

# Federal Update



### Fall Forum 2012 Environment Committee Federal Update

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

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# Congress Returns: Major Fiscal Questions Remain

- Fiscal Cliff
- Sequestration
- Carbon Tax
- FY 2013 Appropriations
  - Continuing Resolutions expires March 27<sup>th</sup> (PL 112-175)



## Congress Returns: Lame Duck Update

- European Union Emissions Trading Scheme Prohibition Act (PL 112-200)
  - Signed by the President on November 27th
- Sportsmen's Act of 2012 (S. 3525)
- Water Resource Development Act (WRDA)
- Legislative Response to Superstorm Sandy
- Defense Authorization Legislation
  - Renewable fuels related amendments adopted
  - Cloture invoked and final vote expected this week

## Other Recent Activity of Interest

#### **EPA**

Renewable Fuels Standard

#### Supreme Court

- Decker v. Northwest Environmental Defense Center & Georgia Pacific West v.
   Northwest Environmental Defense Center
  - Oral Arguments heard December 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Complicated by release of final regulation by EPA on November 30<sup>th</sup>
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.
  - Oral Arguments heard December 4<sup>th</sup>

# Changes in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress: Committee Leadership



### Senate Committee Leadership

- Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry
  - Chairwoman Stabenow (MI) will remain
  - Ranking Member? Senator Roberts (KS) or Senator Cochran (MS)

### Appropriations

- Chairman Inouye (HI) will remain
- Ranking Member Cochran (MS) → Senator Shelby (AL) likeliest

#### Commerce, Science & Transportation

- Chairman Rockefeller (WV) will remain
- Ranking Member Hutchison (TX) → Sen. Thune (SD) likeliest

### Senate Committee Leadership

- Energy & Natural Resources
  - Chairman Bingaman (NM) → Sen. Wyden (OR) will replace
  - Ranking Member Murkowski (AK) remains
- Environment & Public Works
  - Chairwoman Boxer (CA) will remain
  - Ranking Member Inhofe (OK) → Sen. Vitter (LA)

## House Committee Leadership

#### Agriculture

- Chairman Lucas (OK) & Ranking Member Peterson (MN) will remain.

### Appropriations

- Chairman Rogers (KY) will remain
- Ranking Member Dicks (WA) → Rep. Lowey (NY)

NOTE: Subcommittee shake up

### Energy & Commerce

- Chairman Upton (MI) and Ranking Member Waxman (CA) will remain.

### House Committee Leadership

#### Natural Resources

- Chairman Hastings (WA) and Ranking Member Markey (MA) will stay.

### Science, Space & Technology

- Chairman Hall (TX) → Rep. Smith (TX) new chairman
- Ranking Member Johnson (TX) will remain.

### Transportation & Infrastructure

- Chairman Mica (FL) → Rep. Shuster (PA) new Chairman.
- Ranking Member Rahall (WV) will remain.



### Thank You!

For More Information Please Contact:

