

July 19, 2021

Sent via First Class Mail:Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon
2501 Seaport Drive, BH230
Chester, PA 19013

Dear Congresswoman Scanlon:

My purpose in writing to you today is to ask for your help in advocating for reform to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Without prompt and meaningful action by the Biden Administration, our region's last remaining oil refineries may close their doors forever, eliminating hundreds of direct jobs and causing irreversible after-effects in our region that will impact thousands of indirect jobs, like those provided by our company.

BrandSafway is one of the leading specialized service providers in the heavy industrial market. With over 30,000 customers worldwide we also employ over 38,000 people, many of whom work throughout the Delaware Valley. We deliver scaffold systems, and other forming and shoring solutions for our clients, and many of the people we employ are members of local unions, as in the case of Monroe where our personnel are members of the Laborers Local Union 413, the Insulators Local Union 14, and the Carpenters Local Union 255.

Northeast Refineries have one of the highest job multipliers of any industry in the country. They rely on the material support, personnel and expertise that companies like ours provide to them. Their dependence on BrandSafway, and many other businesses in turn supports thousands of good paying, family sustaining jobs throughout the tristate region. This interdependence is critical, and it has been a major boon for our regional economy for decades.

But the RFS in its current form jeopardizes the continued viability of independent refiners, particularly in the Northeast, and it is therefore a direct threat to the economic well-being of our company as well. For years now, local independent refiners like Monroe Energy and PBF have been forced to buy RIN credits at exorbitant prices, and these credits have swung wildly. Additionally, it is worth noting that these expenditures have done very little to create actual benefits for the environment as noted by The National Wildlife Federation and others, or to help expand renewable fuel production, or to benefit the hard-working American farmers that it was intended to provide.

This is a critical issue for our region, and without a change to the program's current structure, the goals of the program are will not be met and our national and energy security along with tens of thousands of good paying jobs will be at risk. On behalf of our company, we respectfully request that you contact the EPA and the Biden Administration and ask them to take swift and meaningful action to address the out-of-control costs associated with the RFS before it is too late. The economic livelihoods of many businesses in our Commonwealth and of thousands of people employed by businesses like ours are depending on it. Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Dave Witsken
President, BrandSafwayCC: Governor John Carney, Delaware
Governor Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania
Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey
Michael Regan, EPA Administrator
Ron Klain, White House Chief of Staff
Brian Deese, Director, National Economic Council
Marty Walsh, Secretary of LaborGina McCarthy, National Climate Advisor
Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, EPA
Seth Harris, Senior Advisor Labor Policy
Cedric Richmond, Sen. Advisor & Dir. of Pub. Engagement