

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 8, 2025

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

We appreciate your commitment to American energy production. Biofuels play a critical role in domestic energy security, keeping consumer costs low, creating markets for America's farmers, and supporting rural America. The Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) is the best tool the federal government has to support biofuels. Therefore, we encourage the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) consider the following as it determines Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO) levels for 2026 and beyond.

As the Trump administration pursues policies to increase liquid fuel production and as biofuel production capacity consistently increases, RVO levels should also increase to reflect these changes. The biofuels market continues to expand to new frontiers including marine shipping, aviation, and rail. These markets are driven in part by demand for low carbon fuels that biofuels can uniquely provide. We ask that the EPA raise RFS volumes for biomass-based diesel and advanced biofuels to levels that are consistent with production and availability, while ensuring an equivalent increase in total volumes to preserve demand across all categories of biofuels.

Additionally, as you consider policies that reduce consumer costs, biofuels provide a buffer to market fluctuations in the liquid fuel market, consistently costing consumers less than traditional liquid fuels. We ask the EPA to provide multi-year RVO standards to provide certainty and growth for the biofuels industry. Long term industry stability helps drive continued investments in biofuels which in turn helps keep consumer costs low.

We have seen the cost to rural communities when RVO levels are set too low. Over the last three years, multiple biodiesel plants have shuttered or idled due to RVOs being set significantly below what industry requested and production capacity. Biofuels are a large economic driver for rural America as farmers' crops are used for feedstocks and many production facilities are located in small communities. That is at risk if RVO standards are set too low.

Additionally, should EPA grant any small refinery exemptions, the gallons that would have been obligated to those refiners should be added back into the total number of required gallons, as intended by the structure of the RFS, so that the full volume of the RVOs is accounted for and the overall RVOs are not effectively reduced after the rule is finalized.

Thank you for your swift consideration of this request to continue to pursue policies that expand American energy production.

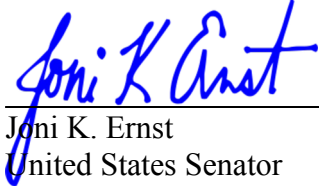
Sincerely,



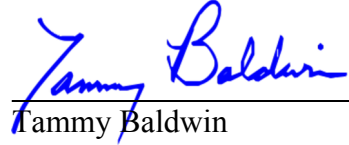
Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator



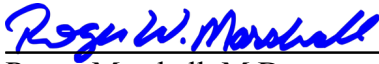
Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator



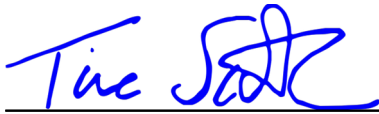
Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Pete Ricketts
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



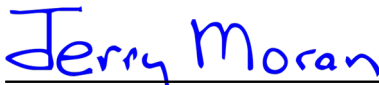
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



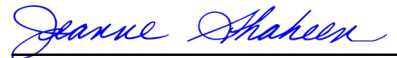
Gary C. Peters
United States Senator




Deb Fischer
United States Senator



Jerry Moran
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator



Josh Hawley
United States Senator