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## **Daily Environment Report**

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### Leading the News

#### *Biofuels*

##### U.S. Favors Midwest Corn Farmers in Proposed Biofuels Quotas

The Trump administration proposed a requirement that U.S. refiners use 15 billion gallons of conventional renewable fuels in 2018, while lowering targets for advanced alternatives that oil refiners have described as unattainable.

#### *Climate Policy*

##### G-20 Ire On Paris Withdrawal Unlikely to Affect Trump Plans

Leaders of Group of 20 nations, outspoken in their opposition to President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the Paris climate accord, won't be able to do much about it at this week's summit in Hamburg, Germany, business representatives and an academic told Bloomberg BNA.

#### *EPA*

##### Petroleum Institute Lawyer Picked for EPA Legal Counsel

A lawyer picked to be one of the EPA's senior attorneys says he is learning about areas of the agency that he "did not touch" during his lobbying experience for an oil and natural gas trade association.

### News

#### *Air Pollution*

##### World's Costliest Gas Clouding China's Quest for Bluer Skies

China has promised to make its skies blue again, but having some of the world's most-expensive natural gas isn't helping.

### ***Chesapeake Bay***

#### **Maryland Awards \$92 Million for Chesapeake Bay-Related Projects**

Maryland approved more than \$92 million in grants to improve wastewater treatment and reduce Chesapeake Bay pollution, the state's Department of Environmental Protection said July 5.

### ***Climate Policy***

#### **China Seen Scaling Back Carbon Market After Trump's Paris Move**

China may remove industries including steel from the national carbon market it plans to start this year because President Donald Trump wants to pull the U.S. out of the Paris climate deal.

### ***EPA***

#### **Ex-NASA Official, Pipeline Lobbyist Joins EPA's Water Office**

A former NASA official and veteran lobbyist whose environmental issues included the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipeline projects is now the top political appointee in the EPA's water office.

### ***Energy***

#### **G-20's Financing of Fossil Fuels Outweighs Renewables, Study Says**

Fossil fuels received four times more than clean energy in public financing from Group of 20 member countries, according to a report by environmental groups that urged more financing be directed to renewables to address climate change.

### ***Energy***

#### **Germany's Russian Gas Fix Raises Alarm in Merkel's Backyard**

Hidden by pine forests near the deserted site of what was once East Germany's biggest nuclear reactor, two shiny pipelines emerge from the Baltic Sea to mark the spot where Chancellor Angela Merkel is trying to secure the country's energy future.

### ***Energy***

#### **Merkel's Germany Won't Offer Fast Exit from Dirtiest Fossil Fuel**

German Chancellor Angela Merkel ruled out an abrupt phase-out from the dirtiest fossil fuel used to generate power, even as the nation struggles to meet its climate targets.

### ***Mergers and Acquisitions***

#### **Halliburton Buys Summit to Fill Hole in Oil-Service Offerings**

Halliburton Co. acquired Summit ESP LLC, giving the world's biggest fracking services provider much-needed help in a key area of its oil services portfolio. Terms were not disclosed.

### ***Motor Vehicles***

#### **New Zealand Exempts Road Fees for Heavy Electric Vehicles**

New Zealand is exempting heavy electric vehicles from road use charges, a move that could save some truck drivers thousands of dollars a year.

### ***Motor Vehicles***

#### **Volvo Vaults to Volts, Planning to Pull Plug on Gasoline Engines**

As it turns out, news of the death of the internal combustion engine may not be very exaggerated after all.

### ***Oil & Gas***

#### **Methane Leak Rule in Effect Can't Be Halted, Lawsuit Says**

The Interior Department can't halt measures to reduce methane leaks from oil and gas wells on public lands six months after they took effect, the attorneys general of California and New Mexico said in a lawsuit.

***Toxic Substances***

**EU Food Agency Re-Opens Risk Review of Bisphenol A**

European food regulators are taking the unusual step of calling for input ahead of a 2018 toxicity evaluation of the widely used chemical bisphenol A, which may lead to restrictions on food packaging such as can linings.

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