



STATE OF ARKANSAS
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS
GOVERNOR

October 9, 2023

Administrator Michael Regan
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: Insufficient Supply of Gasoline – Arkansas

Dear Administrator Regan,

I am writing to you today to encourage you to delay the repeal of the 1-psi Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) waiver for 10% volume ethanol blended gasoline ("E10") until April 2025.

The Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") Request From States for Removal of Gasoline Volatility Waiver, 88 FR 13758, (the "Proposed Rule") currently includes an effective date of April 2024 for repeal of the 1-psi RVP waiver for E10. Arkansas is not one of the eight states which petitioned the EPA to eliminate the waiver for E10 in the summer months. Your approval of such a significant fuel specification change would negatively impact gasoline supply throughout multiple states including Arkansas.

The Proposed Rule requires significant volumes of two new grades of gasoline not currently available. These boutique grades of gasoline are more expensive to produce and would disrupt pipeline efficiencies. Because a portion of the boutique grades of gasoline would originate on the Gulf Coast and be transported and stored in Oklahoma prior to final pipeline transportation into western and central Arkansas, the EPA's proposed action to eliminate the RVP waiver in April 2024 creates the need for refinery and other midstream investments which take a minimum of two years for completion. This will result in an insufficient supply of gasoline and add to the cost of gasoline at the pump for Arkansans.

Our national average gasoline price is at a 10-month high. Americans do not need to pay higher fuel prices associated with the EPA's rulemaking. I encourage the EPA to delay the elimination of the E10 RVP waiver until April 2025.

As Governor, I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor of Arkansas

CC:

Joe Goffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator

Paul Machiele, Fuels Center Program Director

Lester Wyborny, Engineering Specialist

Lauren Michaels, Attorney-Advisor, Office of Transportation and Air Quality

Neelesh Nerukar, Director, Deployment and Infrastructure Policy, U.S. Department of Energy