



STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATIE HOBBS
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 18, 2026

Lee Zeldin, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail Code 1101A
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Request for Emergency Fuel Waiver under Clean Air Act § 211(c)(4)(C)

Administrator Zeldin:

Arizona is requesting a waiver under section 211(c)(4)(C)(ii)-(iii) of the Clean Air Act, as amended by section 1541 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, from certain Cleaner Burning Gasoline (CBG) requirements approved into the Arizona state implementation plan (SIP). Arizona asks that suppliers of fuel to the CBG-covered area be allowed to sell gasoline that does not conform to CBG standards to the extent necessary to alleviate the current volatility and uncertainty in the global petroleum supply system.

Background

The Arizona CBG program requires the sale of Type 2 CBG, which is modeled after California Air Resources Board (CARB) Phase 2 gasoline, in the CBG-covered area during the winter CBG season, which lasts from November 1 through March 31. The CBG covered area consists of all of Maricopa County and "Area A" which includes portions of Pinal and Yavapai Counties.

In the summer season, the Arizona CBG program requires the sale of Type 1 CBG or Type 2 CBG, which are modeled after the federal reformulated gasoline program and California Air Resources Board (CARB) Phase 2 gasoline, respectively, in the CBG-covered area. The summer CBG season lasts from June 1 through September 30.

During April and May fuel suppliers to the CBG-covered area must transition from the winter blend to the summer blend.

EPA approved this program as part of the Arizona SIP on March 4, 2004. 69 Fed. Reg. 10161.

Waiver Requirements

Under Clean Air Act section 211(c)(4)(C)(ii), a waiver from federal motor vehicle fuel standards, including SIP-approved standards, may be granted if the Administrator finds that the following circumstances exist:

(I) extreme and unusual fuel or fuel additive supply circumstances exist in a State or region of the Nation which prevent the distribution of an adequate supply of the fuel or fuel additive to consumers;

(II) such extreme and unusual fuel and fuel additive supply circumstances are the result of a natural disaster, an Act of God, a pipeline or refinery equipment failure, or another event that could not reasonably have been foreseen or prevented and not the lack of prudent planning on the part of the suppliers of the fuel or fuel additive to such State or region; and

(III) it is in the public interest to grant the waiver (for example, when a waiver is necessary to meet projected temporary shortfalls in the supply of the fuel or fuel additive in a State or region of the Nation which cannot otherwise be compensated for).

Circumstances Justifying a Waiver

The ongoing military conflict with the Islamic Republic of Iran has resulted in disruptions in the global supply of petroleum products leading to market volatility, uncertainty, and a sharp increase in gasoline prices.

The circumstances described above are extreme and unusual and are creating uncertainty in the fuel system. It is in the public interest to grant the waiver to address these extreme circumstances and prevent any future supply concern. A waiver under § 211(c)(4)(C) is therefore warranted.

In accordance with § 211(c)(4)(C)(iii)(II), ADEQ requests a waiver for the period of March 19, 2026 to April 8, 2026, a period of 20 days. ADEQ requests that during this period fuel suppliers in the CBG covered area be permitted to sell gasoline that does not conform to the requirements of the Arizona CBG program, including conventional gasoline, to the extent doing so is necessary to address the current circumstances and will not result in future supply disruptions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Katie Hobbs', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Katie Hobbs
Governor
State of Arizona