

FEDERAL UPDATE

White House delays tariffs on EU, Canada and Mexico for 30 days

The Trump administration delayed a decision to impose steel and aluminum tariffs on the European Union, Canada and Mexico for 30 days in early May, giving key allies a reprieve as the White House tries to extract concessions from trading partners who have resisted those demands. The extension reflects concerns by the Trump administration of a swift retaliation on American products by European Union nations.

NAFTA rewrite looking increasingly unlikely this year

Hopes for a timely rewrite of the North American Free Trade Agreement took a blow after Mexico's economy minister said he saw diminishing chances for a new agreement ahead of the current deadline. U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan had set May 17 as an informal deadline to push a revised pact through the Republican-controlled Congress. Negotiators will also face complications from July elections in Mexico and U.S. congressional midterms in November.

Grassley 'done playing around' with ethanol waivers

Senator Chuck Grassley is "losing his patience" with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt when it comes to his support of the federal ethanol mandate. In a recent interview, Mr. Grassley indicated that he would ask Mr. Pruitt to resign if he doesn't scale back waivers to large refineries seeking exemptions from the Renewable Fuel Standard. The EPA has given waivers to two dozen refineries claiming economic hardship, including several large corporations.

STATE UPDATE

Iowa Attorney General opposes Trump administration's repeal of the Clean Power Plan

Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller joined a 27-member coalition of states, counties and cities opposing the Trump administration's proposal to repeal the Clean Power Plan. In comments filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the coalition said the proposed repeal is "unsupported by the facts or law," while ignoring the agency's obligations to regulate the emissions of existing power plants under the federal Clean Air Act. Miller said Iowa is well prepared to comply with the Clean Power Plan, noting that wind energy provided 37 percent of Iowa's total electrical generation in 2017.

MidAmerican Energy announces two new wind farms

MidAmerican Energy announced two new wind farm projects in central Iowa's Adair County, both of which will break ground this June. The Arbor Hill wind farm project will include 125 wind turbines, while the Orient wind farm project will include 150 turbines with the option to add up to 100 more. Both are part of the company's previously announced \$3.6 billion Wind XI project scheduled for completion in December 2019. The project will include up to 1,000 wind turbines and add up to 2,000 megawatts of wind generation capacity in Iowa.

Upcoming Activities

Taking Care of Business Conference – Iowa
2018 ACES Members Conference/CFC Forum – Indianapolis, IN
East-Central Iowa REC Annual Meeting – Independence, IA
CIPCO Committee Meetings/Open House – Cedar Rapids, IA
CIPCO Board Meeting – Cedar Rapids, IA

June 10-13, 2018
June 21, 2018
June 25, 2018
June 26, 2018

Consumer Price Index

Month	Seasonally Adjusted Change from Previous Month
April 2018	0.2%
March 2018	-0.1%
February 2018	0.2%
January 2018	0.5%
December 2017	0.1%
November 2017	0.4%
Unadjusted Rolling 12 Month Average: 2.5%	