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06/16/2008 05:20 AM

To Group A-AND-R-DOCKET@EPA

cc

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

Dear Administrator Johnson,

The U.S. ethanol policy needs to change before it causes further damage to our economy. Please approve Governor Rick Perry's request for a waiver of 50% of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) mandate for grain-based ethanol.

Corn-based ethanol has unintended negative consequences for the environment and water conservation. A typical ethanol factory that produces 50 million gallons of biofuels a year will need about 500 gallons of water a minute. This places an incredible strain on our natural resources and raises serious questions about ethanol's sustainability.

Though ethanol has many negative effects, food prices have the most direct impact on Americans. Some estimate that increased biofuel demand accounts for 39% of the increase in corn prices, 21% of the increase in rice prices and 22% of the increase in wheat prices.

Please do not ignore the negative implications of ethanol mandates and grant Governor Perry's waiver request today.

Sincerely,
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