

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2019

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Wheeler:

The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is the only statutory federal program that specifically requires carbon dioxide reductions for mobile sources in the transportation sector. Unfortunately, delays in reviewing new RFS pathway petitions have inhibited the growth and development of the next generation of innovative transportation fuels.

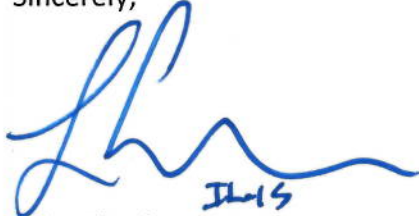
These delays are not limited to one type of fuel. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) website lists nearly two dozen pending petitions for renewable fuel pathways – including petitions for liquid fuels as well as renewable electricity – that remain under review. It's time for reviews of these innovative new fuels to be completed in order to allow approved pathways the market access that Congress intended them to have.

Our constituents include biomass, biogas and waste-to-energy electricity producers together with local governments and the thousands of workers involved in these industries throughout the entire supply chain. The renewable fuel production facilities they supply and operate are linchpins of local economies, creating value out of materials that would otherwise be discarded or sold below their full market value.

Farmers, truckers, local governments, landowners, loggers and forest owners rely on these facilities as part of their supply chains, revenue streams or municipal infrastructure. They provide a valuable service to our states and communities, yet many are experiencing challenging economics due to unnecessary barriers to market access and federal incentive programs that have too narrowly focused on other technologies.

We urge EPA to expeditiously review and approve worthy pending applications to produce RFS-qualified renewable fuels, permitting them to proceed to market. We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



John Shimkus
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
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Eric Swalwell
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Bruce Westerman
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Chris Pappas
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Paul Cook
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Tulsi Gabbard
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Angie Craig
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John R. Moolenaar
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Donald Payne Jr.
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Pete Stauber
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Ann McLane Kuster
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Lloyd Smucker
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Jim Costa
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Elissa Slotkin
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