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IL Corn Signs Petition to Challenge EPA Rulemaking Re: Electric Vehicles

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – IL Corn Growers Association joined five other state corn associations and other ethanol interest groups in a petition challenging the EPA’s recent greenhouse gas (GHG) tailpipe emissions rule for cars and trucks.

Specifically, the petition asks the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to set aside EPA’s final GHG standards for passenger cars and light trucks. Although corn farmers support actions to reduce GHG emissions, they are opposed to regulatory actions attempting to mandate a single technology solution to reduce emissions.

“Any assumption that corn farmers who work hand in hand with the earth and are addressing changing weather patterns every day are not supportive of policies to address cleaner air and water is off base. Corn farmers are so committed to these goals that we want to be allowed to be a part of the solution. Policies that chose who can contribute solutions and who cannot are detrimental to the overall goal,” said Martin Marr, IL Corn Growers Association President and farmer from New Berlin, IL.

The corn association petitioners also believe that policies written to exclude any technologies other than electric, stifle the innovation that could create real sustainable change for the future.

This challenge is the result of an unprecedented move from the EPA to transform the future of the U.S. transportation industry, declaring electric vehicles the clear winner. IL Corn and its co-signers understand that for such a significant shift to take place requires an act of Congress with very clear intentions to change the future of internal combustion engines, liquid fuels, and electric vehicles. The challenge to the EPA’s authority and the reason behind it are very consistent with past climate control policies.

“If the policy goal is to address the challenges of climate change, we need regulations that recognize and encourage all low carbon technologies able to contribute to the goal. If EPA’s goal is to unilaterally phase out liquid fuels, it must seek congressional authorization to do so. Absent that, EPA must recognize all pathways to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector—including liquid fuels,” said Marr.

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About the Illinois Corn Growers Association

Illinois Corn Growers Association is a state-based organization that represents the interests of corn farmers in Illinois, maintaining a high profile on issues in Washington, DC, and Springfield, IL. Through grassroots advocacy, ICGA creates a future for Illinois farmers in which they can operate freely, responsibly, and successfully. In order to fulfill this mission, the organization conducts governmental affairs activities at all levels, market development projects, and educational and member service programs. For further information regarding their work and involvement, visit their website www.ilcorn.org.