



STATEMENT BY THE FUELING AMERICAN JOBS COALITION: RVO Levels Raise Concerns; Supports Steps for Market Reforms

June 26, 2018- *The Fueling American Jobs Coalition (FAJC) released the following statement regarding the proposed 2019 renewable volume obligations released by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) earlier today:*

The Fueling American Jobs Coalition credits EPA for adhering to precedent in its proposed rulemaking establishing the 2019 volume obligations for the RFS program while making progress on pushing forward much needed RIN market reforms. As the EPA accurately assessed, blending volumes have shown no evidence of backtracking to date despite the unsupported claims of ethanol activists.

However, the coalition has significant concerns that the proposal for 15 billion gallons of conventional biofuels, which exceeds the blendwall, coupled with significant increases in high cost “cellulosic” and other “advanced” biofuel, threatens to increase RIN costs for refiners. The market has experienced very significant RIN price increases in the past and the Administration needs to take action to prevent such occurrences in the future.

Finally, we appreciate EPA’s acknowledgement – supported by the Federal Appeals Court decision late last year – that appropriate action on small refiner exemptions (SREs) is a statutory obligation under the Clean Air Act. If the ethanol industry would like to open the renewable fuel standard to reform in a comprehensive way, we are confident that many parties – fuel makers, environmentalists, consumer groups and others – would be very happy to join in. Frankly, clarifying the SRE program is the least of the problems with the RFS. Making it more sensitive to the current realities of the fuel market would be a much better place to start.

The Fueling American Jobs Coalition is a coalition of union workers, mom & pop gas station owners, small retailers, and independent American oil refiners fighting for a common sense fix to the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA’s) flawed Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The need for significant reform has only grown over the last year as the cost of purchasing Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) to comply with the RFS has skyrocketed, threatening some refiners’ survival. For additional information, visit www.fuelingusjobs.com.