

From: alertsadmin@opisnet.com  
Subject: BIOFUELS UPDATE: \*\*\*EPA Chief Says Agency Will Finish E15 Rule Before 2019 Summer Driving Season  
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\*\*\*EPA Chief Says Agency Will Finish E15 Rule Before 2019 Summer Driving Season

E15 will be available for sale across the U.S. by next summer's driving season, acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler said in an interview with Brownfield Ag News.

President Donald Trump in October directed the agency to propose a rulemaking that would provide the higher ethanol blend with a Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) waiver, a move that would allow the fuel to be sold year-round. Because it does not have such a waiver, E15 sales in many parts of the country are prohibited from June 1 through Sept. 15.

While the ethanol industry has welcomed the move as a way to increase the fuel's market share, it also has expressed concerns that EPA's proposed schedule, which would see it issue a proposed rule in February and a final rule by late May, may not provide the agency with sufficient time to grant the waiver in time for the high-demand summer driving season.

But Wheeler is confident the agency can meet the timetable. "Yes, that deadline will be reached," he said in the interview, which was published Tuesday. "We will be able to go to year-round E15 by next summer.

"That was the commitment of President Trump and we will meet the deadline of making sure E15 is available in time for the driving season next summer."

--Jeff Barber, jbarber@opisnet.com

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