rest areas and those prohibitions remain in effect today.

PMAA and the Partnership to Save Highway Communities oppose efforts of state governments wanting to overturn the federal law. More information about the coalition can be found at www.jobsnextexit.com.

EPA REGULATION OF CO2 EMISSIONS UNDER FIRE

On Thursday, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced a disapproval resolution on the Senate floor to block the EPA from regulating greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act. Thirty-five Republicans and three Democrats including Sens. Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Ben Nelson (D-NE) and Mary Landrieu (D-LA) have signed on as co-sponsors of the resolution. Murkowski expressed her reservations with allowing the EPA to regulate CO2 emissions under the Clean Air Act and said that Congress is the right body to tackle energy and climate legislation. Murkowski said, "The Clean Air Act was written by Congress to regulate criteria pollutants, not greenhouse gases, and its implementation remains subject to oversight and guidance from elected representatives. We should continue our work to pass meaningful energy and climate legislation, but in the meantime, we cannot turn a blind eye

to the EPA's efforts to impose back-door climate regulations with no input from Congress."

Murkowski's disapproval resolution has been referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. If the committee does not approve the resolution which is likely considering that committee Chair Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) is opposed and has a 12 – 7 majority, the measure may be discharged upon petition by 30 Senators. Once the resolution is placed on the Senate calendar, it is then subject to expedited consideration on the Senate floor. Even if the resolution passes the Senate, the House is unlikely to approve it.

With the Republican Senate victory in Massachusetts, it is highly unlikely that the Senate will take up cap-and-trade legislation this year. Congressional leaders have indicated that they will first focus on a jobs package and then tackle Wall Street reform legislation including language that would bring greater transparency and accountability to derivatives trading.

FMCSA PREPARES DRIVER HOURS AND ELECTRONIC ON BOARD RECORDER REQUIREMENTS

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has begun its review of the truck driver hours-of-service (HOS) regulations which it expects to complete by next July. The FMCSA recently settled the third lawsuit brought to overturn the HOS regulations since they were revised in 2003. A federal court has twice overturned all or portions of the 2003 rule that overhauled HOS requirements for the first time in 65 years. Under that settlement, FMCSA must send a new HOS proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) by July, and issue a new final rule in 2011. The 2003 rule allows 11 hours of driving in a 14-hour workday, an increase of one driving hour and a reduction of one hour of on-duty time from the previous HOS regulations. It is too early to speculate on the exact nature of the changes to be included in the upcoming proposed rule, but they are not expected to be major.

The FMCSA is also preparing a proposed rule for the use of electronic onboard recorders (EOBR) to replace hand written log books that keep track of driver hours. The agency recently sent to the OMB for final approval an EOBR final rule that was first proposed under the Bush Administration. That rule is not expected to apply to local day-trip petroleum transport drivers who qualify for the 100 air mile radius exemption from log book requirements. However, the FMCSA wants to broaden the scope of the rule. The FMCSA said the proposed rule needs to go further and require more carriers to use the EOBR technology in order to directly address the problem of driver fatigue without making major changes to the HOS daily allowable driving time. The FMCSA said the proposed EOBR rule should be out by December 2010.

PMAA is watching both of these rules carefully and will comment on them to ensure no additional burdens are placed on heating oil, propane and petroleum marketing businesses.

SCOTT BROWN'S SENATE WIN WILL INFLUENCE SENATE AGENDA

The post-mortem of the race for Ted Kennedy's Senate seat in Massachusetts continues. Pundits cannot get to a camera quick enough to talk about what effect the outcome will have on President Obama's agenda. Scott Brown's win has an immediate impact on the healthcare debate. With 59 Democrats and 41 Republicans, Senate Democrats do not have enough votes to defeat a filibuster. Broader bipartisan coalitions must emerge to move significant legislation. Already Senate leaders are discussing how to move forward with the healthcare debate with one less Democratic vote in support. No doubt they will rethink their strategy as they tackle financial reform and climate change, two issues that remain on the Democrats To Do List despite the realities of Brown's win. For petroleum marketers, this means highly controversial issues like climate change and card check will likely not receive Senate floor time in 2010.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2010

June 8-10, 2010 – MPMCSA Convention – Billings Hotel and Convention Center – Billings, Montana
June 22-24, 2010 – WOMA Convention – Suncadia Lodge – Cle Elum, Washington
August 4-6, 2010 – IPM&CSA Convention – Schweitzer Mountain Resort – Sandpoint, Idaho
August 31-September 1, 2010 – NMPMA Convention – Embassy Suites, Albuquerque, New Mexico
September 8-10, 2010 – UPMRA Convention – Park City Marriott – Park City, Utah

Petro Pete: "Multitasking means screwing up several things at once."

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Thanks.