



Bringing a World of Energy Experience Together

Low Carbon Fuel Standard Primer

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Speakers

Stephen Dodge (Moderator)

Stephen serves as the Director of State Regulatory Affairs for Clean Fuels Alliance America. In this role, he engages in technical analysis of issues associated with biodiesel and renewable diesel and represents the interests of Clean Fuels Alliance America's members to state regulatory bodies, state legislatures and state environmental organizations. Housed on the East Coast, his primary focus is on advancing state and regional policy efforts for biodiesel, renewable diesel and Bioheat® fuel home heating oil in the Northeast.

Previously, Stephen held positions as the American Petroleum Institute's Executive Director and Associate Director of the Massachusetts/New England Petroleum Council, Director of the Massachusetts Governor's legislative office and other staff positions in the state Department of Revenue and state legislature.

Rich Kassel

Rich Kassel joined AJW as a partner in April 2022, bringing his policy expertise and strategic skills on clean air, clean energy, green buildings, sustainable transportation, and other environmental issues to help AJW's clients meet their environmental and sustainability goals.

Rich serves on the boards or advisory committees of several leading environmental organizations and startups, all of which enhance his work with AJW clients in the business and nonprofit sectors. Rich recently completed his tenure as EPA's Mobile Sources Technical Review Subcommittee Chair, where he provided independent advice and counsel on the agency's transportation and air quality programs.

Earlier in his career, Rich spent more than two decades advocating on New York, national, and international clean air, energy, and transportation issues at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). His New York and national "Dump Dirty Diesels" Campaigns helped launch a move toward cleaner trucks, buses, offroad diesel equipment, heating oil, and marine engines in New York and nationwide.

Rich has advised governments and other stakeholders on transportation issues around the world. He was part of the founding team that created the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, which led the successful global campaign to eliminate leaded gasoline and reduce vehicle pollution worldwide. He served on the U.S. delegation to the International Maritime Organization that secured the world's first Emission Control Area for ships, dramatically reducing ship emissions within 200 miles of U.S. coastlines, and was part of an international team that helped create a similar program in China. He has also worked closely with the Mexican government and environmental community on a range of diesel fuel and vehicle emissions programs.

Rich's work has been honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program, the German Marshall Fund, and many others. Rich was recognized as one of New York's "50 Over 50" leaders in 2019 and as one of its "Energy and Environment Power 100" in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 by City & State, New York's leading political and policy media organization.

Robin Vercruse

Robin Vercruse is Executive Director of the Low Carbon Fuels Coalition. Throughout her career, Robin has brought order to chaos and translated complexity for public consumption at startup and fast-growing entities in the U.S. and abroad, including more than 10 years focused on energy and transportation fuel policy. She is the founder and principal of RoVer Strategies. Robin specializes in gaining support across the political spectrum for policies to diversify both transportation fuels and the sources used to produce them. She honed her approach at the nonprofit Fuel Freedom Foundation, through the Obama and Trump Administrations and divided Congresses at the Federal level, and in blue, purple and red states across the country.

Robin has a Master of Environmental Science and Management from the Bren School of UC Santa Barbara, with a specialization in energy and climate change.

Floyd Vergara

Floyd Vergara currently serves as Senior Policy Advisor to Clean Fuels Alliance America, from which he recently retired as Director of State Governmental Affairs. At Clean Fuels, he managed the West Coast office in Sacramento, CA, for four years and supervised a team of professionals responsible for government affairs in all 50 states. Before joining Clean Fuels, he served in leadership roles at the California Air Resources Board. With over three decades of experience at CARB, his expertise includes the Low Carbon Fuels Standard, climate change and air quality programs, renewable and conventional fuels, environmental justice, and other environmental issues. Floyd is a licensed Professional Engineer with a BS in chemical engineering from the

University of California, Berkeley, as well as being a licensed attorney with a JD from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.