

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 26, 2019

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of well-paying energy sector jobs and energy security in Pennsylvania and the United States. As you know, Pennsylvania refinery workers are an essential ingredient to the energy security of the United States. Unfortunately, on June 26, 2019, the largest refinery in our state announced that the plant would be idled after a fire, with more than a thousand workers receiving notice. The likely closure of the Philadelphia Energy Solutions (PES) refinery will short the supply of fuel in the region, reverse almost two years of refining capacity gains nationwide, and result in gasoline and heating oil price spikes and job losses throughout Pennsylvania, the region, and our nation.

During a visit to Pennsylvania in September 2016, you remarked on the great importance of our state to American energy security and noted your commitment to addressing unduly burdensome regulations. One regulatory factor that has contributed substantial uncertainty to the Philadelphia refinery's precarious position is, specifically, the renewable identification numbers (RINs) trading program used to demonstrate compliance with RFS. For example, since 2012 PES alone was required to purchase over \$832 million in RINs. Other merchant refiners continue to bear the financial uncertainty of compliance cost as well.

In light of what has just happened with the Philadelphia refinery, we believe it is precisely the wrong time to undermine the small-refiner exemption (SRE) program or propose increases of RFS volumes through reallocation or any other means, either of which would send a market signal certain to increase prices at the pump and job losses in Pennsylvania and around the country.

As Members of the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation, we have been contacted by relevant stakeholders, including organized labor and refiners, regarding the importance of staying the course on SREs and the vital safety valve they provide within the RFS program. We urge you to stand by your comments on the importance of the Pennsylvania energy sector, support SREs, reject calls to increase RFS mandate volume requirements through any mechanism, and keep the refineries and their workers up and running for a secure and productive future.

Sincerely,



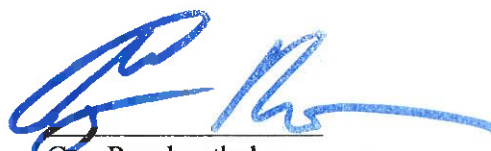
Lloyd Smucker
Member of Congress



John Joyce
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Scott Perry
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