

January 30, 2026

The Honorable Stephanie Bice
Co-Chair
E-15 Rural Domestic Energy Council
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Randy Feenstra
Co-Chair
E-15 Rural Domestic Energy Council
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Bice and Feenstra:

Congratulations on your appointment to chair the E15 Rural Domestic Energy Council. We stand ready to partner with you and work expeditiously to craft a legislative solution that can bring further stability and predictability to liquid fuel markets.

To support your upcoming work, we wanted to provide you with our recommendations on the scope of the council, highlight the timeframe in which critical decisions must be made, and reaffirm our support for legislation that would meet the primary goal of this council, which is to develop and offer consensus legislation for consideration by the full House of Representatives. We previously supported consensus legislation in H.R. 1346, the Nationwide Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act, that was offered for consideration by Representative Adrian Smith last week before the Rules Committee. This legislation, as amended, should significantly inform the council's work and provides the best starting point for any further deliberations.

Second, the time window for arriving at a recommended legislative solution is short, with the council expected to submit a legislative solution to the full House by February 15th, only 16 days from today. We applaud this expedited time frame as fuel producers and retailers are making decisions now about product offerings over the next year, farmers are making planting decisions, and a legislative fix is needed as soon as possible to provide fuel producers and retailers with a predictable policy framework as we approach the summer driving season. Lack of action could disrupt the fuel supply chain, negatively impacting the availability of fuel. In addition, the need to identify and encourage new domestic markets for American agriculture is critical as risk of bankruptcy for American farmers is the highest it's been in nearly 50 years.

To achieve a solution in short order, we hope you will take our proposals under consideration and build upon H.R. 1346 through the framework of the Council. With a limited timeline of less than three weeks, we would recommend keeping a narrow scope related to the production and sale of E-15 by building off the work of H.R. 1346. Limiting the scope of the council's work to the extent of the issues in this proposal helps to provide the council with the ability to meet this expedited deadline. If this council delves into other issues, it will put at risk the timeline to complete action on this important priority. We encourage the council to prioritize transparency and solicit feedback from stakeholders in the agriculture, biofuels, refinery, and fuel retail sectors.

Finally, we must remind the council that the legislative proposal offered last week by Rep. Adrian Smith during the Rules Committee meeting on H.R. 1346 has broad support from the overwhelming majority of biofuels, agriculture, fuel retail, and oil refining interests, and is the most comprehensive pathway to a legislative solution.

We believe H.R. 1346, as amended, would be a dramatic improvement over the current status quo, and we would urge the council to use this bill as the base legislative text for future legislative proposals. We appreciate your willingness to lead this process, and we look forward to partnering with you and the Council to provide a House-passed legislative solution to resolve these critical issues by the end of February.

Sincerely,

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Petroleum Institute
Corn Refiners Association
Growth Energy
National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS)
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA)
NATSO: Representing America's Travel Centers and Truck Stops
National Corn Growers Association
National Sorghum Producers
Renewable Fuels Association
SIGMA: America's Leading Fuel Marketers

Cc: The Honorable Mike Johnson, Speaker of the House
Rep. Adrian Smith, H.R. 1346 Sponsor