

June 24, 2025

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

While the Iran-Israel ceasefire agreement you brokered appears to be easing tensions in the Middle East, Iran's ongoing threat to block the Strait of Hormuz—a vital shipping route for crude oil—continues to create uncertainty in the world fuel market. Analysts warn that if oil shipments are blocked from passing through the strait, U.S. gas prices could surge by 75 cents per gallon or more—just as a record number of Americans prepare to hit the road for Independence Day vacations.¹

Under your leadership, the United States is making great strides toward energy independence and self-sufficiency. America is producing record amounts of energy and lessening its reliance on foreign suppliers. However, as we've seen in recent days, petroleum markets remain global in scope, and major supply chain disruptions halfway around the world can still affect fuel prices for consumers here in America.

The surest way to avoid price spikes at U.S. gas stations is to swiftly increase and diversify the supply of fuel available to the domestic marketplace. **Specifically, opening the market more broadly to the increased use of American-made ethanol can help contain potential price spikes at the pump.** Adding low-cost ethanol to gasoline is a proven solution for reducing fuel prices and helping to insulate the U.S. market from global supply shocks.

Ethanol helps reduce prices at the pump in two ways. First, it expands the overall domestic supply, putting downward pressure on aggregate fuel prices and reducing the need for imports. Second, ethanol costs less than gasoline. Currently, ethanol is priced 65 cents per gallon lower than gasoline at fuel blending facilities, and gasoline containing 15 percent ethanol (E15) generally sells for 10 to 25 cents per gallon less than standard gasoline blended with 10 percent ethanol (E10). Despite these cost-saving benefits, regulatory complexities and unnecessary restrictions have limited E15's availability to only 3 percent of U.S. retail fueling stations.

Today, the United States has a seasonal record volume of ethanol sitting in storage. More than 24 million barrels of surplus ethanol—roughly twice the amount of crude oil imported from the Persian Gulf each month—are being stored at locations across the country. In addition, the U.S. ethanol industry has 130,000 barrels per day of idled production capacity that could quickly be brought back

¹ Fox Business News. [“How US strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities could affect gas prices.”](#) June 23, 2025. (“If oil exports through the strait are affected, oil prices could easily hit \$100 a barrel, according to Lipow. That would raise gasoline prices by about 75 cents per gallon from recent levels.”)

into service. Meanwhile, ample domestic grain supplies are available to support expanded ethanol production, and farmers are projected to harvest a record-large corn crop this fall.

Unfortunately, however, outdated regulatory barriers are blocking larger volumes of ethanol and fuel blends like E15 from reaching the marketplace. Unwarranted regulatory burdens are preventing American consumers from enjoying the full cost-cutting benefits of ethanol. **With your leadership, these barriers can be swiftly removed.**

We are extremely grateful that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has already taken emergency action to allow continued sales of E15 through the summer months, consistent with your Day One executive order “Declaring a National Energy Emergency.” However, confusing and restrictive E15 infrastructure regulations remain in place, leading many U.S. retail station operators to mistakenly believe they must upgrade or replace their existing fuel dispensers, storage tanks, or other equipment before they can offer E15. This hesitancy to offer E15 persists despite a substantial body of research demonstrating that the vast majority of existing equipment in the market today is fully compatible with E15.² In fact, Underwriters Laboratory concluded more than 15 years ago that most fuel dispensers already in use are suitable for E15.³

Moreover, the real-world experience with E15 over the past 13 years has shown that early concerns about possible misfueling or equipment issues were grossly overblown. Since 2012, more than 5.5 billion gallons of E15 have been sold and American drivers have logged more than 125 billion miles using the fuel—all without a single documented case of misfueling, equipment failure, or vehicle performance issues.⁴

Last year, you confirmed that your vision is to **let fueling stations “use the existing pumps” to distribute E15.**⁵ We wholeheartedly support that vision and believe now is the time to act, given the potential for price spikes at the pump. The following deregulatory steps by the EPA would help ensure that lower-cost E15 may be stored and distributed in the same equipment that today stores and distributes E10.

- Immediately eliminate all E15 Misfueling Mitigation Plan requirements.⁶ In lieu of the Misfueling Mitigation Plan, adopt a simple requirement that retail gasoline stations offering E15 for sale must also continue to make E0 or E10 available in at least one clearly-marked dispenser at the station.
- Establish a presumption of E15 compatibility for all fuel dispensers, underground storage tank (UST) systems (including piping and all other underground components), and “hanging hardware” (e.g., hoses and nozzles) installed after 1998. Given the overwhelming body of evidence demonstrating the full E15 compatibility of this equipment, these systems should be

² See, for example, K. Moriarty and J. Yanowitz (National Renewable Energy Laboratory). “[E15 and Infrastructure.](#)” (May 2015)

³ Convenience Store News. “[Underwriters Laboratory Allows E15 in Fuel Pumps.](#)” (Feb. 24, 2009)

⁴ S. Richman. “[E15 Sales Set a New Record in 2024, and There’s Reason for Optimism about the Future.](#)” (April 4, 2025).

⁵ American Farm Bureau Federation. “[Presidential Candidate Questionnaire.](#)” (Fall 2024). (“I issued a rule declaring that E15 would be made available all year round. In addition, I dramatically increased the number of fueling stations where E15 could be sold across the country, by letting them use the existing pumps.”)

⁶ U.S. EPA. “[Documents Related to E15 Misfueling Mitigation Plans.](#)”

deemed compliant with all applicable infrastructure compatibility regulations and requirements.

- Continue issuing emergency fuel waivers through September 15, 2025, allowing E15 to utilize the same 1-psi Reid vapor pressure (RVP) volatility tolerance that is offered to E10.
- Provide a safe harbor provision absolving retailers (who act in good faith and follow EPA guidelines) of any liability related to extremely unlikely incidents involving accidental misfueling or equipment failure. While there have been no documented cases of E15 causing or contributing to equipment failures, leaks, or other issues, a safe harbor will provide retailers with the assurance they need to quickly begin offering E15 in existing equipment.
- Provide technical assistance for state and local authorities having jurisdiction to quickly adopt or codify changes that allow E15 to be distributed in existing infrastructure, if required by state or local code.

Mr. President, now is the time to unleash American-made E15. The most effective way to prevent sudden increases in gas prices across the U.S. is by expanding and diversifying the domestic fuel supply, including ethanol made from our nation's farm fields. Knocking down regulatory barriers and allowing E15 to be stored and distributed in existing infrastructure will lower fuel costs for Americans and strengthen the market's resilience against global supply disruptions. Thank you for your continuing efforts to put America First and prioritize domestic energy resources.

Sincerely,



Geoff Cooper
President and CEO

cc:

The Honorable Susan Wiles
White House Chief of Staff

The Honorable Lee Zeldin
Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy