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Energy and Climate Report

September 14, 2017 - Number 178

News

Boards of Directors

Any Board Ignoring Sustainability Not Doing Its Job, Report Says

When agribusiness Bunge Ltd. bought a stake in a palm oil processor this week, sustainable sourcing was one of the topics that came up in boardroom discussions about the \$946 million deal.

Climate Change

Monster Storms Change Coastlines, Not Minds on Climate Change

Back-to-back hurricanes fueled by warm Atlantic waters may have altered the coasts of Texas and Florida, but there's no indication they are shifting the politics of climate change.

Climate Policy

Carbon Capture Bill Gains Steam But Still Needs Republicans

A bill to boost carbon capture incentives would seem to have the right ingredients to hit the Senate floor: It's backed by both the oil and gas industry and environmentalists and is led by an unlikely alliance of Democratic climate hawks and Republican climate policy critics.

Climate Regulation

De Blasio Eyes Greenhouse Gas Cuts from City's Buildings

Greenhouse gas emissions from thousands of buildings in New York City would have to be sharply reduced under a plan by Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) targeting the city's top source of heat trapping emissions.

Coal-Fired Power Plants

Coal Refuse Industry Hopes for Help From Congress

Power companies that generate energy from decades-old waste piles they clean up would get a lifeline under a bill House Republicans have started moving forward.

Coal-Fired Power Plants

EPA to Reconsider Obama-Era Coal Ash Regulations

The EPA said it will reconsider "substantive provisions" of a final rule regulating electric power plants' coal combustion residuals as hazardous waste.

Congress

House Clears EPA Funding Bill Full of Poison Pills for Senate

A funding bill passed by the House Sept. 14 offers a more modest cut to environmental programs than sought by the Trump administration but is so laden with poison pill amendments that it will be little more than a starting point for negotiations with Senate

Democrats.

Energy

Arizona Regulator to Head Energy Department Government Affairs

Doug Little, the former chairman of Arizona's public utility commission, was appointed to lead the Energy Department's intergovernmental and external affairs work.

Energy

Federal Energy Regulatory Chairman Changes Tune on Coal

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Neil Chatterjee seemed to back away from previous pro-coal comments today in his first public testimony since taking office in August.

Renewable Energy

Germany's Energy Transition Creates Costly Problems With Grid

Bolstering Germany's renewable output and expanding its electricity grid will be among Chancellor Angela Merkel's priorities if she prevails in upcoming federal elections.

Water Pollution

Judges Weigh Objections to EPA Approach on Cooling Water Intakes

Federal appeals court judges sought to determine why industry and environmental groups object to the EPA's consultation with other agencies about species protection from cooling water intakes.

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