

FROM Farm TO Tank

NEWSLETTER

Thumb Premium Biodiesel

EPA Decision Regarding RFS2

Agricultural & Biofuels Communities Relieved

The biofuel and agricultural industries were shocked when the EPA released a Notice of Data Availability (NODA) for comments regarding potential reductions in renewable fuel volume requirements in 2018 and 2019, despite Trump's strong support for biofuels.

Biofuels create more demand for agricultural products such as soybeans and corn, and reductions in biofuels will have a negative effect on commodity prices for American farmers.

"This is a serious issue for Iowa and U.S. agriculture at a time when the farm economy is already enduring a downturn," said Grant Kimberley, executive director of the Iowa Biodiesel Board, and Iowa Soybean Association's director of market development. "We already have excess feedstock capacity due to a surplus of corn and soybeans on the market, which has lowered commodity prices. We do not believe this is what President Trump wants for rural communities."

Thirty-eight senators from major farm states, led by Chuck Grassley (R-IA), signed a bipartisan letter to EPA administrator Scott Pruitt to urge him to not reduce renewable volume requirements for 2018 and 2019.

On October 20th, 2017, EPA Administrator Pruitt announced he will not pursue reducing renewable volume obligations for biodiesel and ethanol.

"We are going to continue to work closely with the EPA ...to help them understand that a robust biodiesel industry is what the law requires,"

— Doug Whitehead

While this is a welcoming sign from the new EPA administration, work still needs to be done to ensure steady growth in domestic biofuel production and support American farms.

"We are going to continue to work closely with the EPA and the White House to help them understand that a robust biodiesel industry is what the law requires," said Doug Whitehead, chief operating officer at the National Biodiesel Board (NBB).

Biodiesel is America's first EPA-designated Advanced Biofuel supporting over 62,000 jobs. It is a cleaner burning fuel that uses domestic agricultural feedstocks, raises American farm revenues, meets strict ASTM standards, and is made right here in the USA.

BioDiesel Performs in the Cold

Winter is No Match for Harvard's Biodiesel Fleet

During the winter of 2014-2015, the National Weather Service reported that Boston's Logan Airport received 108.6 inches of snow, making it the all-time snowiest season for the city. Through it all, Harvard University's biodiesel – powered fleet didn't miss a beat.

David E. Harris Jr., Harvard's Director Transit and Fleet Management, reports they had no problems even on the most frigid days. "After the snowiest and coldest winter since we started using biodiesel 11 years ago, we were up and running providing transit service and keeping campus operations running smoothly," Harris said. "Biodiesel is the fuel that helped us do that."

Harvard's diesel fleet includes about 75 service vehicles including shuttle buses, solid waste and recycling trucks, mail delivery vehicles and more. The university also uses biodiesel in about 25 pieces of off-road maintenance equipment. All of this adds up to Harvard using approximately 2,000 gallons of B20 per week, for a total of more than 100,000 gallons a year!

Harris, who volunteers as a Biodiesel Ambassador, knows that like regular diesel fuel, biodiesel can gel in very cold temperatures. He emphasizes that ensuring good quality is priority one, and adds that the precautions that he takes with biodiesel in cold weather are good practice with regular diesel fuel as well. All it takes is a few simple steps to ensure that vehicles and equipment operate trouble-free during the harshest winter weather.

Continuing a Pioneer's Dream From LANCASTER FARMING | September 19, 2017

There are many reasons to celebrate America's advanced biofuel. Rudolf Diesel, the inventor of the diesel engine, was a true pioneer. When he developed the first diesel engine, it ran on a biofuel, peanut oil. In fact, he envisioned a time when vegetable oils would one day be as important as petroleum among transportation fuels.

"I can't imagine what Rudolf Diesel would think if he saw how his vision has come to fruition in today's commercial biodiesel industry, a more than 2 billion gallon U.S. market," said National Biodiesel Board Chairman Ron Marr. "It is here, now, cutting carbon emissions, supporting domestic green energy jobs, and benefiting consumers from coast to coast."

Find & call a supplier near you!

Blend	Phone	Address	Retail Gas Station
B10	(810) 688-3575	6696 Beech St, North Branch	Harmon Oil
B5	(989) 453-4500	7211 E Michigan St, Pigeon	Cooperative Elevator
B5	(989) 864-3391	4644 Ruth Rd, Ruth	Cooperative Elevator
B10/B20	(810) 724-6425	5923 Imlay City Rd, Imlay City	Al Parsch Oil and Propane
B20	(989) 635-7844	5567 Trembley St, Decker	Phillips Oil Company
B5	(810) 648-4343	473 W Sanilac Rd, Sandusky	Marathon Sandusky

Company	Address	Phone
Cooperative Elevator	7211 E Michigan St, Pigeon	(989) 453-4500
Harmon Oil	6696 Beech St, North Branch	(810) 688-3575
Fairgrove Oil and Propane	1788 Main St, Fairgrove	(989) 693-6600
Phillips Oil Company	5567 Trembley St, Decker	(989) 635-7844
Corrigan Oil	775 N. Second St, Brighton	(810) 229-6323
Al Parsch Oil and Propane	5923 Imlay City Rd, Imlay City	(810) 724-6425
Michigan Petroleum Technologies	3030 Moak St, Port Huron	(810) 982-2811
Cass City Oil and Gas	6407 Main St, Cass City	(989) 872-2065
Marlette Oil and Gas	2875 Main St, Marlette	(989) 635-7559

RETAIL FUEL STATIONS

BULK FUEL SUPPLIERS

Here is a list of providers that can supply you with a blend of Thumb Premium Biodiesel:



Look for this label when filling up:

Thumb Premium Biodiesel.... Ask for it!

Biodiesel Myth Busting: The Cold Truth

As we approach the winter months, there are many myths surrounding the use of biodiesel in cold temperatures.

Here are three top myths that need to be busted.

Myth: Even low biodiesel blends, like 5 percent, lead to winter operability problems.

– Fact: Biodiesel blends of B5 and lower are physically similar and perform the same as petroleum diesel fuel. *Tip: Use the same winterizing strategy with biodiesel blends of B5 or lower as No 2 diesel fuel.*

Myth: Biodiesel causes diesel to look milky and thicken during freezing cold temperatures.

– Fact: Paraffin Wax is a naturally occurring material in petroleum diesel fuel. The “cloud point” of diesel refers to the temperature when the first paraffin wax crystals appear, diesel thickens.

– Fact: Wax Anti-Settling Agent additives are used. This keeps paraffin suspended in the fuel rather than collecting at the bottom of the tank, which can cause filter plugging.

Myth: Biodiesel causes filter plugging in cold temperatures.

– Fact: Diesel fuel requires special handling in cold weather. There are many factors that cause filter plugging during winter:

- The colder the temperatures, the thicker diesel fuel gets.
Tip: Install a new fuel filter going into winter.
- Typical Minnesota diesel has a cloud point of 0°F to 10°F.
Tip: Fuel additives must be added when the fuel temperature is at least 10 degrees above its cloud point to work.

Farmers & Agri Business Benefits
Find out how Biodiesel can work for you:
– Cleaner Burning
– Reliable
– Local Energy
– Support your own resources!



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