

December 20, 2013

Visit us online at www.wpma.com

WP-12-20-13



Merry Christmas

WPMA 2014 MIRAGE LAS VEGAS, NV ROOM BLOCK ENDS JANUARY 15TH

Time is running out to make your room reservations at the Mirage hotel for the 2014 WPMA National Convention and **Sold Out** Convenience Store Expo. The room rate of \$195 ends January 15, 2014. Go to <http://www.wpma.com/national-convention> and click on the Mirage link or call **1-800-499-6311** to make your reservations today.

2014 WPMA CONVENTION & CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

For the first time in several years, the **WPMA Trade Show SOLD OUT early!!!** Exhibitors across the nation have stepped up and made their commitments to share their new and innovative products. Please attend the expo and show them your support as marketers. Planning to attend the 2014 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo held at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada - **February 18-20, 2014**? Come in early for Tuesday's Scholarship Open Golf Tournament at Spanish Trail and stay late for the closing of an outstanding expo and also timely presentation by Robert Bryce, journalist and critically-acclaimed author of *Power Hungry* on the *Five Reasons to be Optimistic about the Future of Energy and Power Supplies* on Thursday. Register for events at: <http://www.wpma.com/national-convention>. 2014 looks to be the year you do not want to miss!

WPMA NATIONAL CONVENTION & CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO SPONSORS February 18-20, 2014 • Mirage • Las Vegas, Nevada



ENERGY TAX REFORM FACES AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

Companies with significant energy interests are now not sure what to think about federal tax policy as it relates to renewable and fossil fuels. On Wednesday, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) announced his preferred legislation for energy related tax policy. Later that day, President Obama announced Senator Baucus as his nominee to serve as Ambassador to China. If Senator Baucus heads to China, where does that leave his much publicized tax initiatives? The energy tax reform proposal is one of four draft proposals released over the last few months. The latest proposal would extend several existing energy tax credits, including the biodiesel blender's tax credit, through 2016. Starting in 2017, energy tax credits would be awarded based on a fuel's CO2 emissions and its energy content, both compared to traditional gasoline. The credit would be capped at one-dollar per gallon.

Meanwhile, the current one-dollar per gallon biodiesel blender's tax credit along with the other 50 energy tax incentives will expire on December 31, 2013 since the House left town last Friday without passing tax extenders legislation and the Senate is gearing up to leave today. Both chambers won't return until January 7, 2014 and it's uncertain whether Congress has the appetite to pass an energy tax extenders package and make it retroactive next year. It will be an even larger hurdle to pass comprehensive tax reform legislation since it is an election year.

In the meantime, PMAA plans to meet with tax writing committee staff to voice marketer concerns about extenders and energy tax policy.

CONGRESS AGREES TO BUDGET ACT

Not only did Congress approve a budget bill this week, but they agreed to the first bipartisan budget produced by a divided congress in 27 years! The deal which was crafted by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Representative Paul Ryan (R-WI) does not include changes to entitlement programs or increases in taxes, so both parties won on key elements of the budget. The \$1.01 trillion budget will lower the deficit over ten years and maintains half of the sequestration cuts for 2014 and 75 percent of the planned 2015 reductions.

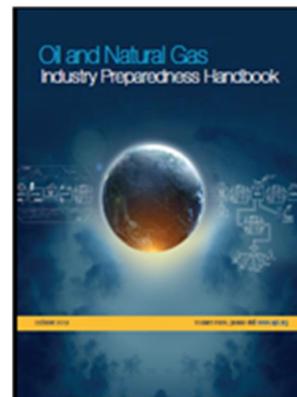
President Obama is expected to sign the bill which should prevent another government shutdown for the next two years if appropriations bills are finalized on time. Because Congress must pass appropriations by January 15 to avert a shutdown, an omnibus appropriations spending bill will be the first order of business when Congress returns in January.

THE OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY PREPAREDNESS HANDBOOK

Through the leadership of Mississippi Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association Executive Philip Chamblee, members of PMAA's Disaster Planning and Response Task Force successfully worked with API and other members of the Oil and Natural Gas (ONG) Sector Coordinating Council (SCC) to create a document for use in planning for and responding to a disaster.

ONG SCC was established under the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) as a partnership that allows federal, state, and local governments (GCC) to work together and with their private sector partners to implement protection and resiliency activities across the nation.

PMAA became active on the Council in response to the critical communication needs that were identified in response to Hurricanes Katrina, Irene and Sandy. SCCs serve as the federal government's principal point of entry into 16 of the 18 critical infrastructure sectors. PMAA's Task Force has worked with the SCC and Government Coordinating Council (GCC) to identify challenges such as the myriad waivers that are required during emergencies and the need for proactive planning and responses by government and the industry. Other members of the Task Force who have worked diligently on this effort are: Chris Herb, Emily LeRoy, Eric DeGesero, Jay McKeeman, Gary Harris, John Huber, Mark Morgan, Michael Trunzo, Natalie Isaacks and Scott Fisher.



To view the document, please go to www.pmaa.org/weeklyreview/attachments/ONGIndustryPreparednessHandbook.pdf. The handbook can also be downloaded as an app by going to the App Store and selecting The Oil and Natural Gas Industry Preparedness Handbook. The App is particularly helpful in meetings with government officials.

Continued work is being conducted by PMAA's Task Force in order to further outline the unique role of marketers and to clarify the complexities of ownership of gasoline retail stations and fuel purchasing contracts.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2014

May 8-9, 2014 – NPM&CSA Big Dog event . Red Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, Nevada,
June 3-5, 2014 – MPMCSA Convention . Hilton Garden Inn . Missoula, Montana
June 16-19, 2014 - WOMA Convention . Suncadia Lodge . Cle Elum, Washington
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

ANNOUNCING 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: ***Where do polar bears vote? What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?
and What do you call a cat on the beach at Christmas time?***

(Answers: The North Pole, Claustrophobic, Sandy Claws)

© 2013 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. Thanks.

