



Issues Forum Guide 2016

**AN OVERVIEW OF ISSUES FORUM COMPANIES,
THEIR SPOKESPERSONS AND INTERVIEW TOPICS**

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RFA

RENEWABLE
FUELS
ASSOCIATION

Agricultural Retailers Association

SPOKESPERSON:

Richard Gupton, ARA Senior Vice President Public Policy and Counsel

TOPICS:

- OSHA Process Safety Management Retail Exemption (Lobbying Efforts and ARA/TFI Litigation)
- EPA Risk Management Program Proposal
- NPDES Pesticide General Permit
- Waterways and Transportation
- ResponsibleAg

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American Farm Bureau Federation

SPOKESPERSONS:

Dr. Bob Young, Chief Economist – boby@fb.org

Dale Moore, Executive Director of Public Policy
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TOPICS:

- Farm Economy
- Regulations
- Trade
- GMO Labeling
- Other Timely Ag Issues

Others attending:

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American Farm Bureau Federation

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American Seed Trade Association

SPOKESPERSONS:

Andy LaVigne, President and CEO

Jane DeMarchi, Vice President of Government and
Regulatory Affairs

Bethany Shively, Director of Communications

TOPICS:

- Innovation in Plant Breeding and USDA's proposed revisions to biotechnology regulations
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food & Agriculture
- GMO Labeling
- Trans Pacific Partnership

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American Soybean Association

SPOKESPERSON:

Richard Wilkins, President

Ron Moore, Vice President

TOPICS:

- Trans-Pacific Partnership
- GMO Labeling
- Water Quality and Regulation
- RFS and Biodiesel Tax Policy
- Crop Insurance and Farm Bill Programs
- Cuban Trade Expansion
- Domestic and Foreign Biotechnology Approvals
- Neonicotinoids and Pollinator Health
- Data and Precision Agricultural Technology
- Transportation and Infrastructure

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American Sugar Alliance

SPOKESPERSON:

Phillip Hayes, Director of Communications

TOPICS:

- US sugar policy
- Global sugar market
- Foreign sugar subsidies
- Biotech Issues

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Corn Refiners Association

SPOKESPERSONS:

John W. Bode, President and CEO
Andy Resnick, Director Public Affairs

TOPICS:

- Biogenic CO2
- Nutrition Labels
- Sustainability Efforts
- GMO Labeling
- Dietary Guidelines

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CropLife America

SPOKESPERSON:

Jay Vroom, President and CEO, CropLife America

TOPICS:

- Communication Campaigns: #ScienceOrSwat and #AgLoudAgProud
- CLA's New Report, *The Cost of New Agrochemical Product Discovery, Development and Registration in 1995, 2000, 2005-8 and 2010 to 2014; R&D expenditure in 2014 and expectations for 2019*
- Endangered Species and Other Issues in the Crop Protection Industry

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Growth Energy

SPOKESPERSONS:

Michael Frohlich, Director of Communications

Tom Buis, CEO

Austin Dabney, Communications Assistant

TOPICS:

- Expanding the domestic marketplace - Expansion and Adoption of E15 among independent retailers
- The Renewable Fuel Standard and Congressional Oversight
- The RFS and the 2016 Election
- The RFS Renewable Volume Obligations for 2017
- Expanding the international marketplace through exports— ethanol and distillers grains
- Mitigating climate change through the use of biofuels
- The growth of next generation fuels, such as cellulosic ethanol
- Biofuels— driving innovation, creating jobs, improving our environment, reducing our dependence on foreign oil and giving consumers a choice.

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National Biodiesel Board

SPOKESPERSON:

Anne Steckel, Vice President of Federal Affairs

TOPICS:

- RFS: Last year, the EPA put the Renewable Fuel Standard back on track by establishing volumes for Biomass-based diesel through 2017. Benefiting from the stabilization of the RFS in 2015, Advanced biofuels saw record markets and continued expansion. But a troubling trend is emerging – growing imports of foreign fuels that undercut our US

industry. The 2015 year-end figures demonstrate biodiesel's rising popularity and its continued success as America's first and only EPA-designated Advanced Biofuel to reach commercial-scale production nationwide. The US biodiesel market reached nearly 2.1 billion gallons. With room to grow, our domestic production capacity sits at more than 3 billion gallons currently. But the trend of rising imports threatens that growth, and the jobs and economic development that go with it. Imports have jumped dramatically in recent years to a record of 670 million gallons last year, up from less than 100 million gallons just a few years ago. Many of these gallons receive government support from programs in their home countries before departing for our shores where they then double dip into our domestic programs like the biodiesel blender's tax incentive. This has had a major impact on our domestic market conditions as our producers are not only competing with historically low petroleum prices, but also now against already subsidized, foreign produced biodiesel and renewable diesel. NBB will continue to track and gather data on biodiesel imports to help make the case to EPA that the U.S. is competing with a flood of predatory imports, causing a need for increased biodiesel volumes under the RFS for 2018.

- Tax Incentive: Congress reinstated the tax incentive last year through Dec. 31 2016, meaning the incentive is set to expire at the end of this year. NBB is urging Congress to extend and reform the \$1-per-gallon biodiesel tax incentive from a blender's credit to a production credit. This change would focus U.S. tax dollars on U.S. biodiesel production. The change would also save taxpayers an estimated \$90 million annually, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation. This simple change would go a long way towards relieving the current imbalance of cost competitiveness among domestic and imported fuels, ensuring that we continue to create jobs and economic growth here in the US.

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National Cattlemen's Beef Association

SPOKESPERSONS:

Colin Woodall, Sr. VP of Government Affairs

Ethan Lane, Ex. Dir. of the Public Lands Council and NCBA
Federal Lands

TOPICS:

- Trans-Pacific Partnership
- Waters of the United States
- Foreign Animal Disease
- Endangered Species Act Expansion

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National Corn Growers Association

SPOKESPERSONS:

Jon Doggett, Executive Vice President

Beth Elliott, Director of Public Policy

Zach Kinne, Director of Public Policy

Ethan Mathews, Director of Public Policy

TOPICS:

- 2016 Elections
- Ethanol, including the Renewable Fuel Standard, renewable volume obligation, and Reid Vapor Pressure
- Environmental Issues, including sustainability and water quality
- Trans-Pacific Partnership

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National Council of Farmer Cooperatives

SPOKESPERSONS:

Chuck Conner, President and CEO

Justin Darisse, Vice President of Communications

Lisa Van Doren, Vice President and Chief of Staff of
Government Affairs

Becca Stephen, Communications Manager

TOPICS:

- GMO Labeling Bill
- Trade
- Regulatory Issues
- Looking ahead on farm policy

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National Farmers Union

SPOKESPERSON:

Chandler Goule, Senior Vice President of Programs

TOPICS:

- Trade - Trans-Pacific Partnership
- Climate Change—Renewable Fuel Standard

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National Milk Producers Federation

SPOKESPERSON:

Christopher Galen, Senior Vice President

TOPICS:

- Status of dairy farm economics, function of new Margin Protection Program in farm bill
- Impact of TPP agreement on dairy
- Status of federal GMO labeling standard

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National Pork Producers Council

SPOKESPERSON:

Nick Giordano, Vice President and Counsel, Global Government Affairs

TOPICS:

- Trans-Pacific Partnership
- Pork Exports
- South Africa
- Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

SPOKESPERSON:

Michael Formica, Assistant Vice President, Domestic Policy, and Counsel

TOPICS:

- Waters of the United States” Rule
- Water Quality Standards
- Environmental Litigation
- Pork. The Other White Meat

SPOKESPERSON:

Dr. Liz Wagstrom, Chief Veterinarian

TOPICS:

- **Antibiotics** Use Data Collection
- FDA Guidance 213
- Antibiotic Resistance

SPOKESPERSON:

Dr. Dan Kovich, Assistant Director of Science and Technology

TOPICS:

- USDA Feed Rule
- 'PRIME' Act
- Pork Slaughter Rule

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National Sorghum Producers

SPOKESPERSONS:

James Born, Chairman

Jennifer Blackburn, External Affairs Director

TOPICS:

- Regulatory action on crop protection tools remain concerning to sorghum farmers
- Energy investments bring opportunity to sorghum
- Average sorghum planting intentions show positive upward trend over past five years

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Renewable Fuels Association

SPOKESPERSONS:

Bob Dinneen, President and CEO

Rachel Gantz, Communications Director

TOPICS:

- Renewable Fuel Standard and EPA's Renewable Volume Obligation
- Export efforts—ethanol and DDGS
- E15 and the expansion of higher-level ethanol blends
- Cellulosic ethanol

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The Fertilizer Institute

SPOKESPERSONS:

Kathy Mathers, Vice President of Public Affairs

Jenny Martin, Director of Public Relations and Marketing

Mike Pepe, Sr. Manager of Public Affairs

TOPICS:

- Economic Impact of the fertilizer industry – how does your state stack up?
- ResponsibleAg – Safety and Security in the wake of West, Texas
- Resources to help farmers get the most out of their fertilizer dollars

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United Soybean Board/Soy Checkoff

SPOKESPERSON:

Jared Hager, USB Chair and soybean farmer from Emerado, North Dakota

TOPICS:

- The soy checkoff's strategy is to create partnerships that can improve profit opportunities for U.S. soybean farmers. Examples of past successes with partnerships include high oleic soybeans, biodiesel and the herbicide resistance management program Take Action. Now the checkoff is focused on establishing a model for a public-private partnership as a mechanism for funding improvements on our inland waterway systems.

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U.S. Grains Council

SPOKESPERSONS:

Tom Sleight, President and CEO
Katelyn Parsons, Manager of Communications
Mike Dwyer, Chief Economist

TOPICS:

- Making the case for trade policy priorities like TPP, T-TIP
- Developing and nurturing markets for ethanol exports
- Today's global grain market and finding pockets of demand

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U.S. Wheat Industry, National Association of Wheat Growers and U.S. Wheat Associates

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TOPICS:

- Farm Bill Implementation
- Budget/Appropriations and MAP/FMD
- Defending Crop Insurance
- GMO Labeling
- Waters of the U.S.
- Trans-Pacific Partnership
- How Domestic Support Violations by Developing Countries Disrupt Trade
- National Wheat Yield Contest
- National Wheat Action Plan
- Canada Grain Grading

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