



Emergency Fuel Supply Coordination

FRCA POSITION

FRCA continues to support legislation that would establish efforts to prevent disruptions, uncertainties and delays in commodities – such as fuel, grains, and chemicals – reaching the market.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Our nation cannot afford to experience another “Winter of 2014” – where record harvests and severe cold weather, combined with the surge in transporting particularly Bakken crude oil – resulted in power utilities scrambling to provide service, farmers desperately trying to move their goods, and logjams for shipment of other commodities. This scenario was particularly felt for those entities that rely heavily and/or are solely dependent upon shipping their products by rail.

During the 114th Congress legislation was introduced by Senator Al Franken (D-MN), the ***Severe Fuel Supply Emergency Response Act of 2015***. It would have directed the Secretary of Energy to lead the response to coal fuel supply emergencies by:

- Promptly investigating the cause of the fuel shortage, and informing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the Surface Transportation Board (STB) about the situation.
- Convening a meeting with relevant stakeholders, including FERC, STB, and the Electric Reliability Organization and affected Regional Entities and Reliability Coordinators.
- Making written, publicly available recommendations for actions that would help alleviate and prevent recurrences of the severe fuel supply emergency.

STATUS

No legislation has been introduced to date in the 115th Congress.