

Top Ten Ways Big Oil Opposes “All of the Above” Energy Policy

Big Oil is spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to portray foreign oil from the Canadian tar sands and hydraulic fractured natural gas as just a couple of important parts of an “all of the above” domestic energy policy. But hiding behind “all of the above” front groups in Iowa can’t hide Big Oil’s true agenda in Washington, DC. For over 100 years, Big Oil has used government to systematically tilt the energy economy in its favor. Today is no different. Big Oil is working overtime to preserve its near monopoly on American fuel supplies and its access to direct and indirect government subsidies.

1. Big Oil sued the EPA to prevent the sale of E15.
2. Big Oil sued the EPA to rollback the 2011 federal biodiesel RFS requirement.
3. Big Oil hypocritically lobbied to preserve its federal tax breaks as “necessary” while urging Congress to end incentives for newer, cleaner domestic fuels.
4. Big Oil lobbied Congress to use an appropriations gimmick to ban E15, a legal competitor, from entering the marketplace.
5. Big Oil uses its near monopoly power over petroleum distribution to prevent the proper E15 summertime blendstock from being widely available.
6. Big Oil bars its branded retailers from selling higher ethanol blends like E15 or E85 under the canopy or listing the fuels on its pricing signs.
7. Big Oil urged the EPA to adopt an absurdly anti-E15 mandatory pump label while resisting pump labels noting the concentration of known human carcinogens in petroleum fuels.
8. Big Oil opposes country-of-origin labeling for gasoline, thereby denying consumers the ability to choose domestic options.
9. Big Oil lobbied Iowa officials to ban the sale of E15 through existing fuel dispensers despite statements of compatibility from the dispenser manufacturers and approval from the State Fire Marshal.
10. Big Oil lobbied the EPA to reduce the 2012 and 2013 federal biodiesel RFS requirements.