



RFS Power Coalition Supports Legislation Introduced by Sen. Thune and Sen. Shaheen

Bill requires EPA to process outstanding registration applications and completed pathways

June 19, 2020 – The RFS Power Coalition expressed support for legislation introduced this week by Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.). The bill, S. 3986, requires the EPA to approve biofuels registration applications pending before the agency to participate in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program. The bill also requires the EPA to take action on pathways deemed complete by the agency that have been pending for more than 180 days, and includes \$2 million in funding to EPA to carry out the mandate.

“We strongly support this legislation, which will at long last require the EPA to include biogas-to-electricity applications that have been pending for years,” said Patrick Serfass, executive director of American Biogas Council. “The pathway for biogas has been available since 2014 and yet the EPA has failed to process the applications submitted by farmers, wastewater treatment facilities and other business owners who have a right to generate RINs. We urge Congress to approve this bill as soon as possible.”

"Despite clear direction from Congress in 2007 and repeatedly since then, the EPA has failed to implement the electricity portion of the RFS, making it impossible for electricity producers like biomass power to generate RINs," said Carrie Annand, executive director of Biomass Power Association. "We are grateful to Sen. Shaheen and Sen. Thune for this bill, which will hold the EPA accountable for including electricity in the RFS."

Interior Appropriations bills for fiscal year 2020 and fiscal year 2019 both included report language urging the EPA to process electric RINs. Since 2017, more than 50 members of Congress from both parties have urged the EPA to act on electric RINs. Despite congressional attention to the issue – and despite its own 2014 rule enacting a pathway for biogas-to-electricity – the EPA has failed to process a single application from an electricity producer.

About the RFS Power Coalition

The RFS Power Coalition is a group of organizations dedicated to activating the renewable electricity pathway of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The Coalition is led by the [Biomass Power Association](#), [American Biogas Council](#) and [Energy Recovery Council](#), the trade associations that 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. All three fuels – biomass, biogas and biogenic waste – qualify as renewable transportation fuels that should be included in the D3 cellulosic and D5 advanced fuel categories of the RFS. <https://rfspower.com>