



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WPMA Office Holiday Closures

Friday, December 22

Monday, December 25

Tuesday, December 26

Monday, January 1



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.

Please contact Emily Perry at emilyp@wpma.com with questions regarding Silent Auction donations.

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



TSA Warns CDL Drivers to Apply Early for HME Renewals or Risk Temporary Loss of Operating Authority

Drivers seeking to renew or obtain a hazardous material endorsement (HME) must undergo a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) security threat assessment. The security threat assessment includes driver security and criminal background checks and fingerprinting. Typically, the threat assessment process takes 45 days. However, TSA is recommending that all applicants for hazardous material endorsement (HME) renewals or first-time enrollments submit their applications and fingerprints *at least* 60 days prior to their expiration date. The TSA is experiencing increased demand for HME renewals and new enrollments and the processing times for applicants are exceeding the normal 45-day turnaround period. Drivers applying for renewal outside the 60-day processing period risk temporary loss of their authority to haul hazardous materials.

TSA HME Application Process

Drivers may complete the [HME application online](#) or apply in person at the nearest TSA application center. Drivers can [schedule an appointment online](#) or by calling **(855) 347-8371** weekdays, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. ET. Walk-ins are welcome at TSA application centers, but appointments take priority.

When applying at a TSA application center, drivers must be prepared to:

- Provide [required documentation](#) and fingerprints.
- Bring a current U.S. passport or a driver's license and birth certificate. [See other acceptable documents.](#)
- Pay a non-refundable fee valid for five years with a credit card, money order, company check or certified/cashier's check. (New applicant: \$86.50; New applicant reduced rate: \$41.00. All reduced rate applicants must already possess a valid TWIC card and be licensed in a state that accepts the TWIC threat assessment in place of the HME threat assessment.

Drivers may [check the status](#) of their HME application online at any time.

Important! Drivers in Wisconsin, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Florida, Maryland, Kentucky, New York and Texas must go to their local Department of Motor Vehicles for HME application and fingerprinting. These drivers cannot use TSA application centers.

Additional Information

Drivers requiring additional information can call the TSA HME Application Program at (855) 347-8371 or HME Customer Service at (833) 848 4759.

Reminder: 2024 Federal Motor Fuel Income Tax Rates and Credits -- WHAT'S NEW?

Superfund Tax: The Superfund tax was reinstated beginning January 1, 2023 and is adjusted annually for inflation. The inflation adjusted rate for 2024 is \$0.26 cents per barrel of crude beginning January 1, 2024. The tax is paid by refiners and crude oil importers. No party below the terminal rack is liable for the tax. Refiners and importers pass the tax down as a cost folded into the wholesale rack price of petroleum products and not as a tax. Marketers are not required to break this "tax" out on invoices or contract bids.

Rates in the below link include the 1/10th cpg non-refundable LUST tax imposed on both dyed and clear liquid fuel. There is no refund of the LUST tax. Tax exempt parties are required to pay the .001 cpg.

[Click here](#) to read the full EMA Regulatory Alert.

Inside the Beltway Update

Last week, the House and Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) – the final legislation for 2023. While the House left DC, Senate Majority Leader Schumer (D-NY) kept Senators in DC in an attempt to pass additional funding for Ukraine as well as funding for Israel, Taiwan, and border security. Late Monday, Senate Republican Whip John Thune (R-SD) said the foreign aid package would be pushed to 2024. Nonetheless, with Senators in DC, Leader Schumer aimed to advance nominations including the long-stalled confirmation of Joe Goffman to run the EPA's air office. Like all EPA pending confirmations, Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) opposes Goffman's confirmation over the Administration's power plant rule.

The U.S. Department of Energy is working to advance Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) programs before year end. On Monday, DOE announced the availability of \$530 million for technical assistance competitive grants meant to spur the adoption and implementation of the latest model energy codes, zero energy codes, building performance standards and other codes that achieve equivalent energy savings. Meanwhile, Senator Manchin asked the Government Accountability Office to rule on whether the IRA's EV tax credit guidance is considered a "final rule" which would allow Congress to overturn the guidance through the Congressional Review Act process. The White House fired back defending the administration's rollout of the EV tax credit. "We're implementing the bill as written and I think that we're doing so in a way that has fealty to the language that was written into the bill," White House clean energy chief John Podesta told reporters.

On clean energy policies, 100 House Democrats sent a letter to banking regulators urging them to revise rules that Democrats argue could threaten clean energy transition. The lawmakers argue that the proposed rule would make it prohibitively expensive for banks to extend tax equity financing for clean energy project development. They point to concerns that the change could mean annual tax equity investments in the clean energy sector shrink by up to 90 percent — or potentially push banks to exit the renewable tax equity market entirely.

The EPA sent a proposed rule to allow the year-round sale of E15 in certain Midwest states to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) this week. The proposed rule stems from a petition by a group of Midwest governors to permit the summertime sale of E15 in their states, which was authorized under a provision in the Clean Air Act to permit an exclusion from the 1 pounds per square inch (PSI) waiver for E10 upon notification by a governor that the higher Reid vapor pressure (RVP) limit will increase air emissions in that state. However, the Administration can delay a decision on permitting the sale of E15 for up to two years (through 2025) because the waiver would require the creation of a boutique fuel exclusive to the petitioning states, thus limiting gasoline supply to the region. A study conducted by Baker & O'Brien found that eliminating the RVP waiver for summertime E10 and introducing a new gasoline blend to just the petitioning states would likely cost \$500-\$800 million. EPA determined the request would result in a shortage of gasoline in the petitioning states for summer 2023, therefore, deciding to delay implementation until summer 2024 for Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The EPA is expected to punt the issue into 2025.

After the Senate departs this week, DC will be quiet until Congress returns on January 8, 2024, and quickly moves to consider appropriations bills that are set to expire January 19 and February 2, 2024.

Another Set Back for Oil Majors in Climate Lawsuit

In another blow to major oil company defendants in climate change cases, a federal court of appeals in D.C. rejected an attempt by ExxonMobil, BP, Chevron, and Shell to move the case to a federal court. The case was brought against the major oil companies by the District of Columbia Attorney General under a local consumer protection law. The AG alleges that the law was violated when the majors failed to disclose to consumers the impacts their businesses have on global climate change. The court of appeals found that no basis exists for federal jurisdiction, and it sent the case back to the D.C. court. Thus far, federal courts have been inclined to view global warming as an international problem that cannot be solved by state and local actions. Federal courts would be a better forum for oil company defendants to argue that a coordinated federal response to global warming is required, and that federal law should supplant state and local laws in this area.

Tired of Delayed IRS Tax Refunds?

EMA Member Service Benefit with IRS-Approved E-File Company ThinkTrade to Help Streamline IRS Tax Refunds

Earlier this year, the Energy Marketers of America (EMA) announced an exclusive member service agreement with ThinkTrade, an IRS authorized e-filing service provider and a BBB accredited company with A+ rating, enabling safe and secured filing for taxpayers. ThinkTrade will grant EMA member companies a 15 percent discount off ThinkTrade's e-filing services through a dedicated landing page to prepare, file and pay federal excise tax returns on IRS Forms 720, 8849 and 2290.

With over two decades of experience serving customers, ThinkTrade has a proven track record of delivering savings and support to trucking companies of all types and sizes when filing federal excise taxes. Energy marketers will also have access to ThinkTrade's dedicated 24/7/365 support team, which provides one point of contact for all e-filing service needs.

For more information about ThinkTrade and EMA's landing page to file taxes, please visit <https://taxexcise.com/ema>.

WEEKEND READS

[The United States is producing more oil than any country in history](#)

[More US auto buyers are turning to hybrids as sales of electric vehicles slow](#)

[Joint Federal Operation Results in Seizure of More Than \\$18 Million in Illegal E-Cigarettes | FDA](#)

[Here's how the Houthi attacks in the Red Sea threaten the global supply chain | CNBC](#)

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.

This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered legal or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all risk of loss. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. © 2023 Federated Mutual Insurance Company.



The **WPMA NEWS** currently serves EIGHT independent petroleum and convenience store associations.

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

Check out the EMA Journal anytime online by clicking [here](#).

The EMA Journal fall issue is now available.

CLICK HERE FOR THE CURRENT ISSUE OF THE WPMA NEWS MAGAZINE

THANK YOU **WPMAEXPO** 2024 TOP SPONSORS

as of December 7, 2023



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

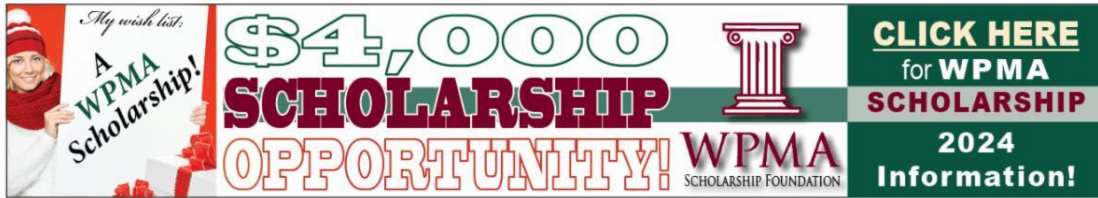
August 7-9, 2024 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention - Coeur d'Alene Resort, Coeur d'Alene, ID

REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENT

WPMAEXPO

WPMAEXPO

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



Petro Pete: Did you hear the one about ... the New York Jets cocktail? Drink two of them and you'll forget what your Namath.

© 2023 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: kimw@wpma.com Thanks.
