



## State of New Mexico

Susana Martinez  
*Governor*

May 6, 2014

Ms. Gina McCarthy, Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Ariel Rios Building, Room 300  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

I am writing to ask for your consideration in granting a partial waiver from the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) mandate. As you know, the nation is suffering from the effects of a severe, multiyear drought. This prolonged drought is having a direct impact on all sectors of the economy and is afflicting consumers through increased food prices. The impacts of drought will continue to impinge on the United States and New Mexico farmers and producers.

This year we are faced with another challenge created by RFS. While renewable fuel requirements are increasing annually, gasoline demand in the United States is steadily declining. This dynamic has created the E10 blend wall — the point at which more renewable fuel is required to be blended than can be safely consumed in the United States due to vehicle compatibility and fuel supply infrastructure limitations. The effects of the E10 blend wall could lead to a “regulatory shortage” of available gasoline in the United States.

I recognize that you have acknowledged the blend wall and exercised your authority in the proposed 2014 RFS volumes rule by waiving the volumes to just below 10 percent ethanol. I strongly encourage you to stay the course and remain steadfast in your resolve to avoid the blend wall and unnecessary economic harm as you finalize the 2014 RFS volumes.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "M".

Susana Martinez  
Governor