

Office of Governor Tim Walz & Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan
130 State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

November 30, 2022

Dear Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan,

We, the undersigned, submit this letter urging the Walz Administration to bring forward and support clean fuel standard legislation in the 2023 Minnesota legislative session, following the recommendations laid out in the Minnesota [Climate Action Framework](#) and the [Governor's Council on Biofuels report](#). This policy has been supported by the Minnesota Future Fuels Coalition, a broad coalition of stakeholders working together to develop and implement a clean fuels policy tailored to Minnesota. The coalition is facilitated by the Great Plains Institute, and members include renewable fuel producers and marketers, electric utilities, environmental nonprofits, auto manufacturers, and agriculture and industry groups.

Minnesota is behind schedule in achieving the greenhouse gas reduction goals established through the bipartisan Next Generation Energy Act of 2007, particularly in the highest-emitting sector: transportation. We believe that a clean fuels policy can help get Minnesota back on track, paving a new path for an all-of-the-above strategy to decarbonize transportation fuels.

Implementing a clean fuel standard would ensure that Minnesota remains in a leadership position with respect to clean fuels innovation in the Midwest, building on past successes. It would also lead to net-positive and equitable economic impacts for the state through increased investment in a broad portfolio of cleaner fuels. An [economic modeling analysis](#) found that a clean fuels policy in Minnesota and Iowa would result in economic benefits to households while creating additional labor income, employment, and economic output. Another [recent study](#) found that an existing clean fuels policy has not impacted retail prices.

In addition to those outlined above, we believe that a clean fuels policy designed based on recommendations in the white paper "[A Clean Fuels Policy for the Midwest](#)" can have many benefits for Minnesota, including:

- Benefits for consumers through market access for clean fuels that are often lower cost than conventional fuels and currently face barriers to entry in the marketplace.
- Equitable access to clean transportation for all Minnesota communities.
- Increased investment in cleaner fuels for all types of vehicles and a more innovative and prosperous clean fuels sector spurring consumer demand for cleaner products.
- A technology- and fuel-neutral, performance-based approach that rewards the cleanest fuels and expands the fuel market without having government pick winners and losers.
- Reductions in air pollution and associated health benefits, particularly in areas that have been disproportionately impacted by transportation pollution.
- Economic incentives and market demand to maximize the resource value of organic waste (including manure, biosolids, and food waste), reducing the climate impacts of organic waste, and supporting counties' efforts to achieve state recycling goals.
- Increased energy independence by relying less on imported resources and more on state resources.
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions in the two highest-emitting sectors of transportation and electricity, as well as in the agricultural sector.

- The potential to support voluntary farmer-led efforts to invest in and adopt agricultural conservation practices that benefit soil health and water quality and reduce farm-level greenhouse gas emissions.

The organizations listed below represent a wide, but not exclusive, list of stakeholders deeply invested in reducing emissions from transportation fuels, including automakers, environmental groups, utilities, science-based organizations, renewable fuel producers, technology companies, electric vehicle charging companies, non-profit clean energy organizations, counties, and more.

We have a unique opportunity to act now given political momentum in Minnesota and federal investments in clean fuels which will complement the benefits of state action. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in an open dialogue with you and your staff to further discuss how your administration can act on this matter of mutual interest, and how a clean fuels standard could be designed to meet the objectives of stakeholders in Minnesota. We stand ready to support Governor Walz in policy design, adoption, and implementation.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Automotive Innovation
American Coalition for Ethanol
Amp Americas
BP
ChargePoint
Christianson, PLLP
Clean Energy Economy Minnesota
Clean Energy Fuels
ClearFlame
Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas
Comstock, Inc.
Conservation Minnesota
Delta
Dovetail Partners
Electrification Coalition
Electrify America
Fresh Energy
General Motors
Gevo
Koda Energy
NGVAmerica
Oberon Fuels
Plug In America
POET
Rahr Energy
Partnership on Waste and Energy (Hennepin, Ramsey & Washington counties)
Renewable Fuels Association
Rivian
Tesla
Union of Concerned Scientists
ZEF Energy