

## **National Association of Conservation Districts**

January 27, 2014

The Honorable Gina McCarthy EPA Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20460

Re: 2014 Standards for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

On behalf of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments in reference to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed rule for the 2014 Standards for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program.

NACD represents America's 3,000 locally led conservation districts working with millions of cooperating landowners and operators to help them manage and protect land and water resources on private and public lands in the United States. Established under state law, conservation districts share a single mission: to work cooperatively with federal, state and other local resource management agencies, and private sector interest to provide technical, financial, and other assistance to help landowners and operators apply conservation to the landscape.

NACD strongly encourages EPA to revisit its proposed rule for the 2014 RFS. Conservation districts support the use of EPA-approved green energy which reduces carbon emissions by at least 50%. Therefore, NACD supports the development and use of all renewable fuels. We are concerned that the proposed reduction in the RFS would have negative impacts, including increased carbon emissions and loss of jobs in the renewable fuels industry. The adoption of this rule would be a step back in our ongoing conservation and environmental efforts across the nation.

Thank you for your consideration of our position on this issue as it pertains to conservation in our nation.

Sincerely,

John Larson, CEO