Good morning, and thank you for joining our call.

Today the American Petroleum Institute released the results of a new national poll conducted by Harris Poll, showing that the vast majority of voters are significantly concerned about the Trump administration’s proposal to increase the sale of higher ethanol blended E15 gasoline.

Consumers are speaking loud and clear. These numbers reinforce the need for the Administration to reconsider the decision to allow year-round sale of E15.

The poll results show that 79 percent of voters are concerned about expanded E15 sales and vehicle incompatibility. Eighty three percent of voters are concerned that consumers could shoulder higher pump prices if service stations are forced to invest in new infrastructure to accommodate certain types of fuels. And nearly 70 percent of consumers are worried about mistakenly using E15 and causing damage to their engines.

Voters understand that mandating a fuel that is not designed for use with nearly 75 percent of cars on the road today puts consumers at risk. American families should not have to be burdened with an unexpected car repair bill because of a fuel that our government essentially pushed into the marketplace.

This anti-consumer policy does not make sense. It makes even less sense when you factor in the vast collateral damage unleashed by the current ethanol mandate. Environmental organizations, anti-hunger groups, wildlife protection activists, grocers, restaurant owners and producers of poultry, pork and beef – all have spoken out against the ethanol mandate with concerns ranging from environmental and habitat protection to increased food prices and elevated costs for farmers and ranchers.

President Trump’s decision to allow for year-round sales of E15 is also contrary to the clear letter of the law. The waiver is explicitly disallowed under the Clean Air Act, and even the EPA has agreed in the past that the agency does not have the authority to waive the vapor pressure requirements that would allow year-round sales of E15. No matter how many times Acting Administrator Wheeler claims authority to make this decision, it does not change the fact that Mr. Wheeler’s assertion directly conflicts with the clear language of section 211(h) of the Clean Air Act.

The refining industry stands united, and we will do everything we can to protect consumers by challenging this policy to ensure it is not enacted. E15 is a symptom of the broken Renewable Fuel Standard, and it's time for real reform.

I will now take your questions. Thank you.