

Priority Issues

FOR ACE'S 2019 FLY-IN

E15 Year-Round

EPA is accepting comments through April 29 on a proposed rule to extend Reid vapor pressure (RVP) relief to E15 so retailers can offer the fuel option year-round. EPA is proposing to reform the way the Renewable Fuel Standard's (RFS) Renewable Identification Number (RIN) market works in the same rulemaking.

ACE wants a legally-defensible RVP rule for E15 (and all blends above E10) to be in place by the June 1st summer driving season but opposes many of EPA's RIN proposals because they would undermine ethanol demand.

Congress can help by pressing EPA to complete the E15 rulemaking by June 1st free of unnecessary RIN reforms which would dampen ethanol use.

Renewable Fuel Standard

EPA has waived RFS blending obligations for so-called small refineries totaling 2.61 billion gallons for the 2016 and 2017 compliance years and as of March 26, 2019, had nearly 40 Small Refinery Exemption (SRE) requests pending for 2018. Also, later this year, EPA is expected to propose a rule to "reset" RFS volumes for years 2020 through 2022.

Any benefit of selling E15 year-round will be wiped out until and unless EPA follows the rule of law regarding refinery waivers. That's why ACE has petitioned EPA to reallocate these blending obligations and joined litigation to reverse blanket SREs.

ACE is grateful to Members of Congress who have joined us to demand that EPA stop abusing the small refinery waivers. We ask for continued support to get the RFS back on track by following the rule of law.

Congress can also urge EPA to look at the reset as an opportunity to increase undifferentiated renewable fuel volume beyond 15 billion gallons for 2020 to 2022 by reallocating the 2.61 billion gallons waived so far for small refineries and restoring the 500 million gallons unlawfully waived in 2016.

Ethanol's Low Carbon, High Octane Benefits Can Help Reduce GHGs and Improve Fuel Economy

As climate change returns to the forefront Congressional action on climate could be viewed as a significant cost that will penalize farmers or a chance for new economic opportunities. ACE intends to engage in the discussion to emphasize the opportunities for low carbon renewable fuels.

Rural America is becoming increasingly aware of the role it can play in mitigating climate change but will need to see concrete benefits from policies that provide a return on investment. Leveraging the existing greenhouse gas (GHG) benefits of the Renewable Fuel Standard with new policies which make ethanol part of the solution to even greater climate improvements would be a win-win for the planet and rural America.

As Congress considers ways to tackle climate change and maintain improvements in fuel economy, ACE supports efforts which would 1) increase the role of renewable fuels in further reducing GHG emissions, and 2) promote fuel efficiency through a high octane fuel standard.