

FEDERAL UPDATE

EPA's Biofuels Plan Met with Skepticism

Several organizations, including the Iowa Corn Growers Association expressed frustration with the new EPA plan that would use a three-year average based on estimates to make up ethanol and biodiesel gallons lost through dozens of waivers granted to small refiners. Several groups criticized the Trump administration for not standing by its promise - made just over a week ago - to account for all the actual waived gallons, claiming the plan fails to restore the integrity of the Renewable Fuel Standard.

Majority of U.S. House Members Sign on to Support the RURAL Act

A majority of House members are now co-sponsoring the RURAL Act, increasing the prospects for passage of the bipartisan bill this year. Currently, 230 lawmakers had signed on to the bill to protect electric cooperatives' tax-exempt status. It would take a simple majority of 218 of the 435 House members to pass it once the chamber's leaders bring it to the floor for a vote.

STATE UPDATE

Madison County OKs State's First Moratorium on Wind, Solar Development

Renewable energy in Iowa hit new headwinds as Madison County supervisors passed the state's first moratorium on new wind turbine installations and Adair County leaders said they were considering capping the number of turbines in their county, effectively stopping new construction. Madison County supervisors voted 2-1 to approve their moratorium, which also applies to new solar energy installations. It is slated to run through October 2020 but could end earlier with the passage of a new ordinance, the supervisors said. They said they'll use the time to develop a new ordinance to guide renewable energy construction. Dissenting Supervisor Phil Clifton didn't disagree with the need for a moratorium but said he didn't think it would take a year to draw up the new ordinance. The moratorium would not affect a 52-turbine wind farm MidAmerican Energy has under development in the county, and the utility said it has no plans to legally challenge the moratorium. The project has already received county approval, but it's been tied up in a citizens' lawsuit that is currently under appeal.

Utilities Board Ruling Drops Obstacle to EV Charging Stations

The development of commercial electric vehicle (EV) charging stations is expected to be less of a sticky proposition after a recent Iowa Utilities Board decision that providing EV charging service does not make a business a public utility. The state utility board also clarified that sellers of EV charging services may structure fees as they want, and in most cases, can even sell power then generated onsite with solar panels.

Upcoming Activities

NRECA Gettysburg Leadership Experience – Gettysburg, PA
 IAEC Government Relations Meeting – Urbandale, IA
 Iowa Energy Summit – Altoona, IA
 NRECA G&T Legal Seminar – Palm Springs, CA
 CFC Independent Borrowers – Washington, DC
 CIPCO Office Closed
 IAEC Director Training – West Des Moines, IA
 IAEC Annual Meeting – West Des Moines, IA
 CIPCO Board Information Meeting – Cedar Rapids, IA
 CIPCO Board Meeting – Cedar Rapids, IA

October 29-31, 2019
 October 30, 2019
 November 6-7, 2019
 November 7-8, 2019
 November 18-20, 2019
 November 28-29, 2019
 December 3-4, 2019
 December 5-6, 2019
 December 9, 2019
 December 10, 2019

Consumer Price Index

Month	Seasonally Adjusted Change from Previous Month
September 2019	0.0%
August 2019	0.1%
July 2019	0.3%
June 2019	0.1%
May 2019	0.1%
April 2019	0.3%
Unadjusted Rolling 12 Month Average: 1.7%	