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To: Lt. Governor's OfficeLtGov@scstatehouse.gov

Date: 8/15/2018 10:37:26 AM

Subject: Reform the Renewable Fuel Standard, Protect Consumers

August 15, 2018

Reform the Renewable Fuel Standard, Protect Consumers

Dear Kevin,

The Environmental Protection Agency is taking comments on its next round of yearly ethanol requirements under [the Renewable Fuel Standard](#) (RFS), and policymakers should take the opportunity to take a stand for consumers.

Without serious reform, the RFS is a growing problem for drivers. Three out of four vehicles on the road today were not designed to run on fuel with more than 10 percent ethanol (E10). But if the [EPA](#) continues to follow [ethanol targets](#) set in 2007, increasing the amount of ethanol in the fuel supply each year regardless of market conditions, it may get harder for drivers to avoid E15.

Higher ethanol blends like E15 can damage engines and fuel systems, according to extensive testing, potentially exposing drivers to costly repair bills. A number of automakers have even said that [using E15 could void car warranties](#). Lawnmowers, boats, power equipment and motorcycles are most compatible with zero-ethanol fuel, and they're also at risk.

Increasing consumer costs and decreasing consumer choice – those are the risks presented by RFS mandates that have not been updated to reflect [current energy realities](#). By setting volume requirements that do not exceed 9.7 percent ethanol in the gasoline pool for 2019, the EPA can preserve access to popular E0 fuel and protect consumers from the risks of higher ethanol blends.

But action in Congress is the best long-term protection for consumers, and there is bipartisan support for RFS reform. [The RFS mandate is outdated and broken](#). It's up to Congress to fix it.

Sincerely,

Mike Sommers
President and CEO
API

Don't Let U.S. LNG Exports Become a Casualty of Tariff Policy

China was the third-largest importer of U.S. LNG in 2017, and tariff-related blows exchanged by our two countries could negatively impact U.S. energy exports. [Learn more about the tariff threat to U.S. jobs that rely directly and indirectly on the energy industry.](#)



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