

July 6, 2026

TCIA Policy Committee,

We wanted to provide a brief update on several federal regulatory and policy developments of interest to TCIA, including the release of the Administration's 2026 Unified Agenda and new USCIS implementation guidance following the Supreme Court's TPS decision.

2026 Regulatory Agenda Released

On July 4, the Trump Administration released its [2026 Regulatory Plan and Unified Agenda](#), which outlines regulatory actions federal agencies expect to undertake over the coming months and serves as the Administration's public roadmap for upcoming rulemakings.

Notable items for TCIA include:

- **Tree Care Standard (OSHA):** The agenda lists [October 2026](#) as the target date for publication of the proposed Tree Care Standard. This development is encouraging and generally aligns with what we have heard from OSHA over the past several months. As we have previously discussed, OSHA's current objective is to complete the draft regulatory text and preamble by October. Following that, the package must still undergo review by the Solicitor's Office and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) before publication. Accordingly, while the agenda lists October as the target date, we continue to believe the NPRM is more likely to be published after the November midterm elections. That said, the rule appears to remain on the trajectory we have been expecting.
- **Heat Injury and Illness Prevention (OSHA):** The Agenda now projects a [Supplemental NPRM in December 2026](#), followed by Final Action in October 2027. The updated timetable indicates OSHA intends to issue an additional proposal before concluding the rulemaking process.
- **CDL/CMV Regulations (FMCSA):** The Unified Agenda identifies several rulemakings affecting commercial drivers and motor carriers. Most notably, FMCSA is targeting July 2026 for an [NPRM](#) that would evaluate whether violations of the federal English Language Proficiency (ELP) requirement should be designated as an out-of-service condition. The Agenda also targets July 2026 for proposed rulemaking to [strengthen Entry-Level Driver Training \(ELDT\) provider certification requirements](#) and enhance the security standards governing [Commercial Driver's Licenses \(CDLs\)](#) and [Commercial Learner's Permits \(CLPs\)](#).

- **Wildfire Risk/Bulk-Power System (FERC):** The Agenda continues to include [FERC's wildfire rulemaking](#). Since the rulemaking was first announced, FERC has held a technical conference and directed NERC to develop wildfire mitigation best practices, which were submitted in May 2026. The proceeding remains in the prerule stage, with the Agenda identifying FERC's next action as "Undetermined."

TPS Update

Following the Supreme Court's June 25 decision in *Mullin v. Doe*, USCIS issued updated implementation guidance on July 1 for [Haiti](#), [Syria](#), [Burma](#), [Somalia](#), [South Sudan](#), [Ethiopia](#), and [Yemen](#). The guidance provides that beneficiaries from these countries will retain TPS and employment authorization only as limited relief while the respective district courts implement the Supreme Court's decision. For employer verification purposes, USCIS is currently treating TPS-based Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) as valid through July 10, 2026, and has instructed employers to monitor the applicable USCIS TPS webpages for further updates. Absent additional court action or updated USCIS guidance, affected employees whose work authorization is based solely on TPS will no longer be authorized to work beginning **July 11, 2026**. Employers with affected workers should therefore identify impacted employees now and prepare to complete any necessary Form I-9 reverification before July 10.

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