## ConnectingChemistry



Brenntag North America, Inc. | 550 E Swedesford Road | Wayne, PA 19087

June 23, 2021

Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan 709 E. Gay Street Suite 4 West Chester, PA 19380

Dear Congresswoman Houlahan:

I'm writing to you today, on behalf of the 361 Brenntag Employees located in Pennsylvania to ask for your help in advocating for reform to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Without swift and meaningful action by the Biden Administration, our region's last remaining oil refineries may close their doors forever, eliminating hundreds of direct jobs in the refining industry and causing irreversible reverberations in our region by the subsequent loss of jobs for the suppliers and businesses that support this industry.

It was our pleasure to have you visit our site in Reading, PA two years ago, and as you will recall, our chemical distribution business has invested in significant infrastructure, truck fleets, bulk storage and extensive safety measures to support the needs of our customers like Monroe Energy. Thus, it is with great concern that we see the RFS which began as a reasonable and cost feasible program at its inception, (ex. RIN credits cost refiners \$.02-.03 per credit and locally they needed to purchase several hundred million credits thus an annual cost of approximately \$20-30 million), to today due to the competing demand on ethanol for alternative uses the RIN credits cost in excess of \$2.00 each and will exceed \$400 million in expenditures for one refinery alone thus effectively putting the refiners out of business. The impact to jobs, fuel prices, and energy security for our country would be severe.

Brenntag is highly focused and supportive of sustainable energy solutions, and actively works with many companies in alternative energy areas particularly in bio-based fuels production. For example, as you may recall from your visit, we have actively installed clean energy systems on all of our diesel fuel trucks, are moving to gas and electricity powered equipment within our plants, and where feasible investing in renewable electricity options with solar panels at many of our sites. However, we also feel strongly that the evolution of our energy industry needs to happen in a sensible and thoughtful manner so as to not unintentionally eliminate currently needed sources of energy and thus their jobs and community benefits.

Refineries, particularly those in the Northeast 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 Brenntag, 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.

This is a critical issue for our region, and without a change to the program's current structure, the goals of the program 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,

Robert L. Moser, Jr.

Vice President Corporate Relations & Government Affairs

Brenntag North America, Inc.

cc: Governor Tom Wolf

Senator Bob Casey Senator Pat Toomey

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Congressman Dan Meuser