**National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA) Comments for**

**CARB Board Meeting September 28, 2023**

* **Chair Randolph, Board Members, and the dedicated hardworking CARB staff.**
* **My name is David Hovermale with the National Oilseed Processors Association. NOPA represents the U.S. oilseed crushing industry, which produces products such as soybean meal and oil used in human food, animal feed, fuel and industrial applications.**
* **We applaud CARB. The LCFS has been a tremendous success in decarbonizing liquid transportation fuels, and incentivizing continued innovation.**
* **Today, over 50% of the diesel fuel used in California are clean fuels, including biodiesel and renewable diesel from a diverse array of low carbon feedstocks.**
* **According to CARB, that’s a total of 8 billion gallons of fossil-based diesel fuel that hasn’t been burned since 2011. That means lower greenhouse gas emissions, cleaner air, and healthier communities.**
* **The U.S. oilseed processing industry has a long track record of growing and investing to ensure ample supplies to meet the needs of all customers and market segments.**
* **In fact, there are 18-20 plant expansions or new facilities underway to increase production of meal and vegetable oil needed to meet the expected increase in demand of food, feed, and biofuels. That is about $6 billion in investments.**
* **This increased capacity will be supported by improving the yields from existing acreage already farmed with oilseed crops, increasing the amount of oil produced by such crops and regenerative farming practices, such as cover crops, which reduce the carbon intensity of agricultural practices.**
* **Agriculture continues to do more with less. Total U.S. agricultural land use today is less than it was in 1980; less than it was when the RFS was created; and less than it was when the California LCFS was created.**
* **But it is important that CARB continue to support access to all renewable fuel feedstocks. Any pullback would mean less biofuel use, increased burning of fossil fuels, and dirtier air for our communities.**
* **Thank You**