

## VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

June 21, 2022

Michael W. Regan, Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

As Governor of the State of Wisconsin, I am writing to request the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant a temporary waiver for fuel blending requirements relating to the sale of reformulated gasoline (RFG) in specific nonattainment areas in Wisconsin, including Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, Waukesha counties, effective through December 31, 2022. In periods of "extreme and unusual fuel supply circumstances" as defined in 42 U.S. Code § 7545(c)(4)(C)(ii)(I), the EPA has the authority to issue a temporary waiver of specific fuel blending requirements, including the sale of RFG. Increased instability in the fuel market caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine has created an extreme and unusual fuel supply circumstance that threatens Wisconsin residents' ability to work and travel. This same fuel supply circumstance is cited by the EPA as the determining factor in recently granting multiple E15 Reid Vapor Pressure Fuel <u>waivers</u> enabling the summertime sale of E15 fuel. As such, I believe it is in the public interest for EPA to grant this additional waiver.

Wisconsinites are seeing rising fuel prices across the state. However, the highest prices are found in the southeast corner of the state where the sale of RFG is required. Between August 2, 2021, and June 13, 2022, regular grade RFG cost an additional \$0.315 per gallon compared to regular grade non-RFG<sup>1</sup>. Rising fuel prices, a result of geopolitical circumstances completely out of the control of the state of Wisconsin, are hitting Wisconsinite's pocketbooks at a time of severe inflation further compounding the impact on consumers. Temporarily waiving the requirement to sell RFG in Wisconsin's southeast region will have a direct and significant impact on the daily lives of Wisconsinites.

EPA granting a temporary waiver of the RFG requirement in southeast Wisconsin will help Wisconsinites work and travel as needed this summer despite the unpredictability of the fuel market. As you've demonstrated by your recent granting of multiple waivers enabling the summertime sale of E15 fuel, the current geopolitical uncertainties require an immediate response to ease the impact on fuel consumers. Thank you for your expedited consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

Tony Evers

Tony Evers Governor

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Utilizing U.S. Energy Information Administration data for PADD2, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.