



1 March 2013

(13-1115)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

### NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1.	<b>Notifying Member:</b> <u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (811) <b>Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</b>
3.	<b>Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [ ], 5.6.2 [ ], 5.7.1 [ ], other:</b>
4.	<b>Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):</b> Renewable fuel standards (RFS) (HS 2710; ICS 13.020, 75.160).
5.	<b>Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:</b> RFS Renewable Identification Number (RIN) Quality Assurance Program (61 pages, in English).
6.	<b>Description of content:</b> Under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program, producers and importers of renewable fuel generate Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) that are used by petroleum refiners and importers to demonstrate compliance with their renewable fuel volume obligations. Several cases of fraudulently generated RINs, however, have led to inefficiencies and a significant reduction in the overall liquidity in the RIN market. The result has been greater difficulty for smaller renewable fuel producers to sell their RINs. Today's action proposes additional regulatory provisions that would promote greater liquidity in the RIN market in a way that assures reasonable oversight of RIN generation and assures use of the required renewable fuel volumes. The proposal includes a voluntary quality assurance program and related provisions intended to meet these goals. The proposed program also includes elements designed to make it possible to verify the validity of RINs for all of 2013. Additionally, we are proposing a number of new regulatory provisions to ensure that RINs are retired for all renewable fuel that is exported and to address RINs that become invalid downstream of a renewable fuel producer.
7.	<b>Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:</b> Protection of the environment
8.	<b>Relevant documents:</b> 78 Federal Register (FR) 12157, 21 February 2013; Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 80. Will appear in the Federal Register when adopted.
9.	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> <b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> } To be determined
10.	<b>Final date for comments:</b> 18 April 2013

- 11. Text available from: National enquiry point [], or address, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail and web-site addresses, if available of the other body:**

URLs:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-02-21/html/2013-03206.htm>

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