Regulating Airplane Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently proposed its first-ever rule to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from aircraft, in line with international standards. This rule has a couple of benefits, notes AAF’s Director of Energy Policy Ewelina Czapla: It will ensure regulatory uniformity for U.S. manufacturers competing abroad, and it will prevent backsliding as new fuel sources and technology are developed.

An excerpt:

According to an EPA analysis, “all manufacturers have products that either already meet the standards or have new products under development that will meet the standards by their effective dates.” The EPA explained that, as a result, manufacturers would not see additional costs in adhering to the rule beyond relatively minimal reporting costs.

The rule has been criticized as ineffective because it fails to impose more stringent standards on fuel burn performance. While the proposed rule will not reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it will prevent backsliding as new fuel sources are developed or technologies are implemented. And with the ability to certify the performance at home, domestic producers will not be impeded in continuing to participate in the global marketplace.

Read the analysis.