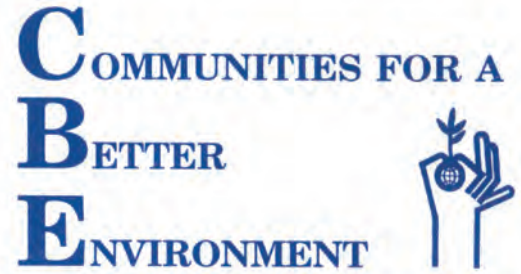


Ten Things Big Oil Doesn't Want You to Know About California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard

The oil companies are at it again. Attacking environmental health. This time the attack is on our Low Carbon Fuel Standard. Here's what they don't want you to know about it:



1. It is not a radical idea. California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) was a Republican idea. Governor Schwarzenegger issued an Executive Order for the California Air Resources Board to develop and implement the LCFS.
2. The LCFS is the only part of California's environment policy that focuses on all of the climate pollution from gasoline and diesel fuel. It seeks to curb climate pollution from oil comprehensively—from the oil well, the refinery and the tailpipe.
3. It is also the only State policy that discourages oil refiners here from exploiting other people's oil resources in even dirtier ways. California hosts the biggest refining center in the Western U.S., which is increasingly exploiting dirtier grades of oil in dirtier ways worldwide. The LCFS is important for protecting global rights and protecting our climate.
4. The oil industry itself is responsible for many of the problems it complains about in its attempt to kill the LCFS. (Points 5–7 are examples of its responsibility problem).
5. We can get more of the cleaner fuels cheaper when we stop subsidizing dirtier fuels. Subsidies for fossil fuels are twelve times those for renewable energy worldwide.¹ Big Oil lobbied for you to pay much more than the pump price for gas in taxes for hidden subsidies that unfairly disadvantage cleaner alternatives. The LCFS helps to level the playing field.
6. In its current form the LCFS fails to account for plant-by-plant emissions from individual refineries. This is unfair to people near refineries that pollute more instead of investing in local jobs to clean up. Oil companies pushed for this environmentally unjust loophole. We can fix the LCFS to make it fair for all of us.
7. Dirtier grades of crude oil could double or triple the already-huge climate emissions from refineries,² but in its current form, the LCFS ignores such increases in refinery emissions.³ Oil companies pushed for this loophole, but now say it is a reason for killing the LCFS. We can plug this loophole they made.
8. The LCFS cannot solve every problem. For example, we need other federal, state and local protections from refineries' toxic pollution, spills, and fires. Big Oil fights these other protections too—it should not blame the LCFS for other problems it created.
9. We cannot afford to let oil companies kill the LCFS and keep us dependent on oil. Ten of the last 11 U.S. recessions were preceded by sharply rising oil prices,⁴ and oil is getting more expensive long before this non-renewable resource runs out completely.
10. Switching to sustainable energy may be the most important thing we can do for our children and grandchildren. We can prevent the worst-case climate disaster. We can electrify transportation and decarbonize electricity by the year 2050⁵ if we start now.

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