



## **RFS Power Coalition applauds passage of Interior Appropriations Bill**

Bioenergy International

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In the United States (US), the RFS Power Coalition applauded H.J. Res. 31, the spending bill passed by both the House and the Senate. The committee report of the Interior-EPA portion of the spending package includes a provision that “strongly encourages” the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) to process within 90 days the backlog of applications that electricity producers have submitted to the agency to participate in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).



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The RFS Power Coalition, a newly formed coalition consisting of three trade associations – Biomass Power Association (BPA), American Biogas Council (ABC) and Energy Recovery Council (ERC) represent, respectively, domestic biomass power producers who use organic fuels like forest residues, biogas-to-electricity producers like dairy farmers and wastewater treatment facilities, and waste-to-energy producers, applauded H.J. Res. 31, the spending bill passed by both the House and the Senate.

Many waste-to-energy facilities are owned by local governments, which have invested in technology to put post-recycled garbage to use in energy production. The ability to generate eRINs would ensure continued viability of these important local government infrastructure investments. We thank Congress for passing this bill and we hope to see EPA begin processing eRIN applications right away. said Ted Michaels, President of ERC.

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Thank you to Congresswoman Kaptur and all who have supported biogas-to-electricity producers in our effort to rightfully participate in this part of the RFS. If the EPA follows through and includes electricity in its RFS reset and the 2020 Renewable Volume Obligation, new biogas systems can be built that will recycle manure on farms, wastewater and food scraps into renewable energy and soil products. We look forward to lending any support the EPA needs to make sure this happens, said Patrick Serfass, Executive Director of ABC.

When the EPA processes these applications, electricity producers will be able to generate RINs, also known as electric RINs or eRINs, which will catalyze investment and job creation in the biomass, biogas and waste-to-energy sectors. The bill now goes to the White House for signing by President Trump.

We are extremely grateful to Senator Collins, Senator Merkley, Congresswoman Kaptur, and all of the supporters of the provision that encourages the EPA to process eRINs. Congress included electricity in the RFS2 bill more than 11 years ago, and it’s past time for the EPA to include electricity in the program and enable biomass power producers to participate in the RFS. We urge President Trump to sign the bill and ensure that EPA delivers on its mandate within 90 days said, Bob Cleaves, President, and CEO of BPA.

Last week, the RFS Power Coalition filed a petition in the D.C. Circuit court of federal appeals to challenge the 2019 Renewable Volume Obligation (RVO).