

September 8, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As employees and farmers supporting America's biofuel manufacturing plants, we write to request that you stand up against an urgent threat facing rural communities.

Over the past three years, special exemptions approved by Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have destroyed demand for billions of gallons of biofuel, needlessly depressing the market for U.S. corn and soybeans. Now, EPA is considering 67 "gap-year" exemptions covering periods as far back as 2011. The new handouts would destroy as much demand as we lost to the 85 exemptions already granted by this EPA. They represent a brazen attempt to circumvent limits set by the United States Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit in Denver, which determined that EPA "abused its discretion" over the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) by granting similar exemptions.

Despite this ruling, EPA has yet to deny dozens of pending refinery exemptions, nor has the agency made any move to enforce the court's ruling, which should have put an end to the abuse nationwide. Meanwhile, the agency has failed to follow through on the administration's prior commitment to streamline labeling and remove barriers to the sale of E15. As a result, the agency's actions have undermined any potential gains offered by your widely celebrated decision to permit year-round sales of E15 – a decision that should have been a huge success. Now more than ever, we need you to put your foot down and demand your EPA send a clear signal to struggling rural communities that the demand destruction is over.

Our communities are still working to rebuild America's agricultural supply chain in the wake of COVID-19. Recent storms that swept the Midwest, impacting millions of acres, only add greater urgency of the situation. The last thing we can afford is more needless uncertainty fueled by an endless battle with Washington bureaucrats.

We've seen too many plants shut down, too many jobs lost, and too many farmers deprived of vital markets. That is why we are asking you to stand strong in defense of the RFS, call on EPA to reject so-called "gap-year" refinery exemptions, and immediately apply the 10th Circuit Court's ruling on the program nationwide.

Thank you,

BIOFUEL PLANT OWNERS & MANAGERS

Absolute Energy L.L.C. (Saint Ansgar, IA)
Ace Ethanol (Stanley, WI)
Adkins Energy LLC (Lena, IL)
Archer Daniels Midland (Decatur, IL)
Badger State Ethanol, LLC (Monroe, WI)
Big River Resources, LLC (West Burlington, IA)
Bridgeport Ethanol LLC (Bridgeport, NE)

Carbon Green BioEnergy (Ada, MI)
Cardinal Ethanol, LLC (Union City, IN)
Conestoga Energy (Liberal, KS)
Corn, LP (Goldfield, IA)
DENCO II, LLC (Morris, MN)
Front Range Energy (Windsor, CO)
Glacial Lakes Energy – Watertown (Watertown, SD)
KAAPA Ethanol (Axtell, NE)
Kansas Ethanol, LLC (Lyons, KS)
Marquis Energy (Princeton, IL)
Midwest AgEnergy (Mandan, ND)
MUREX (Plano, TX)
POET Biorefining – Alexandria (Alexandria, IN)
POET Biorefining – Big Stone (Big Stone City, SD)
POET Biorefining – Bingham Lake (Bingham Lake, MN)
POET Biorefining – Caro (Caro, MI)
POET Biorefining – Chancellor (Chancellor, SD)
POET Biorefining – Fostoria (Fostoria, OH)
POET Biorefining – Gowrie (Gowrie, IA)
POET Biorefining – Hudson (Lennox, SD)
POET Biorefining – Jewell (Jewell, IA)
POET Biorefining – Laddonia (Laddonia, MO)
POET Biorefining – Lake Crystal (Lake Crystal, MN)
POET Biorefining – Leipsic (Leipsic, OH)
POET Biorefining – Macon (Macon, MO)
POET Biorefining – Marion (Marion, OH)
POET Biorefining – North Manchester (North Manchester, IN)
POET Biorefining – Portland (Portland, IN)
POET Biorefining – Preston (Preston, MN)
POET Biorefining – Shelbyville (Anderson, IN)
Prairie Horizon Agri Energy, LLC (Phillipsburg, KS)
Quad County Corn Processors (Galva, IA)
Redfield Energy (Redfield, SD)
Siouxland Energy Coop (Sioux Center, IA)
Sterling Ethanol LLC (Sterling, CO)
Tharaldson Ethanol (Casselton, ND)
Western New York Energy, LLC (Medina, NY)
Western Plains Energy, LLC (Oakley, KS)
White Energy (Frisco, TX)

BIOFUEL STAKEHOLDERS

AgCountry Farm Credit Services (Fargo, ND)
BASF (San Diego, CA)
Bion (Sioux Falls, SD)
Compeer Financial (Saint Paul, MN)
CTE Global (Northbrook, IL)
Direct Automation (Sioux Falls, SD)
Eco-Energy (Franklin, TN)
Fagen, Inc. (Granite Falls, MN)
Fluid Quip Technologies, LLC (Cedar Rapids, IA)
GEA Mechanical Equipment US, Inc (Northvale, NJ)

Greenfield Global (Atherton, CA)
H2O Innovation (Ankeny, IA)
Hydrite Chemical Co. (Cedar Grove, WI)
IMA (Wichita, KS)
Innovative Ag Services (Monticello, IA)
Iowa Bio (Des Moines, IA)
Iowa Falls Area Development Corporation (Iowa Falls, IA)
Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (Johnston, IA)
Iroquois Bio Energy Company (Battle Ground, IN)
KCoe Isom, LLP (Shawnee Mission, KS)
Kurita America (Lincoln, NE)
Landus Cooperative (Ames, IA)
Mid America Agri Products/Wheatland (North Platte, NE)
National Corn to Ethanol Research Center (Edwardsville, IL)
Nebraska Ethanol Board (Lincoln, NE)
Novozymes (Rolesville, NC)
Phibro EPG (Teaneck, NJ)
Prairie Feed and Trucking (Milford, IA)
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Topeka, KS)
Richard Childress Racing (Welcome, NC)
SUEZ (Viola, IL)
Sukup Manufacturing Co (Clear Lake, IA)
United Wisconsin Grain Producers (Friesland, WI)
Whitefox Technologies USA Inc. (Dover, DE)
Wisconsin BioFuels Association (Madison, WI)
Wisconsin Rural Partners (Evansville, WI)

FARM LEADERS

Bertz Farms (Mayview, MO)
Colorado Corn Admin Committee (Greeley, CO)
Iowa Farm Bureau (West Des Moines, IA)
Iowa Farmers Union (Polk City, IA)
Michael J Dibbern Agriculture (Cairo, NE)
Missouri Corn (Jefferson City, MO)
SPMC Inc (Gothenburg, NE)
Wisconsin Agri-Business Association (Madison, WI)
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation (Madison, WI)
Wisconsin Farmers Union (Madison, WI)
Wisconsin Soybean Association (Madison, WI)