The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) includes key provisions designed to further lower the carbon intensity of biofuels, deliver more savings at the pump, provide greater long-term energy security, and more economic activity in rural communities.

**IRA IMPACTS AND NEXT STEPS**

**SECTION 45Z**
clean fuel production (CFPC)
tax credit
(Section 13704)

**SECTION 45Q**
carbon capture
tax credit
(Section 13104)

**SECTION 40B**
sustainable aviation fuel (SAF)
tax credit
(Section 13203)

**Section 45Z**, also known as the Clean Fuel Production Credit (CFPC), provides a brand-new tax credit for fuels relative to how low their carbon intensity (CI) score is against a baseline level, defined as 50 CI (kg CO₂e/mmbtu) in statute, under the Argonne Greenhouse gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy use in Transportation (GREET) model (for non-aviation fuel). The value of this credit is $0.02 cents per gallon for each CI point under 50. Entities can qualify for fuel produced and sold between 2025 and 2027.

**Section 45Q** provides a tax credit on a per-ton basis for CO₂ that is sequestered or utilized. The IRA extended the 45Q credit for carbon sequestration and utilization through 2032, raised the rates to $85/ton for sequestration and $60/ton for utilization, provided recipients satisfy the prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements, and allows for direct pay of the incentive.

**Section 40B**, is a sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) tax credit. The IRA provides five years of SAF tax incentives. In 2023 and 2024 SAF will qualify for a standalone blenders credit (40B) if the fuel reduces lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent. The value of this credit is determined on a sliding scale, equal to $1.25 plus an additional $0.01 for each percentage point by which the lifecycle emissions reduction of such fuel exceeds 50 percent. Then, SAF incentives will become part of 45Z from 2025 to 2027.

**GROWTH PRIORITIES:**

- Ensuring the Treasury Department accounts for all technologies when determining the CI tables for ethanol as required by law.
  » This includes things such as carbon sequestration, sustainable farming, and renewable electricity, among others.
- Clarifying that a decision on utilizing 45Z and 45Q will be a yearly election.

- Ensuring a wide range of commercial applications are eligible for the utilization component of the credit.
- Ensuring entities can qualify for both 45Q and 40B, the SAF standalone credit.
- Clarifying direct pay transferability, specifically if 45Z counts against the 5 years of direct pay.

- Clarifying that the GREET model can be used to determine lifecycle emissions for SAF.
  » GREET is only specified for “non-aviation fuel” but meets the criteria for SAF modeling contained in the IRA.