

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 2020

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

As Members of the Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Utah, and Wyoming delegations to Congress, we are writing you today to respectfully encourage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to quickly review requests made by our states to reduce the renewable volume obligation (RVO) under the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The current, suppressed worldwide demand for motor fuels has placed the refining sector in a precarious economic situation that is only magnified by these federal regulations.

We understand as of April 15, the Governors from our states have pending requests for waivers before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. They argue that continued implementation of the RFS under the current RVO with an increasingly significant rise in the cost of compliance credits known as RINs could push the sector – and the nation as a whole – into severe economic stress.

Fortunately, Section 211(o)(7) of the Clean Air Act, allows for the EPA to respond by granting a waiver request if the RFS requirements would severely harm the economy or environment of a State, a region, or the United States. Based on this, we urge the EPA to act swiftly in reviewing these requests, under the Volume Requirement Waiver and if determined rightfully so, grant these waivers expeditiously.

This is not time for the agency to sit idly by as refineries face economic duress that can cost the nation hundreds of thousands of jobs and undermine the very energy security that the RFS was established to protect.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to working with you and the Trump Administration on regulatory reform and future efforts to protect American jobs and economic opportunity.

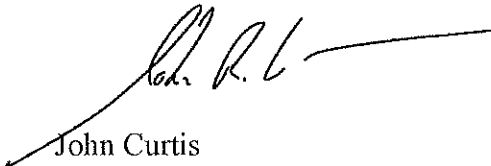
Sincerely,




Chip Roy
Member of Congress




Pete Olson
Member of Congress




John Curtis
Member of Congress



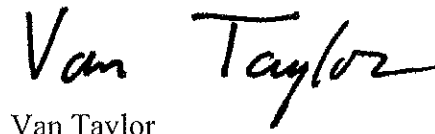
Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



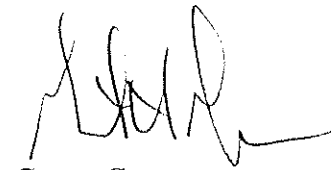
Clay Higgins
Member of Congress




Liz Cheney
Member of Congress




Van Taylor
Member of Congress




Garret Graves
Member of Congress




Ron Wright
Member of Congress




Roger Williams
Member of Congress



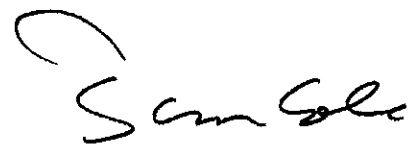
Kevin Brady
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



Tom Cole
Member of Congress



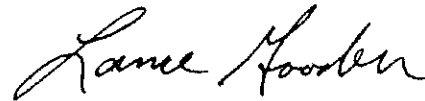
Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



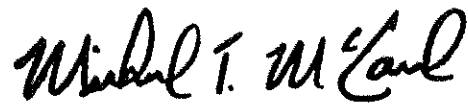
Rob Bishop
Member of Congress



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



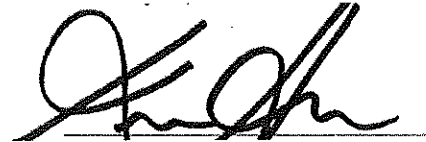
Will Hurd
Member of Congress



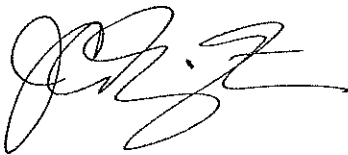
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



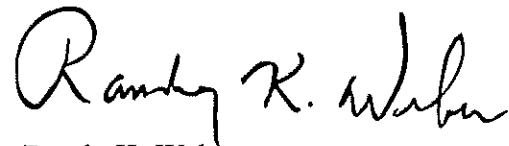
Dan Crenshaw
Member of Congress



Kevin Hern
Member of Congress



Jodey C. Arrington
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress