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PMAA REGULATORY ALERT

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EPA ISSUES TEMPORARY NATIONWIDE WAIVER OF RFG AND RVP REQUIREMENTS

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The U.S. EPA issued a temporary nationwide waiver of both the RFG and summertime RVP blend requirements. The waiver moves the RVP and RFG transition deadline for refiners and terminal operators to May 20, 2020. The waiver is important to petroleum marketers because it will enable them to turnover gasoline tanks to summertime RVP and RFG in a more realistic time frame given the precipitous drop in consumer demand since the COVID-19 outbreak.

PMAA has been working closely with the EPA to obtain the RVP and RFG waiver after fielding numerous concerns from marketers over their ability to obtain compliant summertime RVP and RFG blends by the June 1, 2020 conversion deadline for retail facilities. Due to the drop in consumer demand for gasoline, refiners and terminal operators will likely miss their own May 1, 2020 deadline for converting to summertime RVP and RFG, causing a ripple effect downstream that will put petroleum marketers at risk for significant civil penalties for RVP violations. The waiver will allow the unexpected glut of wintertime gasoline blends to continue to draw down into the summertime RVP and RFG season. EPA will continue to monitor the adequacy of gasoline supplies and, should conditions warrant, may modify or extend this waiver at a later date. Finally, EPA intends to extend the RFS compliance date for small refineries to provide them with additional flexibility soon.

Earlier this week, PMAA joined NACS, NATSO and SIGMA in sending a letter to the EPA requesting the agency to issue a waiver for the summertime RVP fuel requirements. The waiver request comes in response to the lack of demand for fuel due to the health pandemic. Click [here](#) to view the summertime RVP waiver letter. Click [here](#) to view the EPA RVP and RFG waiver.