

October 20, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to encourage your administration to look more closely at solutions offered by the U.S. biofuel industry to protect the economy from rising gas prices while reducing carbon emissions. Simply extracting more oil – or importing it from Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) – won't deliver the results you are seeking for consumers or the climate.

U.S. oil prices hit a seven-year high of nearly \$84 per barrel on October 18, driven by recovering global demand and tightening supplies. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), "Retail gasoline prices are mainly affected by crude oil prices and the level of gasoline supply relative to gasoline demand." Biofuels insulate consumers from volatile oil markets by extending the fuel supply, much like releasing oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, but with sustainable results.

Biofuels are a renewable and homegrown solution that drives rural economies, significantly reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and supports the middle class. For example, the biofuel industry has a higher share of union jobs than the U.S. private sector average and is more union dense than most other renewable energy sectors. In recent weeks, ethanol has sold for 25-30 cents per gallon less than gasoline at the wholesale level. And the U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, as well as a wide range of independent and academic research, has confirmed that biofuels deliver a 44-126% greenhouse gas emissions reduction relative to petroleum.

The U.S. biofuel industry is already one of the largest renewable energy sectors in the world. But we are being held back by inconsistent and delayed administration of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The Trump Administration failed to set blending targets for 2021, and as of today, we still do not have a proposal, much less a final rule, for either 2021 or 2022. In a fuel market that remains dominated by entrenched interests, inaction on the RFS keeps biofuels on the sidelines, undermining efforts to promote competitive prices at the fuel pump.

While every industry wants to be viewed as part of the climate solution, it is undeniable that our over-reliance on fossil fuels is at the heart of the problem. You can put American motorists first by aggressively pursuing your stated goal of "doubling down on the liquid fuels of the future which make agriculture a key part of the solution to climate change." On the cusp of COP-26, this is an opportunity to show that the United States is serious about embracing new, cleaner solutions to age-old challenges.

We look forward to meeting with you as soon as possible to discuss our recommendations in detail.

Sincerely,



cc: Secretary Granholm  
Secretary Vilsack  
Secretary Blinken  
Secretary Buttigieg  
Secretary Yellen  
National Economic Adviser Brian Deese  
Climate Envoy John Kerry  
National Climate Advisor Gina McCarthy  
National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan