



President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

June 8, 2023

Dear President Biden,

Clean Fuels is the advanced biofuel industry's primary trade association and its strongest advocate at the state and federal levels. Our members, partners, and allied industry associations are building domestic production capacity and markets for biodiesel, renewable diesel, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), Bioheat® fuel, maritime and railroad fuels. The Renewable Fuel Standard is one of the primary policies fostering these markets for better, cleaner fuels.

The Environmental Protection Agency is due to finalize the 2023, 2024 and 2025 RFS obligations by June 14. The agency proposed last December to raise biomass-based diesel by just 65 million gallons on average for each of the next three years. That proposal severely undermines the rapid growth of domestic biodiesel and renewable diesel production; it would allow no market space at all for sustainable aviation fuel.

Our industry was encouraged by the reset of the RFS last June, in which EPA increased the 2022 biomass-based diesel volume by 330 million gallons. EPA Administrator Regan characterized the rule as a jumping off point for future years and promised to put volumes on an upward trajectory after years of challenges.¹

The clean fuels industry rose to the occasion. U.S. production of biodiesel and renewable diesel grew by 500 million gallons last year, responding to the RFS rule and to growing demand from trucking, shipping, rail and heating industries seeking immediate decarbonization progress. This growth provides significant benefits to America's farmers and rural economies while improving our nation's energy security and reducing emissions in hard-to-decarbonize sectors.

And U.S. production continues to surge. EPA's own public data shows that domestic biodiesel and renewable diesel production for January - April 2023 is already 30% higher

¹ AgriPulse, "Newsmakers: EPA Administrator Michael Regan," May 6, 2022. Environmental Protection Agency, "EPA Takes Action to Reset and Strengthen the RFS Program," June 3, 2022.

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compared to the same four-month period in 2022.² The domestic production rate is likely to increase as companies complete construction of additional new capacity and bring it online. Companies across 10 different Midwestern states have invested more than \$5 billion to expand or construct 20 oil-seed processing facilities over the next three years.

The additional biodiesel and renewable diesel gallons produced in the first four months of this year have filled three times over the increase in BBD volumes that EPA proposed for the entire year. In fact, the additional biodiesel and renewable diesel gallons generated in the first four months of 2023 have filled the total volume increase that EPA proposed for the entire three-year rule period – 2023, 2024 and 2025.

EPA must substantially increase the RFS' biomass-based diesel volumes to account for actual production. The proposed RFS volumes simply do not provide sufficient market space for the fuels that are produced and available now to help numerous industries decarbonize their transportation footprint. The low volumes threaten the ability of new market sectors, like marine and aviation, to decarbonize in the near term.

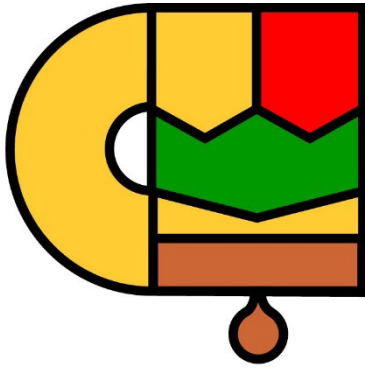
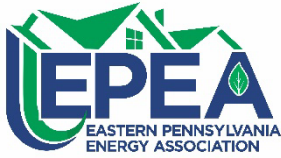
The undersigned have asked EPA to annually increase the biomass-based diesel volumes by 500 million gallons. Given the demonstrated increase in production in the first four months of this year, the request is very conservative. As your administration reviews the RFS rule for 2023, 2024, and 2025 before its final release on June 14, we ask that you ensure a true upward trajectory for the program's volumes to further facilitate the growth of homegrown, low-carbon, advanced biofuels.

Sincerely

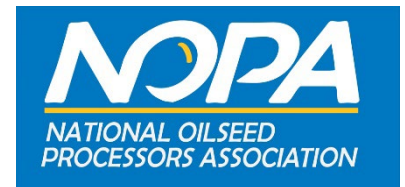
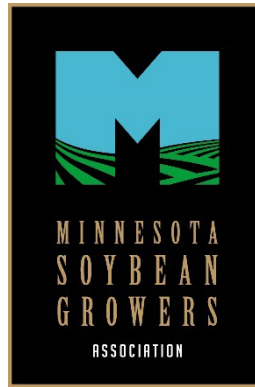


² Public Data for the Renewable Fuel Standard, <https://www.epa.gov/fuels-registration-reporting-and-compliance-help/public-data-renewable-fuel-standard>.













CC:
The Hon. Michael S. Regan, Administrator

Environmental Protection Agency

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture