SENATE E15 LEGISLATION DOES NOT BENEFIT CONSUMERS OR FIX BROKEN RFS PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, June 13, 2017 – Ahead of tomorrow’s Senate hearing on S.517 the Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act which would increase the sale of high ethanol blend gasoline E15, API Downstream Group Director Frank Macchiarola held a press conference urging Senators to work on real solutions to the broken Renewable Fuel Standard instead of a bill that doesn’t help consumers and does not fix the broader problem.

“The Consumer and Fuel Retailer Choice Act gives a false choice to the consumer because 85 percent of the vehicles in the U.S. fleet were not built for E15 and this fuel is not compatible with motorcycles, boats, lawn equipment, and ATVs. The choice offered in this bill is a bad one,” said Macchiarola.

“The legislation also reverses decades of EPA precedent and substantive Clean Air Act protections, while failing to comprehensively reform the broken RFS. Independent voices have studied E-15, and they confirm that it is not compatible with the vast majority of cars on the road, and that greater use of this fuel could result in higher prices at the pump. We urge lawmakers to take up real RFS reform and not be distracted by this flawed bill.”

API is the only national trade association representing all facets of the oil and natural gas industry, which supports 9.8 million U.S. jobs and 8 percent of the U.S. economy. API’s more than 625 members include large integrated companies, as well as exploration and production, refining, marketing, pipeline, and marine businesses, and service and supply firms. They provide most of the nation’s energy and are backed by a growing grassroots movement of more than 40 million Americans.

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