

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**  
May 16, 2023

The Honorable Michael Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

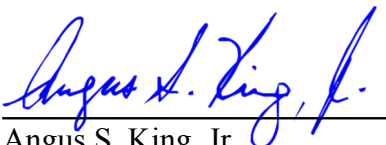
We are writing to support the inclusion of solid biomass in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) December 2022 proposed rulemaking, titled, "Renewable Fuel Standard Program (RFS): Standards for 2023-2035 and Other Changes." The proposed rule fails to allow biomass to participate in the RFS via electric Renewable Identification Numbers (eRINs) and thus misses an opportunity to further reduce emissions and create new and diverse pathways to repower our transportation systems.

Biomass power is critical to New England's economy. Biomass power producers enable the productive and environmentally sound use of the residues, byproducts and otherwise unusable wood fiber derived from forest harvests. Unfortunately, New England's biomass power industry is experiencing its own difficulties, with many plants' futures uncertain as power prices have trended downward over the past decade. Biomass power is an important contributor to the forestry economy and plays a critical role providing rural jobs, including in the logging industry.

In order to align the agency's final rule with the Administration's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and support for the forestry economy, EPA should allow biomass to participate in the eRIN program in the final RFS rule. EPA action approving biomass power pathways in the RFS electricity program will help keep these facilities online and contributing to ongoing forest management efforts.

We look forward to working with you and the EPA on this important issue and look forward to answering any questions about how this rulemaking impacts our districts and constituents.

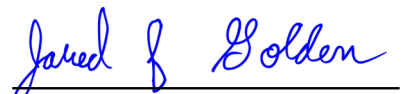
Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Jared Golden  
Member of Congress