

Resolution sponsored by:

Governor Phil Bryant, Mississippi*

8.2018 | Accelerating the Issuance of Regional Emergency Fuel Waivers During Supply Shortages

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), working with the United States Department of Energy, addresses fuel supply disruptions caused by refinery or pipeline supply chain interruptions that can result from hurricanes or other natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, the EPA Administrator has the authority to waive certain requirements of the Clean Air Act (CAA) relating to the sale, distribution, and use of reformulated gasoline and low volatility conventional gasoline in the states to address fuel supply disruptions and to help ensure that an adequate supply of fuel is available, particularly for mandatory or voluntary evacuations and for emergency responders; and

WHEREAS, EPA has agreed to give consideration to issuing emergency fuel waivers to the affected states in advance of a hurricane making landfall if the situation justifies the action, considering such evidence as refinery closures and evacuation orders.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southern States Energy Board directs its staff to collaborate with its members, including the American Petroleum Institute and American Fuel and Petroleum Manufacturers, EPA, and DOE to determine the feasibility of a codicil to the Southern States Energy Compact that will allow the Southern States Energy Board to request multi-state, regional emergency fuel waivers on behalf of multiple states in order to hasten the process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Southern States Energy Board directs its staff to coordinate with its members, including the American Petroleum Institute, the American Fuel and Petroleum Manufacturers, the state trade organizations, EPA, and DOE to establish a southern emergency fuel supply council for the purpose of education and outreach related to the emergency fuel waiver process and to facilitate effective cooperation among federal and state officials when fuel supply disruptions are imminent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Southern States Energy Board's staff will provide an action plan for future related activities during the Board's 59th Annual Meeting in 2019.