



NEW JERSEY SENATE

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JUDICIARY

December 15, 2021

Mr. Michael S. Regan, Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office of Administrator 1101A  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

As the State Senator of the 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, I want to thank you and President Biden for your dedication and leadership in protecting the environment, and request that you will help enact important reforms to the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

As you know, the RFS requires renewables to be blended into our transportation fuels by domestic refineries. Unfortunately, they may have limited capabilities to do any such blending. As such, I was a co-prime sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 123, which urged the President and EPA to take appropriate action to allow blending renewable fuels under the federal Clean Air Act, which was approved last month.

To meet the mandate, refineries must purchase credits called Renewable Identification Numbers (RIN). RINs have skyrocketed in cost due to a combination of reasons including high demand, decreasing supply, speculation in the market by non-refiners, and a flawed program design. The costs have risen to such an extent that independent refiners now devote more financial resources to RINs than to salaries, benefits and capital expenses combined.

Our region's independent refiners create and support tens of thousands of good-paying, family-sustaining jobs in the tri-state region, including many union jobs. While the RFS was a well-intended program, it isn't working as Congress envisioned and, as a result, our region's last few independent refiners are suffering severe economic harm.

The Biden administration's leadership to ensure America is a leader in green energy has been a welcome change from the previous administration. It's our hope the EPA will balance this goal with the need to support our refineries and protect the economy and union jobs. Once again, I thank you and President Biden for being champions of America's working families. We look forward to your common-sense solution to RFS issues.

Most sincerely,

Hon. Troy Singleton  
Senator, 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

CC: Ron Klain, White House Chief of Staff  
Brian Deese, Director, National Economic Council  
Marty Walsh, Secretary of Labor  
Gina McCarthy, National Climate Advisor  
Dan Utech, Chief of Staff, EPA  
Seth Harris, Senior Advisor Labor Policy  
Cedric Richmond, Senior Advisor and Director of Public Engagement  
Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey  
Senator Robert Menendez  
Senator Cory Booker  
Congressman Donald Norcross  
Congressman Jeff Van Drew