FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Biogas Council Statement on EPA’s Proposed Renewable Fuel Volumes for 2019

WASHINGTON, D.C.– Yesterday, EPA released its 2019 draft renewable fuel targets for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) on time, calling for a 30% increase in biogas-related fuel but continuing to take no action to activate the renewable electricity pathway. Specifically, EPA’s proposed rule calls for 381 million gallons of cellulosic biofuel in 2019. The EPA estimates that the vast majority—358 million gallons—will be compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied natural gas (LNG) derived from renewable biogas.

“Overall, the EPAs proposed renewable fuel volumes for 2019 represent a significant win for the biogas industry. Again, EPA has shown recognition of the reliable, strong growth in our industry. But EPA action is still needed to activate the renewable electricity pathway which would drive further growth in the biogas, agriculture and organics recycling industries,” said Patrick Serfass, Executive Director of the American Biogas Council.

In its proposal, EPA’s action represented several positive steps for the biogas industry: the proposed rule was issued on time which helps with price stability for the credits generated by the RFS; the proposed volumes recognize the significant role biogas and renewable natural gas plays among all renewable fuels; and EPA properly recognized the strong growth in the biogas industry. However, it also fell short on one action needed by several sectors that intersect with the biogas industry: activation of the renewable electricity or “eRIN” pathway. The ABC and other industries related to production of renewable electricity and all types of electric vehicles will continue to encourage the EPA to take whatever steps are necessary to start approving projects that have registered to start using the electric vehicle pathway.

The ABC would also like to see greater regulatory certainty and transparency regarding the use of small refinery waivers.

Patrick Serfass continued by saying, “We will continue to work with the EPA to ensure that the strength of the biogas industry is properly reflected in the volumes to be released in the Final Rule. The ABC also looks forward to continuing to work with the Agency as we bring new projects to market.”

About the American Biogas Council
The American Biogas Council is the only national trade association representing the entire biogas industry in the U.S. The ABC represents over 200 companies in all parts of the biogas supply chain who are dedicated to maximizing the production and use of biogas and digestate from organic waste. Find us online at www.AmericanBiogasCouncil.org, Twitter @ambiogascouncil, LinkedIn in the American Biogas Council group and on YouTube.