

FEDERAL UPDATE

Canada agrees to trade deal with U.S. and Mexico

In a much-needed trade win for the Trump administration, Canada has agreed to a trade deal between the U.S. and Mexico, updating the three-country North American Free Trade Agreement. The deal will allow greater access to Canada's dairy market while protecting the country from possible U.S. autos tariffs.

More than 16 GW of coal-fired capacity to retire by 2021

More than 37 GW of generation capacity has been proposed to retire by September 2021, including 16.3 GW of coal-fired capacity, 12 GW of gas-fired power and 8 GW of nuclear generation, according to the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission staff's monthly infrastructure report. In June, the Trump administration directed the US Department of Energy to take immediate steps to prevent the retirement of fuel-secure power facilities such as coal and nuclear plants.

STATE UPDATE

Solar should replace demand response policies in energy companies, researcher says

An Iowa clean energy advocate is trying to persuade the state's largest electric utility to rethink the way it manages peak demand, reports the Midwest Energy News Network. Kerri Johannsen, energy program director for the Iowa Environmental Council, thinks MidAmerican Energy could deliver better value for ratepayers by investing in solar instead of demand-response programs, which pay heavy-use customers to reduce their electricity access during peak times, such as summer afternoons. Johannsen said that demand-response policies should continue to play a role for energy companies, but that adding the solar strategy could reduce the \$12 million a year MidAmerican spends on demand-response services. Between 2014 and 2017, the company reduced power to participating customers three times, for a total of six hours, Johannsen said.

Iowa takes biggest energy efficiency dive in the nation

A national nonprofit that ranks states' energy efficiency efforts reported that Iowa fell farther than any other state in the latest tally, mainly because of a bill passed by lawmakers that capped many of the programs. Iowa fell 3.5 points on its score to 17.5, ranking 24th among the states, a drop of five spots. According to the report, the drop was largely due to Senate File 2311, the largest electric utility regulation bill in years. New Jersey improved the most, up five points to No. 18. Massachusetts ranked No. 1 overall. Missouri and South Dakota were among those with the most improvement.

Trump tells EPA to pave the way for year-round E15 sales

President Trump ordered the EPA to set the wheels in motion for the year-round sale of gasoline blended with 15 percent ethanol. Currently, gasoline with 10 percent ethanol may be sold at any time of the year in the United States. The oil industry has fought to preserve rules that have prevented higher percentages of ethanol from being added to gasoline during the summer.

Upcoming Activities

NRECA Co-op U – Nashville, TN
 CFC Independent Borrowers Executive Summit – Amelia Island, FL
 NRECA G&T Legal Seminar – Nashville, TN
 NRECA Winter School – Nashville, TN
 IAEC Director Training – West Des Moines, IA
 IAEC Annual Meeting – West Des Moines, IA
 CIPCO Board Information Meeting – Cedar Rapids
 CIPCO Board Meeting – Cedar Rapids

October 29 – November 2, 2018
 November 5 – 7, 2018
 November 8 – 9, 2018
 November 30 – December 5, 2018
 December 4 – 5, 2018
 December 6 – 7, 2018
 December 10, 2018
 December 11, 2018

Consumer Price Index

Month	Seasonally Adjusted Change from Previous Month
September 2018	0.1%
August 2018	0.2%
July 2018	0.2%
June 2018	0.1%
May 2018	0.2%
April 2018	0.2%
Unadjusted Rolling 12 Month Average: 2.3%	