

THE TRUTH ABOUT E15 FUEL

FACT: E15 IS COSTLY

- ✓ Ethanol has 33% less energy than gasoline meaning it gets fewer miles per gallon. Consumers have spent more on higher ethanol content fuels because they have to fill up more often to go the same miles according to AAA.
- ✓ E15, unlike E10, is not eligible for Illinois' 20% sales tax exemption. Therefore, it operates at a potential price disadvantage from the start. Even if the price of E15 is the same as E10, the lost energy makes E15 cost more per mile.
- ✓ A local retailer and supplier testified that the necessary upgrades for E15 would cost \$125,000 for new infrastructure, causing a severe economic burden. E15 hurts small businesses and may lead to higher prices for consumers.
- ✓ Forcing retailers to remove a product that can be sold to 100% of their customers and replace it with one that, according to AAA, can be sold to less than 10% of those customers will hurt retailers, could burden consumers with costly repairs and could cost the city tax revenue.

FACT: CORN-BASED ETHANOL HARMS THE ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ The Clean Air Task Force found that corn ethanol's net greenhouse gas emissions are "28% higher than emissions that would result from the use of regular gasoline."
- ✓ The Sierra Club cites a study by UC-Berkeley which found that corn feedstock generates 2.7 tons of carbon dioxide emissions and requires more chemical input into the land.

FACT: E15 IS A DANGEROUS OPTION FOR CONSUMERS

- ✓ Every major auto manufacturer has stated that vehicle damage caused by E15 may not be covered under warranty. AAA recommends suspending all sales.
- ✓ California's Air Resources Board has declared that "E15 is NOT approved for sale in California" largely due to concerns over misfueling that will cause significant damage to many vehicles plus all motorcycles, boats, lawnmowers, and other small engines.

FACT: CORN-BASED ETHANOL HAS INCREASED THE COST OF FOOD

- ✓ Ethanol mandates result in a family of four paying more than \$2,000 per year in extra food costs according to FarmEcon LLC.
- ✓ According to the National Council of Chain Restaurants, increased use of ethanol has raised the cost of food for every restaurant in the US by around \$18,000 annually.

FACT: A BROAD COALITION OPPOSES CHICAGO'S E15 MANDATE INCLUDING:

Chicago Retail Merchants Association, Illinois Petroleum Marketers Association, Chicago Automobile Trade Association, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, Illinois Petroleum Council, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, National Marine Manufacturers Association, American Motorcyclist Association, Illinois Automobile Dealers Association, Illinois Restaurant Association, ABATE of Illinois, Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association

Chicago Tribune

"More than 90 percent of the cars on the road are not approved by their manufacturers to use E15, including most 2001-13 models, according to AAA."

- *Chicago Tribune*, July 28, 2014

**CHICAGO
SUN-TIMES**

"The wisest thing to do is sit back and see if the market establishes a need for a higher ethanol fuel blend. Chicago doesn't have to take the lead for the nation on this issue."

- *Chicago Sun Times*, July 24, 2014