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Advanced Biofuels USA Submits Comments to EPA's Proposed RFS Renewable Volume Obligation

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For Immediate Release January 20, 2014—Frederick, MD In regard to the determination of the Applicable Volume of ethanol and other biofuels allowed for Renewable Identification Number (RIN) credits in 2014, Advanced Biofuels USA finds that EPA has disregarded the intent of both the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA) that established the Renewable Fuel Standard program and has submitted comments that reflect that position in detail.

Advanced Biofuels USA's position is that while meeting the intent of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 would have required petroleum refineries to make financial decisions to either invest in R&D and/or infrastructure improvements that would have created new biofuel markets or to pay for RIN credits, EPA's RFS biofuel quantity decision has instead reduced the value of biofuel use that Congress had written into law as having virtually no monetary value.

This decision by EPA is not only in opposition to the intent of Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 but also to specific portions of the legislation and, perhaps more importantly, regulatory initiatives undertaken by EPA in response to Congressional mandates to increase ethanol consumption.

Some specific points made in these comments include:

1. The analysis of the annual rate of renewable fuel production (III) and the analysis of the renewable fuel delivery infrastructure (IV) while backed with sufficient data were misused in that they created a logical tautology in the overall renewable fuel volume analysis that would never allow for an increase in the use of additional biofuels in the United States.
2. Unless the positive Climate Change effects of increased advanced biofuel use are included in the determination of 2104 renewable fuel volume, these proposed EPA regulations appear to have disregarded, and may in fact be contrary to, a significant International Climate Change agreement.
3. Given that the US still relies on importing a large percentage of its oil and the high national security importance given to mitigating Climate Change and lowering petroleum imports, EPA's proposed 2014 renewable fuel volume also appears contrary to the best national energy security interests of the United States.

For complete comments, see <http://advancedbiofuelsusa.info/advanced-biofuels-usa-submits-comments-on-epas-rfs-rvo-proposed-rule>

Advanced Biofuels USA, a nonprofit educational organization advocates for the adoption of advanced biofuels as an energy security, military flexibility, economic development and climate change mitigation/pollution control solution. Our key tool for accomplishing this is our web site, www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org, a resource for everyone from opinion-leaders, decision-makers and legislators to industry professionals, investors, feedstock growers and researchers; as well as journalists, teachers and students.

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