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To Group A-AND-R-DOCKET@EPA  
cc  
bcc

Subject Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2008-0380

Dear Administrator Johnson,

I strongly believe that is more important to have available food for the next 100+ years than to use our resources to make fuel. There are many alternatives for transportation that should be explored, ie. electric and/or battery powered cars.

Please approve Governor Rick Perry's request for a waiver of 50 percent of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) mandate for ethanol produced from grain. Granting this waiver is the first step in providing consumers like me much needed relief from inflated prices at the grocery store.

Since their implementation, RFS mandates have had unintentional and dire consequences on food prices in the United States. Prices for staples, such as bread, milk, eggs and flour, are rising sharply, increasing at double-digit rates. Over the past year, retail prices for milk have increased 13.5% and egg prices jumped 22%. Although the public tends to focus on inflated gasoline prices, food accounts for about 13% of household spending, while gas only accounts for roughly 4%. American families feel the effects of these soaring costs at grocery stores and restaurants, just as we do at the pump, and it is vitally important that the federal government address this issue immediately.

Ethanol mandates need to be reassessed in light of their direct impact on staple foods that American consumers rely on daily. I urge you to take action to stop rising food prices created by demands for grain-derived ethanol by approving Governor Perry's waiver request.

Sincerely,  
Emma Petty  
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