UNDERSTANDING THE TWO U.S. ETHANOL CARBON SCORES

	PUBLISHED NLR SCORE	U.S. SCORE PROPOSED TO IMO
Score	**51.4 g/MJ**	**35.79 g/MJ**, the highest of three values proposed by the U.S.
Source	Scully et al. (2021), as cited in the NLR report	U.S. submission MEPC 85/7/14 (Sept. 25, 2026), using Argonne's GREET 2024 model
Land-use change	Included	Excluded, as IMO's rules require
Co-products DDGS, corn oil	Handled differently than IMO's method	Emissions split by energy content based on IMO assigning 63% to ethanol, needs confirmation under IMO's final methodology
Data	Review of published studies	2019 national average farm data; industry plant data
Status	Published research estimate	Proposed; under review by IMO's technical group (GESAMP-LCA)

Source: "U.S. Corn Ethanol is Ready for Maritime Fuel," The Corn Economy, Oct. 27, 2026