



NMMA commends the EPA for announcing today that the 2014 Renewable Volume Obligations will be lowered. We appreciate the clear step that EPA has taken to not only acknowledge the unattainable mandates included in the Renewable Fuel Standard but to also leave room for consumers, manufacturers and industries including the recreational boating community, that rely on the continued availability of low-ethanol fuel blends.

Understanding the need to explore other energy sources, NMMA and the recreational boating industry remain committed to exploring alternative biofuels. Marine manufacturers have invested in extensive evaluations on isobutanol, a biofuel that can be derived from corn. And while today's announcement marks an important step, there is more to be done. We have serious, well-documented and data-driven concerns with the safety of high ethanol fuel blends which have been proven to cause damage to marine engines. This damage puts consumers at risk and hurts manufacturers during a time of important economic recovery. The RFS is a broken law which sets unrealistic fuel mandates and requires a long term fix from Congress. NMMA strongly encourages Congress to address the issues of the RFS directly through legislation in order to protect consumers and US manufacturers.