

January 23, 2020

Konrad Crockford
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408
Bismarck, North Dakota, 58505

Sent via e-mail: kcrockford@nd.gov

Dear Mr. Crockford,

The North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association wants to make you aware of its opposition to the FAL 20.2 and FAL 20.3 proposals, which have been submitted for consideration to the National Conference on Weights and Measures.

The Ethanol Producers Association represents the five ethanol plants in North Dakota, which collectively process nearly 200 million bushels of corn into 523 million gallons of ethanol annually. The Association is commenting on behalf of its facilities and dozens of other businesses and hundreds of employees that help operate the ethanol industry in North Dakota. The state's ethanol industry has a \$623 million annual direct economic impact and processes nearly half of the state's average corn crop. Our organization and members are extending significant resources to maintain and expand ethanol market share in the United States.

Ethanol is a high quality, consistent component in gasoline that must adhere to strict fuel quality specifications. At a time of significant motor fuel consumption, nearly every gallon of gasoline in the United States contains ten percent ethanol, and 15 percent ethanol blends are gaining market share. Consumers have now driven more than 8 billion miles on 15 percent ethanol blends and retailers have conducted millions of transactions.

The FAL 20.2 and FAL 20.3 proposals create dual regulatory authority for federal regulation, placing additional burden on state government with no technical justification. We prefer that state level officials focus on the business of the state and not duplicate the efforts of federal agencies. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency already has a robust compliance program and misfuelling mitigation in place for E15 (15 percent ethanol) including a required sampling program that ensures proper blending and labeling. The FAL 20.2 and FAL 20.3 proposals are duplicative and unnecessary.

We feel these proposals have no merit and urge you to oppose them by identifying these items as recommended to be "withdrawn" from consideration at the National Conference of Weights and Measures Interim Meeting scheduled for the week of January 27, 2020 in Riverside, CA.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact us with comments or questions.

Sincerely,



Lance D. Gaebe
Executive Director

cc: Craig Van Buren, Chair, National Conference on Weights and Measures
via email: vanburenc9@michigan.gov

Don Onwiler, Executive Director, National Conference on Weights and Measures
via email: don.onwiler@ncwm.com