API launches anti-E-15 ads

By James Osborne  Updated 11:44 am CDT, Friday, September 7, 2018

WASHINGTON - The oil industry's largest lobbying group has launched a campaign attacking E-15, a lower-cost fuel with a higher concentration of ethanol that could expand under a deal being considered by President Donald Trump.

Starting tomorrow, the American Petroleum Institute will run an ad on television and online warning Americans that E-15 could damage their car engines, claiming 3 out of 4 automobiles are not designed to use the fuel.

"President Trump: Don't risk harming consumers by pushing year round E-15,"
the ad states.

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The claim contradicts a 2011 study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which found it was safe to use gasoline mixed with up to 15 percent ethanol on cars manufactured in 2001 or later.

Many gas station chains are already selling E-15, which has a higher octane and can be sold more cheaply than standard gasoline, which only contains 10 percent ethanol.

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