

**SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE APPROVES KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE**

The Keystone XL pipeline debate continues as the Senate Energy Committee approved the pipeline largely along party lines on Wednesday by a vote of 12 - 10. Newly installed Senate Energy Committee Chairwoman Mary Landrieu (D-LA) introduced the pipeline approval bill along with Senator John Hoeven (R-ND). Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Landrieu were the only Democrats on the Committee who supported the bill. Prospects for the bill to get to the Senate floor and final passage are slim given there are 58 confirmed yes votes in the Senate which is short of the 60 votes needed for passage. If President Obama were to veto the legislation, Keystone proponents would need 67 votes to override the President. It is likely the only way forward is for the President to approve the pipeline.

Earlier this year, the President delayed a decision on the pipeline indefinitely pending State Department approval which means a decision isn't likely until after the November elections. The Keystone XL pipeline enjoys overwhelming support from Americans, with 65 percent saying it should be approved and 22 percent opposed, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll.

**NEW FMCSA POLICY GIVES MARKETERS MORE CONTROL OVER DATA USED FOR SAFETY RATINGS**

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has issued an Interpretative Rule and Statement of Policy that makes it possible for motor carriers to remove negative information from a key federal database used to determine motor carrier safety ratings. As a result, motor carriers will have more control over the information used to determine their FMCSA safety rating score.

The new policy changes the federal Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS) by giving state agencies the ability to update motor carrier safety information to reflect adjudicated citations related to roadside inspection violations. Prior to the policy change, motor carrier violations resulting from roadside inspections were sent to the MCMIS database without any ability to update the information after a court had a chance to review and rule on the underlying citation. Consequently, the motor carrier's MCMIS safety record would continue to list a "violation" even after a court dismissed the citation or found the carrier innocent.

The new FMCSA policy will be applied only to citations issued at roadside inspections beginning August 23, 2014. There is no retroactive applicability to existing citations. In addition, updates to reflect adjudicated results will not occur automatically. Instead, motor carriers will be required to electronically submit proof of adjudication through the FMCSA's DataQ's data portal. The documents will be reviewed by the applicable state motor carrier agency for authenticity and posted on MCMIS.

A PMAA Regulatory Report on the new policy change is being prepared by Mark Morgan, PMAA Regulatory Counsel.

**SENATORS PROPOSE 12 CENT MOTOR FUELS TAX INCREASE**

On Wednesday, Senators Chris Murphy (D-CT) and Bob Corker (R-TN) proposed a 12 cent-per-gallon (cpg) tax increase for both gasoline and diesel fuel over the next two years and indexing to inflation in order to replenish the Highway Trust Fund (HTF). It is expected to raise \$164 billion over 10 years. Although lead transportation chairs Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Representative Bill Shuster (R-PA) have said there are not enough votes to pass a gas tax increase this year, the Murphy-Corker proposal might serve as a bipartisan starting point for highway funding negotiations next year.

Since 2008, Congress has transferred \$54 billion into the Highway Trust Fund, mostly from the General Fund, to maintain solvency. Congress has looked at other alternatives to improve the HTF including a user fee based on the number of miles driven (VMT), however, this proposal has been unable to gain momentum. The motor fuels tax hasn't been raised since 1993. It is likely that Congress will provide for a short-term fix to the HTF. Proposals include using savings from cutting Saturday postal delivery, using revenue from a tax holiday on repatriated earnings as well as transferring the remaining \$1.4 billion in the LUST fund which PMAA and like-minded associations adamantly oppose.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Ranking Member Hatch (R-UT) hope to have a proposal out of Committee before the July 4th recess.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2014**

**June 16-19, 2014** – WOMA Convention – Suncadia Lodge – Cle Elum, Washington

**June 19, 2014** – UPMRA Summer Golf Classic – Davis Park Golf Course – Kaysville, Utah

**August 6-8, 2014** – IPM&CSA Convention – Coeur d'Alene Resort – Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

**August 19-20, 2014** – NMPMA Convention – Marriott Pyramid North – Albuquerque, New Mexico

**August 25, 2014** – HPMA Golf Tournament – Oahu Country Club Course – Oahu, Hawaii

**September 10-12, 2014** – UPMRA Convention – Park City Marriott – Park City, Utah

## 2015 WPMA CONVENTION & CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO – LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Mark your calendars for February 17-19, 2015. Make plans now to attend the 2015 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo. It will be held once again at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.

### NPP A NEW 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



**Petro Pete: “I was going to quit all my bad habits, but then I remembered that nobody likes a quitter.”**

© 2014 Western Petroleum Marketers Association - All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means - graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or otherwise. The information herein is also intended for the sole purpose of members of the Western Petroleum Marketers Association (WPMA). Any other use is strictly prohibited without the express written consent of the WPMA. 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: [janr@wpma.com](mailto:janr@wpma.com). Thanks.



## Classified Ads

### **FOR SALE:**

Idaho Petroleum Equipment Inc. has two new Containment Solutions fiberglass fuel tanks for sale with warranty

One of each \*12,000 Gallon and \*\*6,000/6,000 Split 12,000 gallon double wall tanks

dry interstitial, 42" sump, non-water tight lid and includes deadmen straps

\*12,000 Tank- \$11,972.40 \*\* 6,000/6,000 Split Tank - \$18,289.20

Contact Juan @ 208.724.3390 or [ipejuan3@gmail.com](mailto:ipejuan3@gmail.com)