



**For Immediate Release**

December 1, 2022

**FAJC Statement on EPA's Proposed Renewable Volume Obligation for 2023, 2024 and 2025**

*"Continued failure to reform the RFS will lead to even higher gas prices, more fuel shortages, and further loss of domestic refining capacity...President Biden must not allow America's energy independence to become a victim of the broken RFS."*

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Today, the Fueling American Jobs Coalition released the following statement after the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its proposed biofuel blending levels for 2023, 2024, and 2025 under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). EPA's proposal will continue placing a disproportionate burden on independent refiners that bear the brunt of the costs for the biofuel mandate's Renewable Identification Number (RIN) credits. Additionally, this proposal threatens to further diminish American refining capacity, which will contribute to even higher fuel prices, while heightening the potential for widespread gasoline and diesel shortages.

**"Today's proposed rule is deeply disappointing. American consumers are suffering from persistently high fuel prices and looming diesel shortages on top of other soaring inflationary pressures. Instead of fixing the Renewable Fuel Standard to help address these crises, the White House is raising already unsustainable renewable volume obligations under the RFS, setting goals that are impossible to achieve. Continued failure to reform the RFS will lead to even higher gas prices, more potential fuel shortages, and further loss of domestic refining capacity.**

**"EPA has failed to heed the many warnings issued by [organized labor groups, business leaders, and elected officials](#) about the broken biofuel mandate. A chorus of voices calling for RFS reform has repeatedly warned that independent refiners cannot continue to meet unreasonably high biofuel blending requirements by purchasing RINs credits, which have increased in price by more than 1200 percent since early 2020. These refiners have reported paying more for RINs than all of their other operational costs combined, including payroll, utilities, and maintenance. The broken RINs scheme is pushing independent refiners to the brink of closure, putting thousands of family-sustaining jobs and America's remaining domestic refining capacity in jeopardy.**

**"President Biden must not allow America's energy independence to become a victim of the broken RFS program. American consumers are counting on independent refiners to supply transportation fuel and home heating oil, and offset the costs of Putin's war against Ukraine. Yet, as it stands, EPA's proposed biofuel blending levels spell financial disaster for America's remaining independent refiners."**

The RFS functions as a hidden tax on domestic fuel supplies, adding an estimated [\\$30 billion](#) to fuel costs and [20 to 30 cents per gallon](#) to pump prices. While the RFS causes Americans to pay more for gasoline and diesel, the program's RINs credit compliance system has [enriched major retailers and multi-national oil conglomerates](#).

The RFS has also significantly contributed to the loss of domestic refining capacity. Over [300,000 barrels per](#)

[day](#) of domestic refining output have been eliminated, without being sufficiently replaced with new renewable fuels production, leading to [critical fuel shortages](#). In addition, 10 refineries have already closed since 2019 as a result of RFS compliance costs. This dramatic slash in production has driven consumer fuel prices [exponentially higher](#), threatening a persistent fuel supply crisis.

*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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