



**MERCURY**

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May 1, 2009

To: Mercury Marine Dealers

From: Mark Schwabero  
Kevin Grodzki

Re: Ethanol Waiver

Dear Mercury Dealers:

The U.S. boating industry needs your help in PREVENTING THE EPA FROM ALLOWING AN INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF ETHANOL in gasoline.

#### **Act Now**

On March 6, 2009, a new pro-ethanol lobbying organization called Growth Energy aligned with 54 ethanol manufacturers and formally requested that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allow an increase of ethanol blend levels in gasoline to 15 percent (E15). As is required by law, the EPA on April 21 published a Notice for Comment in the Federal Register, beginning a 30-day public comment period that will close May 21, 2009.

Failure to stop momentum at this stage will almost certainly cause all engine companies and their suppliers to redesign and re-engineer product lineups at a time when all of us can least afford it.

#### **IMPORTANT FACTS:**

- Marine engines have not been tested with ethanol blends above E10.
- Some marine engines have experienced issues using E10, and additional problems would certainly be anticipated with higher levels of ethanol blends.
- Let the data tell the story! Tell the EPA to deny the E15 waiver until adequate testing has been conducted.

**GO TO [HTTP://CAPWIZ.COM/NMMA/HOME/](http://CAPWIZ.COM/NMMA/HOME/) TO QUICKLY AND EASILY SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO THE EPA, URGING THEM TO DENY THE E15 WAIVER.**

#### **Beat them at their own game**

Ethanol Advocates are mobilizing forces to submit 20,000 favorable comments to the EPA, requesting that the agency grant a waiver for E15.

There are 18 million boats currently in operation in the U.S., and none of them has been designed, certified or warrantied to run on anything above E10, the current maximum legal blend level. Boaters know that increased ethanol blends will cause performance problems with their boats and engines, increase maintenance costs, potentially pose safety risks and increase air pollution.

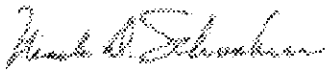
And yet, neither the EPA nor any other federal agency has performed a single test regarding the impacts of E15 on marine engines, fuel systems or components. Marine engines and fuel systems are not designed, calibrated or certified to run on anything above 10 percent ethanol. We ask you to support a science-first approach and urge the EPA to deny the ethanol industry's E15 waiver request until independent and comprehensive scientific testing is completed on a full range of marine engines and other products.

Once again, go to <http://capwiz.com/nmma/home/> to submit your comments to the EPA.

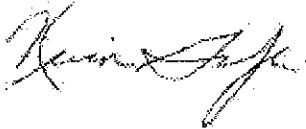
For more information, contact NMMA Legislative Director Mat Dunn at [mdun@nmma.org](mailto:mdun@nmma.org) or (202) 737-9760.

Mercury Marine joins the National Marine Manufacturers Association in urging you to participate in this effort.

Regards,



Mark Schwabero  
President  
Mercury Marine



Kevin Grodzki  
President  
Mercury Marine Marketing, Sales  
and Commercial Operations

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