

The Hon. Lee Zeldin, Administrator Environmental Protection Agency Office of the Administrator, 1101A 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20460

May 22, 2025

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

Biodiesel, renewable diesel, and SAF are essential to meeting America's growing energy demand and ensuring the nation's energy security. Clean Fuels is the largest trade association for the U.S. biomass-based diesel industry; our membership brings together farmers, feedstock providers, fuel producers, and customers who rely on the fuels. Demand for biodiesel and renewable diesel is growing in new markets and transportation sectors, including rail, shipping, home heating and aviation. Clean fuels provide Americans a cost-effective choice at the pump; prices for B20 averaged \$0.14 lower than prices for diesel since 2021.

Domestic production of biodiesel and renewable diesel has doubled since 2020 and is poised to continue growing. Our industry has made substantial investments over the past several years in both biofuel production, feedstock supply, and distribution infrastructure. For instance, a recent S&P study commissioned by National Oilseed Processors Association demonstrated the ability of domestic feedstocks alone to support growth to 5.3 billion gallons of biofuel production in 2026 and 6.7 billion gallons by 2030.

The Renewable Fuel Standard sets market expectations and sends economic signals to all stakeholders in the biodiesel and renewable diesel value chain. The standards set by the prior administration for 2023 through 2025 failed to support the rapid growth of the advanced biofuel industry. As a result, plants are shutting down or idling and laying off workers. This is disrupting markets for farmers, investments by feedstock providers, and economic growth for communities across the country. You can fix this.

We ask that EPA without delay set the 2026 RFS biomass-based diesel volume at not less than 5.25 billion gallons and the advanced volume at 10.4 billion gallons. We further urge you to support continuing growth by setting the 2027 RFS biomass-based diesel volume at 5.75 billion gallons and the advanced volume at 11.2 billion gallons.

These volumes will support farm security, create jobs and economic opportunity, and further President Trump's goal for U.S. energy dominance. The U.S. biomass-based diesel industry supports 10% of the value of every bushel of soybeans grown in the United States – worth more than \$1.10

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¹ Clean Cities and Communities Alternative Fuel Price Report.

per bushel in 2024. The industry provides a value-added market to more than 1 billion pounds of soybean oil every month. Currently, the U.S. biomass-based diesel industry supports 107,400 jobs and \$42.4 billion in economic activity. Additional growth will create additional employment and economic opportunities across the country.

These volumes are readily achievable, based on current domestic production and investments that have been made. According to the Energy Information Administration's most recent Annual Energy Outlook, U.S. demand for biodiesel and renewable diesel will reach 5.5 billion gallons in 2026.

In short, a strong signal from EPA on the RFS will unleash domestic biodiesel and renewable diesel production to resume planned growth and get many Americans back to work. We look forward to working with you to finalize a timely and robust Renewable Fuel Standard rule for 2026 and beyond.

Sincerely,