

September 6, 2019

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**MARKETERS MEET DEMAND FOR FUEL THROUGHOUT AREAS IMPACTED BY HURRICANE DORIAN*****New Storm Developing***

Thanks to the exceptional work of petroleum marketers who have worked around the clock since reports of the pending hurricane were first out, access to fuel has been nearly constant, with only some short outages in Southern Florida during the worst of the forecasts.

Marketers and station operators not only work diligently before disasters, but are also a sort of “first responder” refueling as quickly as possible, once the roads are clear enough to traverse, and marketers continue to meet the accelerated demand that follows during what is often a long recovery.

PMAA began working to ease obstacles on August 26, beginning with obtaining a HOS regional waiver. For the numerous federal and state declarations, waivers, and No Action Assurance letters, go to [pmaa.org](http://pmaa.org). In addition to battling obstacles and helping marketers prepare for the storm, Florida’s Petroleum Marketers Association’s executive director, Ned Bowman, graciously invited PMAA to continue working the storm from Florida instead of D.C. PMAA Vice President Sherri Stone flew to Tallahassee and joined Ned at the Florida Emergency Operations Center (EOC) last weekend. Working from the Florida EOC allowed Sherri and Ned to respond to federal DHS, FEMA, DOE, EPA and DOT requests faster and allowed Ned and Sherri to provide greater communication between industry and state and national governments.

PMAA’s Disaster Response Director Sam Bell of Echols Oil Co., Inc. applauds PMAA members who are participants in the PMAA Disaster Fuel Response Program, a valuable resource for businesses in need of fuel or drivers.

Throughout this storm, references to port closures and re-openings have been frequent and will continue as status at ports change.

PMAA is keeping a close watch of several new disturbances that are developing, especially one off the coast of Africa with a high chance of development over the next five days that would be a problem the week after next.

**WHITE HOUSE PLANS FIVE PERCENT INCREASE IN RFS 2020 BLENDING MANDATES**

The Trump Administration is drafting a plan that would increase blending mandates under the RFS by five percent over 2019 volumes. The White House, EPA and Department of Agriculture are formulating final details of the plan. The increase in blending mandates are important to petroleum marketers because it could drive up RIN prices and force E15 on the market. The administration is taking this action in order to shore up support among farmers who are angry over falling crop prices from stagnant ethanol blending volume and loss of market share due to the recent increase in small refinery blending waivers and ongoing trade war with China.

According to reports, the Trump Administration is planning to increase total renewable fuel volumes by an additional billion gallons over the 20.4 billion-gallon total already set by the EPA in a recent rulemaking. Specifically, the plan seeks to increase the conventional renewable fuel blending mandate by 500 million gallons for 2020. The advanced biofuel blending mandate would also raise by 500 million gallons while the 2021 bio-mass based diesel blending level would fall by 250 million gallons. The administration’s plan is unlikely to satisfy renewable fuel producers because the higher blending volumes are not sufficient to offset the 4.2 billion gallons of renewable fuel lost to small refinery blending waivers. The plan’s expected unveiling could happen as soon as October 1.

**EPA MAY REVOKE WAIVER ALLOWING CALIFORNIA TO SET EMISSIONS STANDARDS*****EPA and California Meet in Court Today Over Emissions Rules***

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is mulling a plan that would revoke California’s waiver that allows the state to set its own, more stringent auto emissions standards. Additionally, the plan would take away the requirement that California must sell an increasing number of electric vehicles (EVs) each year. Furthermore, the U.S. Department of Transportation plans to assert that the California standards are preempted by federal fuel economy regulations. The decision would almost certainly lead to a battle in court.

The potential move comes less than one month after Ford Motor Company, BMW AG, Volkswagen AG and Honda Motor Company, reached an agreement with California on emissions standards. Under the terms of the deal between the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and Ford, VW, Honda and BMW, the automakers would increase the average fuel economy of their fleets to around 50 miles per gallon by the end of the 2026. GM did not take a position on the agreement, and Fiat Chrysler indicated that it wasn’t invited to the discussion.

Last August, the EPA and National Highway and Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) issued a proposed rule, known as “The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks,” that would freeze CAFE standards and corresponding greenhouse gas standards at 2020 levels and revoke the rights of individual states to adopt more stringent emissions standards. In October, PMAA submitted comments in support of the Trump Administration’s proposed rule. PMAA highlighted numerous reasons why current CAFE standards could harm petroleum marketers and how important the Trump Administration’s proposed rule is needed.

In other news, today, the EPA and California are meeting in the D.C. Circuit Court today where California will try to convince the court that former EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt’s findings that the emissions standards should be weakened. California and 17 other states, as well as environmental groups, have argued that the findings used to make the decision were not backed by scientific evidence.

### **FEDERATED INSURANCE EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES NETWORK WEBINAR**

***Hidden Dangers of Common Human Resources Mistakes: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 1:00 p.m. CT***

This one-hour webinar will identify the top 10 mistakes HR Managers and Risk Managers commonly make. We will describe real life examples and provide simple techniques any manager can use to avoid these mistakes or mitigate them if they occur. We will also touch on how these techniques and FEPN resources can be deployed to manage multi-generational workforce issues.

Advanced registration is required.

For additional information or to discuss this in further detail, please contact your Federated regional representative or PMAA’s **newly assigned** National Account Executive Jack West at 800.533.0472.

## **PLAN TO ATTEND THE 2020 WPMAEXPO**

# **WPMAEXPO**

Mark your calendars for February 18-20, 2020. Make plans now to attend the 2020 WPMAEXPO. It will be held once again at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

**September 11-13, 2019** – Utah (UPMRA) – Convention – Zermatt Resort, Midway, UT

**September 13, 2019** – Idaho (IPM&CSA) Teton Golf Tournament – Teton Springs Resort, Victor, ID

**October 14, 2019** - Hawaii (HPMA) - Golf Tournament - Oahu Country Club, Honolulu, HI

**February 18-20, 2020** – WPMA Convention & Expo – Mirage Hotel– Las Vegas, NV

**May 7-8, 2020** – Nevada NPM&CSA – Big Dogs - Las Vegas, NV

**June 22-25, 2020** – Washington (WOMA) – Convention – Suncadia Resort – Cle Elum, Washington

**August 5-7, 2020** – Idaho (IPM&CSA) – Convention – Coeur d’ Alene Resort – Coeur d’ Alene, Idaho

**September 9-10, 2020** – Utah (UPMRA) – Convention – Park City Marriott – Park City, Utah

### **WPMA MEMBER SERVICES**



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**Petro Pete: “Whether you think you can or you think you can’t, you’re right.”**

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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: [janr@wpma.com](mailto:janr@wpma.com). Thanks.

## **CLASSIFIED ADS**

### **FOR SALE**

2001 Kenworth T800 fuel truck and trailer with 2001 Onnen tanks. 12,800 gallons total capacity. \$79,000. Please call Guy or Justin at 208-765-2266 if interested.

