## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 14, 2009

The Honorable Lisa Jackson Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

We would like to thank you for your continued efforts to improve the quality of fuels, and to help realize our nation's goal of energy independence. While we are pleased with the substantial amount of progress towards these goals, we are concerned with your recent decision to delay increasing the ethanol blend wall from 10 percent to 15 percent. This delay may inhibit the agency's ability to accomplish the aforementioned efforts.

To date, there has been no evidence to demonstrate that the switch to the E15 blend will cause damage to vehicles, regardless of the vintage. Further, changing to a higher-level ethanol blend has the potential to create an additional 136,000 U.S. jobs while also cutting greenhouse gases. Given the current economic situation, the movement towards E15 would duly accomplish creating much-needed jobs for struggling Americans while paving the way for a cleaner environment for future generations.

While we understand and appreciate your past due diligence in further studying the effects that a higher blend wall might have on vehicles and the associated fuel infrastructure, we urge you to render your final decision on increasing the ethanol blend wall in the quickest fashion possible. Your willingness to prepare our nation's infrastructure for the blend wall increase thus far has been very encouraging. Our nation stands to benefit greatly pending your approval. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Aaron Schock

Member of Congress

Debbie Halvorson Member of Congress Tim Johnson Member of Congress

John Shimkus Member of Congress

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Phil Hare

Member of Congress

Bill Foster

Member of Congress

Member of Congress