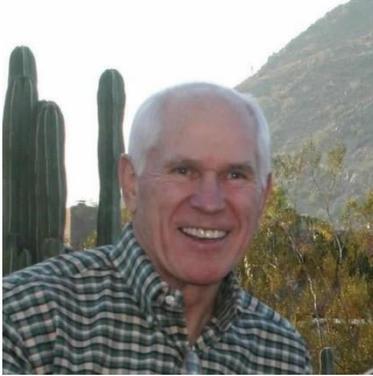


November 18, 2022

Visit us online at www.wpma.com

WP-11-18-22



ROBERT "BOB" KEC PASSES

Robert Frank Kec of Paradise Valley, Arizona, 80, passed away on October 31, 2022. He will be greatly missed by those who knew him. He had a big heart and a kind smile that he shared with all.

He was born on October 27, 1942, in Cleveland, Ohio, the son of Robert James and Evelyn Agnes Victor. Bob attended John Adams High School in Cleveland and was an All-State Football player. He was recruited by Frank Kush to attend Arizona State University on a full scholarship where he played football from 1961-1965.

In Arizona, Bob and Jan purchased a small, local oil and fuel distributorship, Christie Oil Company, in which they renamed Western States Petroleum (WSP). Bob was owner/operator of WSP for the next 43 years, growing the business and earning entry into the Arizona Top 100, a list of the largest privately owned companies in the state. As

an active member of the Arizona Petroleum Marketers Association (APMA), he became its president, then rose to the presidency of the regional Western Petroleum Marketers Association (WPMA).

A memorial service will be held at 11:00AM Monday, November 21, 2022, in the Chapel at Valley Presbyterian Church, followed by a reception (location TBD). In lieu of flowers, please honor Bob with donations to your favorite local charity. [Read Complete Obituary Here](#)



STOP UNDERAGE SALES OF TOBACCO WEBINAR!

Please join Fueling Nevada and Minor Decliner on Tuesday, November 29th at 11 AM Pacific time for a 60-minute in-depth look at your responsibility as a store owner or management:

1. Awareness and Education
2. Realistic assessment of current age verification activities and data
3. Review current pain points and technology portfolio/roadmap
4. Plan your path forward

Registration will open on Monday the 21st at 9 AM Pacific time. Please email sarah@fuelingnevada.com.



WASHINGTON INDEPENDENT ENERGY DISTRIBUTORS

ORDER YOUR DISPENSER TOPPERS NOW

The gas tax is doubling next year in the state of Washington. Spread the word and gain community support of a petition to repeal the tax by placing dispenser toppers provided by the Washington Independent Energy Association. Choose from these two toppers:



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW DIGITAL

For all graduating seniors wanting to apply for one of the nine scholarships awarded through the WPMA Scholarship Foundation, the application process is now completely digital.

Simply click below to access the scholarship portal and create a password to begin. Students have the ability to leave the application and return at their convenience.

Don't miss this opportunity to help the next generation start out on the right foot by sharing this information with any of your co-workers with a graduating senior.

CLICK HERE TO ACCESS SCHOLARSHIP PORTAL



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



SUPERFUND TAX ON CRUDE OIL BEGINS JANUARY 1, 2023

What the 16.4 Cents Per Barrel Tax Means for Downstream Energy Marketers and Tax-Exempt Purchasers

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 reimposes the long-expired Superfund excise tax on crude oil at the rate of 16.4 cents per barrel beginning January 1, 2023. EMA is receiving inquiries about how the Superfund tax will affect downstream energy marketers and tax-exempt purchasers (state and local governments, etc.).

First and foremost, refiners are the only parties liable for payment of the Superfund tax. It is important for energy marketers to understand that once crude is refined, the tax becomes a manufacturing cost refiners include in the price per gallon of finished product. No other party downstream of the refinery gate is liable for the Superfund tax because it is passed down as a cost not a tax.

Some suppliers break out the additional per gallon cost associated with the tax on supply invoices and identify it as the "Superfund Tax." However, this practice is not legally required for downstream parties and often creates confusion for both energy marketers and tax-exempt purchasers. Therefore, to avoid confusion, energy marketers are advised not to break out the Superfund tax as a separate line item on invoices or supply contract bids because tax exempt purchasers will object to any charge identified as a "tax". There are no downstream exemptions from the Superfund tax.

Finally, the Superfund tax is only imposed on the crude portion of blended product. As a result, downstream blenders of ethanol, biodiesel or any other non-crude renewable fuels are not liable for the tax. Finally, the Superfund tax is indexed annually to the rate of inflation and expires on December 31, 2032, unless extended by Congress.

Got Questions? Contact Mark S. Morgan, EMA Regulatory Counsel morgan@emamerica.org

INSIDE THE BELTWAY UPDATE

Republicans have won control of the House of Representatives in the 2022 midterm elections. While the final margin of House control remains undecided due to close races in California and Colorado, Republicans are projected to hold between 219 and 223 seats in the next Congress. Meanwhile, Democrats have retained control of the Senate. The final margin of Senate control will be determined by a December 6 runoff election in Georgia between Sen. Raphael Warnock (D) and Herschel Walker (R). Democrats will control 50 or 51 seats in the Senate.

This week, Congress returned for its "Lame Duck" session, a period of policymaking lasting through the end of the year. Items which may be addressed in the lame duck session may include Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 appropriations legislation, the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and year-end tax legislation. Already, Republicans have declined to act on legislation to raise or eliminate the debt ceiling, pushing negotiations to the new year.

Congress has already begun to meet to determine party leaders and committee assignments for the 118th Congress. This week, Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) announced that they would not seek election to Democratic leadership in the next Congress. Reps. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Katherine Clark (D-MA) are currently expected to become the next House Minority Leader and House Minority Whip.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) also secured the nomination of House Republicans to serve as the next Speaker of the House this week. However, McCarthy's path to the Speakership remains unclear, with conservative House Republicans declining to support McCarthy without significant rules concessions from Republican leaders. In addition, House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) secured his party's nomination to become the next House Majority Leader and Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-NY)

was reelected as House Republican Conference Chair. In the Senate, Mitch McConnell (R-KY) was also reelected Minority Leaders by Senate Republicans, despite a last-minute challenge by Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL).

OVER 1,800 RETAILERS ACROSS AMERICA URGE CONGRESS TO PASS THE "CREDIT CARD COMPETITION ACT"

More than 1,800 retailers from across the country called on lawmakers to pass legislation that would bring long-sought competition to credit card "swipe" fees that drive up costs for consumers this week.

In a letter sent by the Merchants Payments Coalition (MPC) to all members of the House and Senate, retailers asked lawmakers to support the Credit Card Competition Act sponsored by Senators Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and Roger Marshall, R-Kan., and Representatives Peter Welch, D-Vt., and Lance Gooden, R-Texas.

"This legislation ... will bring much-needed competition into the United States credit card market, which has been dominated by only two players for far too long," the letter said. "As members of the retail community and champions of the free market, we typically do not support government intervention except in cases where a market is not functioning. That is the case with the credit card marketplace in the United States." [Click here](#) to read the letter.

REMINDER! USDA OFFERING \$100 MILLION IN MATCHING FUNDS FOR INSTALLATION OF HIGHER BLEND ETHANOL AND BIODIESEL INFRASTRUCTURE

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced in August the availability of approximately \$100 million in competitive grants to eligible entities for activities designed to expand the sales and use of renewable fuels under the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIIP). A USDA representative attended the Energy Marketers of America's fall meeting in Las Vegas last week to encourage marketers to take advantage of the HBIIIP grants. **Applications are due no later than 4:30 PM Eastern time, November 21, 2022.**

According to the USDA, cost-share grants of up to 50 percent of total eligible project costs but not more than \$5 million will be made available to assist transportation fueling and fuel distribution facilities with converting to higher blend status for ethanol (i.e., greater than 10 percent ethanol) and biodiesel (greater than 5 percent biodiesel) by sharing the costs related to the installation, and/or retrofitting, and/ or otherwise upgrading of dispenser/ pumps, related equipment, and infrastructure. The \$100 million is currently available to support a variety of fueling operations, including filling stations, convenience stores and larger retail stores that also sell fuel. The funds will also support fleet facilities including rail and marine, and fuel distribution facilities, such as fuel terminal operations, midstream operations, distribution facilities as well as home heating oil distribution centers.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE USDA HBIIIP](#)

REMINDER: URGE LAWMAKERS TO COSPONSOR "THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION ACT OF 2022"

Recently, Reps. Peter Welch (D-VT) and Lance Gooden (R-TX) introduced bipartisan legislation known as "The Credit Card Competition Act of 2022" which would ensure retailer choice in payment routing by requiring at least two unaffiliated processors on credit cards, the same process that is used for debit card transactions. Swipe fees remain the second highest operating cost for convenience stores which costs the industry \$138 billion annually. The House bill, H.R. 8874, joins companion legislation already introduced in the Senate, S. 4674, by Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Senator Roger Marshall (R-KS).

[CLICK HERE TO URGE YOUR LAWMAKERS TO COSPONSOR "THE CREDIT CARD COMPETITION ACT!"](#)

Urge Congress to Support Additional LIHEAP Funding

Recently, EMA sent a letter to the White House urging the Administration to address the negative impact of low heating oil supply that is already being felt by residential consumers and heating oil dealers. To address this challenge, EMA requested that the Administration immediately take the following steps:

- Issue an immediate hours of service waiver for heating oil drivers for the duration of the winter heating season.
- Temporarily waive the Jones Act so that foreign vessels can replenish low heating oil inventory in the Northeast.
- Include an additional \$1 billion emergency supplemental appropriation for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in Fiscal Year 2023 federal appropriations legislation.

EMA is anticipating Congress will consider additional LIHEAP appropriations before the end of the year. We ask you and your employees to [TAKE ACTION NOW](#) in expressing the need for additional LIHEAP funding for the 2022 – 2023 heating season.

WEEKEND READS

[U.S. year-round sales of an ethanol-gas blend wins oil group's support](#)

[Tesla Ranks Low in Consumer Reports Survey as Hybrids Outshine EVs \(bloomberg.com\)](#)

[Small airplanes are finally switching to unleaded fuel \(axios.com\)](#)

[Electric Truck Stops Will Need as Much Power as a Small Town \(bloomberg.com\)](#)

[The human race at 8 billion \(axios.com\)](#)

[Biden Is Weighing US Fuel-Export Limits as Northeast's Diesel Stocks Dry Up \(bloomberg.com\)](#)

FEDERATED INSURANCE: RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER

What Does A \$1 Million Electrical Cord Look Like?

Recommended partner Federated Insurance® is asking: What does \$1 million electrical cord look like? The answer is exactly like your electrical cords, except burnt. In recent years, we've seen a sharp increase in the number of devastating workplace fires among your industry peers. We don't want you to experience the same fate. Fortunately, most fires are preventable and Federated Insurance has resources to help.

We strongly encourage all members to always take action every round to identify fire hazards and bolster fire prevention practices at their businesses:

- Download an [Electrical Cord Safety Guide](#) to learn more about the fire hazard posed by overburdened and damaged electrical cords.
- Download a sample [Fire Prevention and Safety Checklist](#) to assist you in regularly evaluating your business for potential fire threats.

Thank you for helping prevent a deadly and devastating fire at your business.

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.

THANK YOU **WPMA EXPO 2023** TOP SPONSORS



PLEASE NOTE UPCOMING DATES FOR WPMA EVENTS

December 1, 2022 - Oregon Holiday Party - Portland Golf Club - Portland, OR

December 8, 2022 - Washington Holiday Party - Topgolf - Renton, WA

February 21-23, 2023 - WPMA Convention & EXPO - Mirage Hotel- Las Vegas, NV

April 27-28, 2023 – Nevada Big Dogs – Red Rock Hotel/Sienna Golf Course – Las Vegas, NV

June 6-7, 2023 – MPMCSA Montana Convention – Fairmont Hot Springs – Fairmont, MT

June 19-21, 2023 – WIED Washington Convention – Suncadia Lodge, Cle Elum, WA

July 16-18, 2023 – OFA Oregon Conference – Sunriver Resort – Sunriver, OR

August 2-4, 2023 – IMP&CSA Idaho Convention – Sun Valley Resort – Sun Valley, ID

There is Always SOMETHING TO BE Thankful FOR

SCHOLARSHIP \$4,000 OPPORTUNITY!

WPMA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

CLICK HERE for WPMA SCHOLARSHIP 2023 Information

Petro Pete: I didn't think orthopedic shoes would help, but I stand corrected.

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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 Thanks.