

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** POLITICO Pro  
**Sent:** Fri 8/4/2017 2:13:07 PM  
**Subject:** Sources: EPA aims to announce RFS decision today

By Eric Wolff

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EPA is aiming to announce as soon as today its decision to leave the Renewable Fuel Standard unchanged, two sources tell POLITICO.

The agency plans to leave refiners with the responsibility for complying with the RFS, as POLITICO reported Thursday, dealing a blow to billionaire Carl Icahn — who owns refiner CVR Energy — Valero, and other merchant refiners. EPA is not expected to have the formal decision ready to publish in the Federal Register until next week, but is planning to make the decision ahead of then, the sources said.

The announcement is still being reviewed by senior staff, and it could be delayed to early next week, though the hope is to get it out today, the sources said.

EPA began work on the denial after the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected challenges on the obligation issue in a decision last Friday.

The question of which companies must carry the program's compliance cost created an unlikely alliance of oil majors, represented by the American Petroleum Institute, and ethanol producers, who opposed the change for separate reasons. Merchant refiners were seeking the change, arguing that compliance costs were squeezing their bottom lines.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** EPA is expected to make the announcement as soon as today and publish its formal decision within the next two weeks.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politicopro.com/agriculture/whiteboard/2017/08/epa-aims-to-announce-point-of-obligation-decision-today-091526>

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