



update

Michael J. O'Connor, President

April 26, 2017

www.vpcga.com

PMAA, NACS Fight Repeal of Debit Fee Reform

In 2011, the petroleum marketing and convenience store industries won a very substantial victory when debit swipe fee reform (also known as the Durbin amendment) was enacted into law. The law sharply lowered debit card interchange fees- charges that stations and stores pay banks when a customer uses a debit card for purchases. It is estimated that before the Durbin amendment sellers paid an average of 44 cents per an average debit transaction of \$38. After the law took effect the average fee was reduced to about 24 cents - a 45% decrease. Those that advocate repealing the law claim that those savings have not been passed along to consumers. Both PMAA and NACS are working to fight repeal of the Durbin amendment. NACS yesterday sent out an action alert on the issue whereby you can contact your Congressman and Senators Kaine and Warner on the issue . To access it [click here](#). The time to do so is now as committee consideration is scheduled for mid-May.

2017-2018 NORA Planning Underway

Rob Bailey coordinates the association's activities related to the National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA) programs. Last year's offerings were so successful, we were contacted by several other state associations seeking information on our programs. Rob is currently meeting with various members across the state to solicit their ideas on advancing NORA's mission here in Virginia. In the past we have sponsored the popular Upgrade and Save rebate program, customer service and hazardous materials training, to name just a few. If you have some ideas for these or additional programs in your area please contact rob@vpcga.com.

UST Comment Period Ends Monday

As we reported previously, VA DEQ has proposed amendments to Virginia's underground storage tank regulations, specifically addressing inspections, release detection, operator training and financial responsibility. The VPCGA board reviewed these changes at its last meeting and with the help of general council Bruce Arkema, had the comment period extended to this Monday, May 1.

Here is the link to the proposed regulation:

http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Land/Tanks/UST_UST-FAR_reg-amd.3.23.pdf?ver=2017-03-23-153818-633.

The black line version of the amended regulation begins on page 2. Beginning on page 98 of the document, you will find a table with each proposed regulatory change listed. For every proposed change, included is the corresponding federal regulatory provision and the rationale for the change.

Save the Dates!

The 69th Annual Meeting will be held September 24-26, 2017 at the Omni Homestead Resort! Look for details and registration July 1!