



National
Corn Growers

Association
www.ncga.com

April 17, 2009

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I am writing on behalf of the more than 35,000 members of the National Corn Growers Association regarding the pending notice seeking public comments on the application to increase the amount of ethanol that can be blended into gasoline.

Across the nation, our members are beginning one of the busiest times of the year – planting season. On my farm and those of my fellow corn growers, we will be working from well before sunup to well beyond sundown. The fact that much of the Corn Belt has experienced cooler than normal weather has already delayed our ability to get in the fields. This will make our planting season all the more intense.

The issue of higher blend rates is one of great importance to our industry. The need to increase blend rates is clear and urgent. Furthermore, the ethanol industry's future is tied to the outcome of this issue. Therefore, due to the importance of this issue to America's farmers and due to the pressing need to get our crops in the ground, I ask that you extend the time for comments from 30 to 90 days. This will allow our growers to be full participants in this important public policy process.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter of mutual interest.

Sincerely,

Bob Dickey
President