



Sean McGarvey
President

August 22, 2019

Brent Booker
Secretary-Treasurer

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States

Newton B. Jones
Boilermakers

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Kinsey M. Robinson
Roofers

James P. Hoffa
Teamsters

Dear President Trump:

Terry O'Sullivan
LIUNA

On behalf of the 3 million skilled craft professionals that constitute the 14 affiliates of North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU), I am writing in support of your Administration's recent actions to grant Small Refinery Exemptions (SREs) to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), without increasing the mandate for other refiners. I also urge you to stay the course and not take actions that could threaten union jobs.

James Boland
BAC

Frank J. Christensen
Elevator Constructors

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
Painters and Allied Trades

Throughout the Midwest, and in rural parts of our nation, the domestic refining industry provides our members with thousands of high-paying jobs. When refineries invest in major projects or maintenance projects, known as turnarounds, they typically employ an additional 1,000 or more skilled craft workers. These facilities are the linchpin of their community, and of the utmost importance to our members and their families.

James T. Callahan
Operating Engineers

Joseph Sellers, Jr.
SMART

Lonnie R. Stephenson
IBEW

Eric M. Dean
Ironworkers

Due to your management of the RFS, which includes granting sufficient SREs, RIN prices dropped from over 90 cents in November of 2017 to approximately 11 cents recently. Such cost decreases have alleviated a significant threat to union jobs at merchant refiners.

James P. McCourt
Insulators

Daniel E. Stepano
Plasterers' and
Cement Masons'

Merchant refiners do not control biofuel blending for the majority of the fuel produced. They must rely on purchasing RINs – often from their competitors – to comply with the RFS through an unregulated and highly volatile market. Over the last year and a half, as SREs were issued and RIN prices fell, the ethanol blend rate remained robust and production and consumption of domestic biodiesel has increased.

Mark McManus
UA

Department of Energy (DOE) data shows the ethanol blend rate is up thus far this year compared to last. Ethanol executives have noted in earnings calls that their fuel is priced lower than gasoline and, thus, competitive regardless of RIN prices. These facts prove that your actions have protected refining jobs.


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In light of these factors, we applaud your balanced approach to the RFS thus far, which relies on issuing SREs as legally required by law without increasing the requirement for other refiners. We urge you to continue down this path by lowering the RFS requirements in the final 2020 RFS RVO rule. Such action is necessary to continue to fulfill your campaign promise to protect every manufacturing job.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean McGarvey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sean" being the most prominent.

Sean McGarvey
President