



FOR RELEASE: June 12, 2025

CONTACT: press@fuelingusjobs.com

Independent Refineries Ask EPA to Protect U.S. Fuel Supply by Setting Achievable RVO Levels Under the Renewable Fuel Standard

Companies convey looming crisis: "With both refiners and retailers sounding alarms, it is clear the status quo under the broken RFS cannot be allowed to continue."

Washington, DC — A coalition of small and independent refineries, representing approximately 2.4 million barrels per day of the nation's refining capacity, sent a new letter today to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lee Zeldin, urging the agency to set reasonable Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) for 2026 and beyond as part of the upcoming "Set 2" rule under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

The new call comes after President Trump [declared](#) a National Energy Emergency to restore American refining capacity. Since 2019, the U.S. has lost more than 1.4 million barrels per day in refining capacity. The excessive and volatile costs of RFS compliance credit (RINs) prices have contributed to at least four refinery closures nationwide.

"Failure to set volumes that keep RIN prices in check will not result in more biofuel consumption, but will instead put significant stress on gasoline and diesel supplies and put thousands of family-sustaining refining sector jobs at risk," the refiners wrote.

RIN prices have increased 75 percent since January 2025 alone, placing an outsized financial strain on independent refineries. This volatility benefits integrated oil companies that own biofuel operations or dominate the RIN market, while putting thousands of family-sustaining independent refinery jobs at risk and adding up to 20 cents per gallon to the price of gasoline for consumers.

"A reasonable Set 2 rule is one that supports renewable fuel growth without undercutting the viability of U.S. refining," the refiners continued. **"The EPA must balance environmental goals with market realities and ensure that small and independent refiners are not regulated out of existence."**

In the letter, the refineries urge the EPA to include the following provisions in the Set 2 rule:

- **Set ethanol RVOs at 14.2 billion gallons** consistent with real-world market demand and infrastructure capacity, rather than enforcing an arbitrary 15-billion-gallon mandate.
- **Cap biomass-based diesel RVOs at actual 2024 domestic production** to support efficient use of advanced biofuels without overwhelming the market and inflating RIN prices.
- **Set cellulosic biofuel volumes at 75% of projected output** to avoid repeated administrative resets.
- **Rebuild the RIN credit bank** across all categories to improve market liquidity and reduce volatility.

The full letter is available [here](#).

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. #

#