

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 6, 2025

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

Dear Administrator Zeldin,

We are writing regarding the [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released on January 15, 2021, titled the “E15 Dispenser Labeling and Compatibility with Underground Storage Tanks.”

We maintain that E15 can and should be sold like any other gasoline product using existing fuel infrastructure—paired with a more consumer-friendly label that reflects its compatibility, instead of the current caution-heavy design. In the short term, we urge the EPA to finalize its 2021 proposed rulemaking by simplifying the E15 dispenser label and confirming the compatibility of E15 with existing underground storage and dispensing equipment. Finalizing this rule will help expand access to higher ethanol blends and remove unnecessary barriers at the pump.

The EPA has already approved E15 fuel for all light-duty vehicles model year 2001 and newer. That includes over 96 percent of the vehicles on the road today—or more than 245 million cars and trucks—accounting for 98 percent of all vehicle miles traveled.<sup>1</sup> To date, Americans have driven over 160 billion miles using E15, retailers have conducted millions of successful transactions, and consumers have consistently saved money at the pump by choosing this fuel.

E15 is no longer a “niche” product. Regulations surrounding its use should reflect both its safety and growing consumer acceptance. Unfortunately, the current E15 label discourages consumers from choosing the more affordable, cleaner option—despite overwhelming evidence that fears around misfueling have proven to be unfounded. We strongly recommend that the EPA simplify the E15 label as proposed in the rulemaking to better support consumer adoption in the marketplace.

In addition, research shows that underground storage tanks (USTs) compatible with E10 are also compatible with E15 blends. All steel and double-walled fiberglass tanks—as well as tanks with secondary containment—are approved for up to 100 percent ethanol.<sup>2</sup> The EPA’s own findings in the proposed rule support this, and we encourage the agency to finalize these provisions to confirm compatibility of E15 with existing infrastructure.

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<sup>1</sup> [Analysis-of-Ethanol-Compatible-Fleet-for-Calendar-Year-2022-16Nov21.pdf](#)


<sup>2</sup> [https://afdc.energy.gov/files/u/publication/e15\\_infrastructure.pdf](https://afdc.energy.gov/files/u/publication/e15_infrastructure.pdf)

Lastly, we recognize that updating fuel dispensing and storage equipment is not a simple or inexpensive task. This is why finalizing this rule is so important—ensuring access to cleaner, lower-cost fuel through existing infrastructure is both practical and fiscally responsible. This action will help consumers save on every fill-up and will spare retailers the cost of unnecessary equipment upgrades. Just last summer, drivers saved 10 to 30 cents per gallon by filling up with E15 compared to regular E10 fuel. In some areas, E15 saved drivers as much as a dollar per gallon at the pump.

We appreciate the Trump administration's continued support for the ethanol industry and rural America. Expanding access to E15 at the pump will increase demand for U.S.-grown corn, strengthen farms across the country, and drive domestic ethanol production—reinforcing the foundation of the American farm economy.


Thank you for your time and continued work on this important issue. We look forward to your response and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,




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Joni K. Ernst  
United States Senator



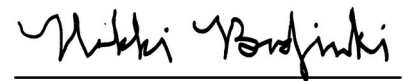
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Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator




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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senator

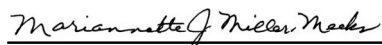


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