



For Immediate Release

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More Pain At The Pump: EPA's Rumored June 3 Announcement Causes Renewable Fuel Standard Credits To Jump 20 Cents In One Day, Raising Consumer Fuel Costs

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Press reports that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) plans to announce tomorrow increased biofuel mandates and denial of exemptions under the Renewable Fuel Standard, or RFS, sent compliance credits refiners need to buy to comply with the program—Renewable Identification Numbers or RINs—up 20 cents in one day, putting more pressure on consumer fuel costs. The Fueling American Jobs Coalition is calling on EPA to reverse course to spare consumers more pain at the pump and protect domestic fuel supplies.

“As gasoline and diesel prices skyrocket, EPA is doubling down on the one government program that is adding more to fuel costs than the federal gasoline tax,” the Fueling American Jobs Coalition said. **“Moreover, since no additional ethanol blending can possibly take place in the historical periods reported to be covered by EPA’s impending rule, EPA’s actions would serve only as a wealth transfer: from the American consumer to Big Oil Blenders, Wall Street traders, hoarders of RINs and RIN price manipulators.”**

EPA has repeatedly stated that consumers ultimately bear the cost of the RFS at the pump, which today is as much as 30 cents per gallon, or \$30 billion annually. Instead of fixing this problem, EPA has made things worse, creating a volatile and unregulated commodity market for RINs, then itself violating the RFS by setting unachievable volume requirements and ending exemptions. If finalized as reported, EPA’s rule covering 2020, 2021 and 2022 will force prices even higher. RIN prices, which were 10 cents at one point in January 2020, reached over \$1.65 earlier today. Yesterday’s press reports alone caused RIN prices to jump nearly 20 cents in a single day.

Fortunately, President Biden, EPA and Congress can fix this mess and lower gas prices immediately by lowering ethanol blending requirements to match the maximum amount of ethanol our fuel supply can physically handle given engine and infrastructure constraints, referred to as “the blend wall.”

“Beyond lowering gas prices, fixing the RFS also can help save thousands of good-paying American jobs while protecting the country’s fuel supply. The sky-high and volatile cost of RINs has forced many independent refiners to spend more on RFS compliance than all other operating costs combined, and have contributed to eight refineries closing or announcing closure in the past two years alone. Such closures not only have resulted in thousands of lost union jobs, but are also a significant contributor to today’s record high fuel costs,” the Fueling American Jobs Coalition continued. **“If actions aren’t urgently taken to address the flawed and broken RFS, we risk our country becoming more dependent on foreign energy – the exact opposite of what the RFS was designed to do.”**

Given the current state of events in the world, it is important now more than ever that we have strong domestic energy production capabilities, both for energy security and the environment; the United States energy industry is among the cleanest and safest in the world.

The Fueling American Jobs Coalition is a coalition of union workers and independent American oil refiners fighting for a commonsense fix to the EPA's flawed Renewable Fuel Standard. The need for significant reform has only grown over the past few years as the cost of purchasing Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) to comply with the RFS has grown increasingly volatile, threatening some refiners' survival. For additional information, visit www.fuelingusjobs.com.

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