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January 14, 2026

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

On October 29, 2025, the Attorneys General of Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota wrote to you along with Attorney General Bondi, Secretary Wright, and Chairman Atkins to raise concerns about the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) administration of Small Refinery Exemptions (SRE) under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

While SREs ought to be granted in very rare occasions of extreme hardship which few refineries may ever show, the EPA may grant SREs to refineries that produce no more than 75,000 barrels per day of average crude oil and which show "disproportionate economic hardship" in satisfying required volume obligations. The concerns raised by the Attorneys General included oil refineries artificially idling their plants to satisfy the 75,000 barrels per day requirement and refineries claiming disproportionate economic hardship to the EPA while simultaneously claiming exceptional financial performance to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and shareholders. Both issues go against the spirit of the RFS and undermine its integrity.

For 20 years the Renewable Fuel Standard has supported biofuels producers, farmers, and rural communities and its integrity is essential for sustaining that support. Please answer the following questions to reinforce the integrity of the RFS:

1. Have the Attorneys General received a response to their letter from the EPA?
2. Has the EPA or any other federal agency investigated the concerns expressed by the Attorneys General?
3. Will the EPA take the concerns of the Attorneys General into consideration in future rulemaking on the RFS including by cross-referencing filings with other federal agencies such as the SEC?

Committee Assignments:

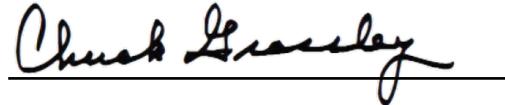
CHAIRMAN
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Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to receiving your timely response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Grassley", is written over a horizontal line.

Senator Charles E. Grassley

CC:

The Honorable Pamela Bondi, Attorney General of the United States

The Honorable Christopher Wright, Secretary of Energy

The Honorable Paul Atkins, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission