

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 23, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

As you work toward finalizing the proposed rule on biofuels volume requirements for 2014 and subsequent years under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), we urge you to take this opportunity to reverse course from the 2014 proposed rule and craft targets for domestic biofuels that reflect Congress' intended goals for the RFS.

The RFS has already proven to be an effective driver of alternative fuels and economic development. It has strengthened agriculture markets and created hundreds of thousands of jobs in the new energy economy, many of which are in rural areas. Setting strong biofuels volume requirements for 2014 and beyond will ensure this progress continues. A stable RFS will also provide the certainty needed to unlock future investments in renewable fuels and necessary infrastructure, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign sources of energy, and drive innovation and progress toward cellulosic, biodiesel, recycled-waste, algal, and other advanced biofuels.

When Congress passed the RFS and it was enacted into law, the intent was a forward-looking policy that drives future investments in both biofuels production and the infrastructure necessary to bring these biofuels to market. With its harmful 2014 proposed rule, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) limited biofuels volume requirements based on available existing infrastructure, a condition that falls outside of the EPA's clearly defined waiver authority provided by Congress in the RFS.

The biofuels volume requirements for 2014 and beyond have serious implications for our economy and energy security. We encourage you to ensure a final proposal continues to work toward achieving the RFS's long-term economic and renewable energy goals.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar

Chuck Grassley

Dir Durbin

John McCain

Al Franken

Clara Kim

Jimmy Beldi

Joe Donnelly

Brian Schaefer

Celine McCasill

Walt

Heidi Heitkamp

Jon Foster

Pat Roberts

Ray Bland

Edward J. Markey

Shirley Brown

Bill Nelson

Debbie Stabenow

Jack Reed

Maria Cantwell

Shirley

Mazie Hironaka

Patty Murray

Mark F. B. I.

Deb Fischer

John Hosen

Deanne Shaker

Barbara Boxer

Ken Wyden

Ken Coats

Elizabeth Han

Joni K. Ernst

Jeffrey A. Minkley

Larry Hise

W. Michael Bond

Dan Peters