

TO: Petroleum Industry Stakeholders

FROM: Brad Lowery, Executive II, Bureau of Weights and Measures

DATE: March 26, 2026

RE: USEPA's 2026 Emergency E15 Reid Vapor Pressure Fuel Waiver

On March 25, 2026, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) exercised its temporary emergency fuel waiver authority to waive the summer low volatility requirements and blending limitations for gasoline. This action establishes a single common Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) standard of 10 psi across the nation for gasoline containing 9 to 15 percent ethanol (E10 to E15) to prevent supply disruptions and provide flexibility in the fuel market.

This temporary waiver is effective on May 1, 2026, and is initially set to expire on May 20, 2026. USEPA has indicated it will continue to monitor the fuel supply and is prepared to extend the emergency fuel waivers as long as circumstances warrant such action. The Illinois Department of Agriculture will honor any future RVP waivers for 2026 authorized by the USEPA.

As detailed in the USEPA announcement, regulated parties may produce, sell, and distribute summer gasoline that meets the 10 psi RVP standard for gasoline containing between 9 to 15 percent ethanol in the areas covered by this waiver.

After May 20, 2026 (or upon the expiration of any subsequent USEPA extensions), any gasoline meeting the conditions of the waiver that is stored in terminal storage tanks for distribution to retail outlets and wholesale purchaser-consumers may be distributed and sold in Illinois until the supply is depleted. Likewise, retailers and wholesale purchaser-consumers may continue selling or dispensing gasoline meeting the conditions of the waiver in Illinois after the expiration date, until such supply in their storage tank is depleted.

Retailers and customers can contact the Bureau with additional questions at (217) 785-8300