



MISSOURI

605 Clark Ave.
PO Box 104898
Jefferson City, MO
65110-4898
(800) 841-5849
info@biodiesel.org

WASHINGTON, D.C.

1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 505
Washington, D.C.
20004-1710
(888) 246-3437
DCinfo@biodiesel.org

CALIFORNIA

1415 L Street
Suite 460
Sacramento, CA
95814-3961
(916) 760-8870
CAinfo@biodiesel.org

May 4, 2021

The Hon. Michael S. Regan, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator, 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

The National Biodiesel Board represents U.S. biodiesel, renewable diesel, sustainable aviation and bioheat® fuel producers as well as soybean growers and waste fats and oil processors. We look forward to working with you to meet the nation's pressing need for clean transportation options.

During your testimony on April 21 before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Environment, you noted that "we are making progress on technological advancements using biofuels" in relation to the goals of the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA). On behalf of NBB members, we appreciate the acknowledgement.

Similarly, during your April 28 testimony before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, you reiterated President Biden's commitment "that agriculture is at the table and that biofuels play a role in reducing our carbon footprint." While we share concerns that the administration has foregone opportunities in rejoining the Paris Agreement and proposing the American Jobs Plan to make the most of biodiesel's carbon reduction potential, we appreciate your commitment.

As you know, transportation is the largest source of U.S. carbon emissions and replacing petroleum with drop-in alternatives like biodiesel and renewable diesel immediately reduces carbon. Importantly, biodiesel and renewable diesel also reduce particulate matter and hydrocarbon emissions that contribute to cancer, lung, and heart disease rates associated with diesel emissions.

A research article published in [Science Advances on April 28](#) makes very clear why the United States must focus on

reducing both carbon and particulate matter emissions.¹ We believe that including biodiesel and renewable diesel in the administration's plans to address carbon is fully consistent with your agency's focus on environmental justice.

NBB recently launched a report written by Trinity Consultants quantifying the health benefits of replacing petroleum diesel with biodiesel in U.S. communities adjacent to heavy transportation corridors – including the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach, Oakland, and Seattle. Since biodiesel can reduce particulate matter emissions by 45%, the study found a potential equivalent reduction in lifetime cancer burdens as well as annual asthma attacks and premature deaths for these communities. The study quantifies these benefits in terms of saved hospital visits and longer lives – resulting in \$1.7 billion in savings and 192 avoided premature deaths per year for Long Beach alone. I would invite you to [review the study on the NBB website](#).

We would appreciate the chance to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the implications of the study as we pursue a vision to double production and use of biodiesel, renewable diesel, sustainable aviation, and bioheat® fuel over the next decade. We will be happy to answer any questions you have about our industry's sustainable future growth.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding a date and time that you can meet with members of the National Biodiesel Board.

Thank you for your consideration,



Kurt Kovarik
Vice President of Federal Affairs
National Biodiesel Board
kkovarik@biodiesel.org
202-737-8801

¹ C. W. Tessum, D. A. Paoletta, S. E. Chambliss, J. S. Apte, J. D. Hill, J. D. Marshall, PM2.5 pollutants disproportionately and systemically affect people of color in the United States. *Sci. Adv.* 7, eabf4491 (2021).