

Congress of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20515

January 12, 2021

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We are alarmed by reports that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) may issue numerous pending 2019 small refinery exemptions (SREs) despite ongoing legal action and commitments from top EPA officials that this would not occur.¹ Granting any of these waiver requests will further devastate America's rural communities as they continue to struggle amidst a difficult economy.

These illegal small refinery exemptions are contrary to legislative intent and hurt our rural economies; they also impede the use of clean, renewable liquid fuel in the marketplace. This news arrives at the worst time possible as the biofuels industry continues to reel from the economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. These exemptions, coming on top of 85 waivers already granted by EPA over the past four years, would also cause immense and unnecessary strain to businesses that are desperately trying to keep workers on the payroll.

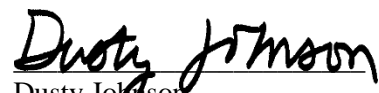
In September, EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler rightfully rejected dozens of spurious and illegal waiver requests from refiners. But now, with 66 more exemption requests pending, Administrator Wheeler's sudden reversal is a betrayal to Rural America and our local farmers who depend on stable ethanol and biodiesel markets for their corn and soybeans. This move also harms our essential infrastructure workers who provide fuel to keep our economy running, and our critical supply chains that rely on biofuel industry coproducts. All these benefits are at immediate risk if any 2019 waivers are granted.

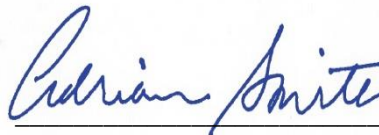
It would be inappropriate to grant any waiver petitions inconsistent with the law and the Tenth Circuit Court decision in *Renewable Fuels Association et al. v. EPA* until currently pending litigation on this issue has concluded. Therefore, we respectfully request that you direct EPA to immediately reject any pending waiver requests that do not meet the criteria established in Tenth Circuit Court's decision.

Sincerely,


Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

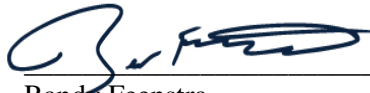

Angie Craig
Member of Congress


Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress

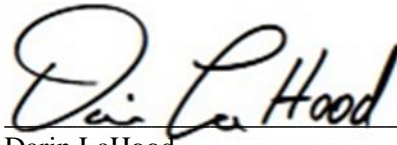

Adrian Smith
Member of Congress


Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

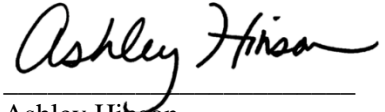
¹ Stephanie Kelly & Jarrett Renshaw. Reuters. "Exclusive: Trump administration expected to grant biofuel waivers for some oil refiners-sources." Jan. 11, 2021.



Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



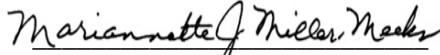
Darin LaHood
Member of Congress



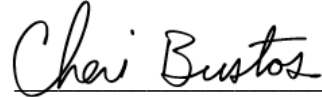
Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress



Mike Bost
Member of Congress



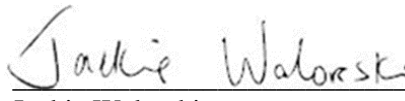
Mariannette Miller-Meeks
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



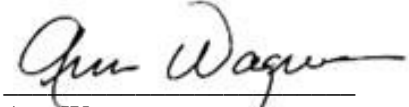
Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



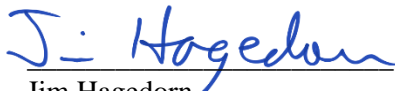
Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Don Bacon
Member of Congress



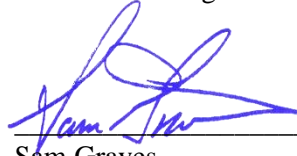
Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



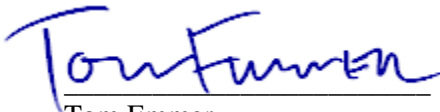
Jim Hagedorn
Member of Congress



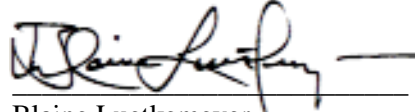
Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress