



## 2025 California Clean Fuels Congressional Tour Sustainable Aviation Fuels & New Markets Summary

The Clean Fuels Alliance Foundation, led by Executive Director Tom Verry, hosted a comprehensive educational tour in California in September for participants to learn about biodiesel, renewable diesel, and sustainable aviation fuel markets. Ten Congressional staffers working in one or more of the following areas: energy and commerce, transportation & infrastructure, ways & means, and agriculture, attended the one-day tour. **One staffer summed up the impact of the CA tour by saying that it had offered a view of, “a different part of the biofuel supply chain that so few think of and [can] actually see the biofuels put to use in equipment and transportation.”** The morning started with Paul Winters giving an



*Figure 1: Congressional staffers learn about the impacts of clean fuel policies on markets during an industry roundtable held on one of Pacific Harbor Line railcars that serve the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. PHL locomotives run on RD.*



*Figure 2: Cory-Ann Wind of CFAA provides staffers CA state and west coast regulatory updates.*

overview of the biodiesel, renewable diesel, and SAF industry and the federal policies that support its growth, such as the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and recent tax credit changes. Cory-Ann Wind, Director of State Regulatory Affairs, Clean Fuels Alliance America helped participants understand how state clean fuel programs operate on the West Coast – including California, Oregon, Washington, and New Mexico. Cory-Ann discussed the results from the Trinity Consultants’ study prepared for Clean

Fuels Alliance America on the public health benefits of replacing petroleum diesel with 100% biodiesel. **Participants found the introductory sessions helpful because, as one**

staffer noted, “I don’t know as much about the RVO/RFS and the non-USDA side of things.”



*Figure 3: Otis Cliatt II, President of PHL (third from left) and Diana Turubanova, Director of Customer Service (not pictured) hosted the group. PHL handles 100 trains a day running on RD from the Port of Long Beach and Los Angeles.*

The tour’s first stop was Pacific Harbor Line (PHL). **Otis Cliatt II**, PHL President and **Diana Turubanova**, Director of Customer Service, led the group on a rail tour of the Port of Los Angeles and discussed the company’s operations, their commitment to net zero emissions, and how renewable diesel (RD) helps them to meet company and state emissions goals. PHL operates 25 locomotives running on 96 miles of track between the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

**Paul Winters** moderated a panel discussion on the importance of federal and state policies. Participants learned how the

industry has grown since the implementation of key federal policies and what happens to businesses when the policies are unstable. Panelists included representatives from biodiesel, renewable diesel, and SAF producer companies (Allison Willis, Ag Processing Inc; Fabian Urbina, Chevron; Kent Hartwig, GEVO; Pete Probst, Indiana Soybean Alliance; Jeramie Weller, Minnesota Soybean Processors; and Joe Gershen, Western Iowa Energy).

**Kevin Lattner**, Commercial Manager, Vopak discussed the logistics of delivering biodiesel, RD and SAF blends – provided by refiners like Chevron and imported by out of state refiners – to the California fuel market and the potential for meeting the carbon reduction goals of airlines, ocean freight shipping and rail transport. Based at the Port of Long Beach, Vopak receives fuel supplies via rail and ship, stores different fuels, and distributes them via truck or pipeline to customers across the Los Angeles area.



*Figure 4: Kevin Lattner of VOPAK discusses new air quality measures and regulations and how the terminal meets these requirements.*





Figure 5: Staffers end their visit with an ocean-side view of operations at the Port of Long Beach.

latest proposed project, Pier Wind – the nation’s largest staging and integration facility for floating offshore wind. **One staffer found the “tour and discussion of the port very helpful to see and understand how wide reaching the port is, serving every state in the US in some capacity.”** Another staffer was impressed to learn, **“how the port functions in our national supply chain and how biofuels have been [used] in the port meeting environmental goals and keeping our supply chain moving.”** The tour concluded with closing remarks and an open discussion led by Tom Verry, providing participants with opportunities for questions and further engagement on clean fuel and policy issues.

**Joel Perler**, Manager of Economic Development, Business Development Division, Port of Long Beach provided a boat tour of the port. Together, the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles move nearly 40 percent of the nation’s containerized import cargo. Cargo through the ports reaches every congressional district in the United States. Tour guests received a first-hand look at the “Green Port” and learned about the Port’s Clean Air Action Plan, its goals to achieve ZE cargo-handling equipment by 2030 and ZE drayage trucks by 2035, and its



Figure 6: The group gathered inside the Port of Long Beach.



Figure 7: Paul Winters of Clean Fuels sets the stage for the tour with a 101 discussion of clean fuels.

The Foundation tours are an invaluable way of bringing together those working on behalf of cleaner fuels. Perhaps best stated by a staffer, **“I got some insight with how others are thinking about the CA LCFS traceability regulations, and it’s great to collaborate with others who share the same challenges. We may differ in how we believe policy should be but at the end of the day, we really do all want the same thing...for our clean fuels to have a solid strong market for the long term.”**

Speakers included:

**Tom Verry**, Executive Director, Clean Fuels Foundation

**Paul Winters**, Director of Public Affairs, Clean Fuels Alliance America

**Cory-Ann Wind**, Director of State Regulatory Affairs, Clean Fuels Alliance America,

**Joel Perler**, Manager of Economic Development, Business Development Division, Port of Long Beach

**Kevin Lattner**, Commercial Manager, Vopak

**Diana Turubanova**, Director of Customer Service at Pacific Harbor Line, Inc (PHL)

Panelists:

Allison Willis, Ag Processing Inc; Fabian Urbina, Chevron; Kent Hartwig, GEVO; Pete Probst, Indiana Soybean Alliance; Jeramie Weller, Minnesota Soybean Processors; and Joe Gershen, Western Iowa Energy

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