



701 8th Street, NW, Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20001

PHONE 202.545.4000 FAX 202.545.4001

GrowthEnergy.org

December 19, 2022
The Honorable Michael S. Regan
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

We write to request that you restore the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) long-standing tradition of holding public, in-person hearings to gather local input from the farmers, workers, and rural communities fueling the success of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Given the profound implications of this year's "Set" rulemaking, there has never been a more important time for EPA officials to hear directly from stakeholders in the Midwest who will be most directly impacted by the agency's decisions.

As you know, Growth Energy is the nation's largest association of biofuel producers, representing 90 U.S. plants, 106 affiliated businesses, and tens of thousands of farmers and biofuel supporters around the country. Our members [welcomed the December release](#) of EPA's proposal to keep renewable energy on an upward trajectory in 2023, 2024, and 2025. We are firmly committed to working with the agency to ensure the final rule delivers on the full promise of the RFS to shield motorists from volatile global oil prices, decarbonize the transportation sector, and drive continuous investment and innovation in rural America.

The last major in-person hearing on the nation's biofuel ambitions was held in Michigan on [July 31, 2019](#). We hope you will agree that the time has come to restore a prized opportunity for rural communities to share their views. The teleconference [now scheduled](#) for January 10, 2023 is an expedient option, but we cannot allow a temporary alternative to become a permanent habit. Simply put, there is no substitute for the perspective EPA can gain from visiting with local innovators in communities where renewable energy goes from farm field to fuel tank every day.

With that in mind, we request that you schedule an in-person, public hearing on EPA's proposal for the RFS – one that will take place in America's heartland, where EPA can hear firsthand from those delivering cleaner, more affordable options to U.S. consumers. As always, Growth Energy's [diverse membership](#) stands ready to help if we can be of any assistance in facilitating this irreplaceable opportunity for public input.

Sincerely,

Emily Skor
Growth Energy