

EPA on E15 Relabeling

The EPA proposed the Renewables Enhancement and Growth Support Rule that includes the following statement addressing E15 labeling. The rule did not include any actual changes to the regulatory requirements regarding E15 labeling as this statement simply addresses the EPA’s opinion of their current regulations. The text states:

“As a result of the difficulty blenders face in locating sub-RVP blendstocks for use in making E15 that is compliant with the gasoline RVP requirements in areas where the 1 psi waiver for E10 applies, the EPA received requests for clarification about whether relabeling E15 as for use only in FFVs would exempt E15 from gasoline RVP requirements from June 1 through September 15. **All gasoline, including E15, is subject to all of the requirements applicable to gasoline because of its formulation, not because of its end use. These requirements cannot be circumvented by relabeling.** Allowing a fuel to be exempted from fuel quality requirements simply based on a statement of its intended use would undermine the EPA’s ability to assure compliance with fuel quality requirements. In situations where E15 blenders could not locate sub-RVP blendstocks to facilitate compliance with the applicable gasoline RVP requirements, they could adjust the ethanol blend ratio to produce an EFF blend such as E20 from June 1 through September 15.”¹ [emphasis added]

¹ Pre-publication version page 76 of 374, Renewables Enhancement and Growth Support Rule, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, 40 CFR Parts 79 and 80, [EPA-HQ-OAR-2016-0041; FRL-XXXX-XX-XXX], [RIN 2060-AS66], Proposed Rule