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**Refineries, Union Workers Sound the Alarm on EPA's Reckless Biofuel Mandate**

*EPA's unachievable mandates spell disaster for refiners, workers, and consumers; proposed mandates threaten refinery jobs and would increase foreign fuel reliance, gas prices*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Fueling American Jobs Coalition, a coalition of union workers and independent American oil refiners, released the following statement after the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed new Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) that are inconsistent with real-world market demand and infrastructure capacity, and will trigger higher regulatory costs and consumer gas prices.

**"This proposal is a gut punch to American refiners and workers across the domestic energy supply chain. These unrealistic mandates do not just threaten the future of independent refining; they endanger our existence today.**

**"The U.S. has lost significant refining capacity in the last decade alone. Only a handful of refineries remain on the East Coast, where one-third of the U.S. population resides. The broken RFS system has inflicted deep harm on those remaining refineries, and EPA's latest proposal will only deepen that harm.**

**"If finalized, EPA's proposal would threaten many of America's last remaining refineries, deepening our nation's reliance on foreign fuel imports and sending consumer energy costs soaring. This stands in stark contrast to President Trump's energy agenda.**

**"President Trump and Administrator Zeldin have both made clear that rebuilding American refining capacity is essential to fueling the great American comeback. We urge the EPA to reverse course on this disastrous proposal and consider the dire implications for energy security before finalizing a historic mandate with the potential to trigger more refinery closures, mass layoffs, and high gas prices."**

Background

The coalition's new warning comes just days after a group of small and independent refiners, representing 2.4 million barrels per day of U.S. refining capacity, [sent a formal letter](#) to EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin urging the agency to adopt realistic and achievable RVOs in its RFS proposal.

In recent years, unrealistic mandates under the broken RFS have triggered:

- **Independent refinery closures**, diminishing America's refining capacity.
- **Massive layoffs and job losses**, including [tens of thousands](#) of high-quality jobs.
- **Higher gas prices**, costing consumers [20–30 cents](#) more per gallon.

Earlier this year, President Trump declared a [National Energy Emergency](#), which warned that shortsighted energy policies had left the United States with an inadequate fuel supply, weakened infrastructure, and surging prices that "devastate Americans." The declaration singled out the Northeast, home to many of the few remaining independent refineries, as especially vulnerable.

RIN prices have already surged 75% since January 2025, placing immense financial strain on small and independent refiners and adding as much as [20 cents per gallon](#) at the pump for American consumers.

#### **About the Fueling American Jobs Coalition (FAJC)**

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](http://www.fuelingusjobs.com).

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