

August 25, 2010

Senator Barbara Boxer
Chairman
Senate Committee on Environment & Public
Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6175

Senator James Inhofe
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Environment & Public
Works
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6175

**Re: “Mid-Level” Ethanol Issue Deserves Additional Oversight as EPA Moves Toward
its Waiver Decision**

Dear Chairman Boxer and Ranking Member Inhofe:

The undersigned organizations would like to encourage you to consider holding a Committee hearing in September on EPA’s “mid-level” (E15) ethanol blend analysis and waiver decision. As you know, EPA has indicated that it should make a decision on granting a waiver for E15 by the end of September, and we believe that many important questions remain before EPA can make this decision. For example, EPA has not released information about the mid-level blend’s impact on different types of road and non-road engines, nor has it released information about how it will prevent harm to consumers from “misfueling” their engines with the incorrect blend.

We believe there are many questions remaining before EPA makes its final decision on the mid-level ethanol fuel waiver, and that the Environment and Public Works Committee is the ideal place to ask those questions. We also believe that the Department of Energy should **fully** expand and accelerate mid-level ethanol blends research in the areas that are necessary to protect consumers. For these reasons, we urge you to hold a hearing with EPA, DOE and other witnesses on the mid-level ethanol testing and waiver.

Sincerely yours,

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
American Meat Institute
American Petroleum Institute
American Sportfishing Association
Association of International Automobile Manufacturers
Association of Marina Industries
Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society/ESPN Outdoors
Blue Ribbon Coalition
Boat Owners Association of the United States (BoatU.S.)
Center for Coastal Conservation

Coastal Conservation Center
Engine Manufacturers Association
Environmental Working Group
Forest Resources Association
Friends of the Earth
Grocery Manufacturers Association
International Liquid Terminals Association
International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association
Marine Retailers Association of America
Motorcycle Industry Council
National Boating Federation
National Chicken Council
National Marine Distributors Association
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Meat Association
National Petrochemical and Refiners Association
National Turkey Federation
NATSO – National Association of Truck Stop Operators
Natural Resources Defense Council
Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association
Outdoor Power Equipment Institute
Personal Watercraft Industry Association
Petroleum Marketers Association of America
Sail America
Service Station Dealers of America & Allied Trades
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
Southern Environmental Law Center
Specialty Equipment Market Association
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America

cc: Members of Senate Environment and Public Works Committee