

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 16, 2026

The Honorable Lee Zeldin  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable Chris Wright  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Wright and Administrator Zeldin:

I write to express serious concern regarding the supply of refined fuels in Arizona. Over the past month, gasoline prices have risen sharply. The statewide average for regular gasoline is \$4.33 per gallon, up from \$3.14 per gallon a month ago.<sup>1</sup> Prices in the Phoenix metropolitan area are even higher, with regular gasoline at \$4.63 per gallon and diesel at \$5.21 per gallon. These price increases are much higher than the national average and are increasingly unaffordable for many of my constituents. I write to request immediate action by both of your departments to monitor and address any emerging supply disruptions for Arizona gas.

As you know, Arizona is particularly vulnerable to fuel supply shocks. We have no major fuel refineries within our borders and source most of our fuel from two major pipelines. Shipments take approximately seven days from the West Line from California and six days from the East Line in Texas to reach Phoenix inventories.<sup>2</sup> Any refinery outage or pipeline disruption could lead to acute supply shortages and sustained price spikes for the people of Arizona.

Refining capacity in California, a key supplier of Arizona's fuel economy, is already declining following recent refinery closures. To compound national shortages with additional delivery or infrastructure challenges to Arizona would be financially damaging to many of my constituents who rely on gas to go to work and keep food on the table.

To address these concerns, I ask that we work together – the EPA, the Department of Energy, Congress, and Governor of Arizona's office – on a proactive approach to gasoline supply challenges. This could include immediately monitoring for potential supply shock events and requesting Arizona-specific fuel blend waivers as soon as supply challenges arise.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to working together on behalf of the people of Arizona.

Sincerely,



Ruben Gallego  
United States Senator

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<sup>1</sup> <https://gasprices.aaa.com/?state=AZ>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.pinal.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1985/Arizona-Motor-Fuel-PDF>