The Honorable Sonny Perdue  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250  

January 30, 2020

Dear Secretary Perdue,

Thank you for your support of the biofuels industry and your continued efforts to expand the availability of domestic ethanol and biodiesel. As you work to build on the successes of the 2015 Biofuels Infrastructure Partnership (BIP) through the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) we support all efforts to increase the demand for biofuels in the domestic market and abroad.

The 2015 BIP provided states with nearly $100 million in federal funding for new infrastructure with the purpose of increasing the availability of biofuels for consumers. Unfortunately, since that time, the biofuels market has seen diminished demand for approximately 4 billion gallons of biofuels due to the number of small refinery exemptions the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has granted. We continue to push for proactive approaches to help rebuild this devastated industry, and practical solutions offered through the HBIIP are a step in the right direction.

Building on the May 2019 announcement to allow for the year-round sales of E-15, increased investments in infrastructure through the HBIIP will help rebuild markets and increase biofuel consumption by allowing large quantities of higher ethanol blends to be sold. We believe that increased investments in infrastructure will serve to help stabilize demand and bolster producer’s ability to sell into the market while expanding domestic energy production.

As you move to establish this program, we encourage you to take steps to remove barriers that limit the nationwide expansion of biofuels, reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens, and encourage market participation from producers of all sizes. Additionally, we support efforts that would create clear and consistent labeling of higher biofuel blends, including E-15 and B-20 or higher, that are easy to understand for both retailers and consumers and would encourage the sale and proper use of biofuels.

Given the challenges facing our farmers from all sides on this issue, we appreciate your continued efforts to encourage increased sales and use of ethanol and biodiesel. Thank you for your work to make good on the promises that were made to our farmers and your commitment to rural America.

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress

Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

Roger Marshall, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack  
Member of Congress
Sam Graves  
Member of Congress

Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

Abby Finkenauer  
Member of Congress

Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress

Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress

James R. Baird  
Member of Congress

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress

Dusty Johnson  
Member of Congress

Jeff Fortenberry  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress

Robin Kelly  
Member of Congress

Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress

Steve King  
Member of Congress
Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress

Don Bacon  
Member of Congress

Ron Estes  
Member of Congress

James Comer  
Member of Congress

Jim Hagedorn  
Member of Congress

Steve Watkins  
Member of Congress