

Support Fuels from the Farm



- Encouraging the use of renewable fuels and renewable electricity will increase domestic demand for surplus farm commodities, lower federal outlays of farm subsidies, improve the environment and decrease American reliance on foreign oil.
- Agriculture and rural America responded to enactment of the 2005 Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) by more than doubling ethanol production capacity across the country. Rural America can do more to increase the use of renewable fuels in cars and trucks, and provide clean forms of renewable electricity to power the nation.
- Agriculture and rural America are key to diversifying today's energy markets and creating new economic opportunity throughout rural communities.

Congressional Action Needed!

- Support expansion of the Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) included in the Senate-passed energy bill, which would mandate 36 billion gallons of biofuels by 2022.
- Establish a RFS for biodiesel.
- Support the Renewable Electricity Standard (RES) included in the House-passed energy bill, which would mandate that electric suppliers provide 15 percent of their electricity using renewable energy sources such as wind power by 2020. Enactment of a national RES would create significant increases in jobs, business activity and local tax revenues in rural America.
- Create a farm-stored Strategic Renewable Energy/Biofuels Reserve, dedicated to biofuels and energy feedstocks storage and production.
- Ensure USDA rural development and other departmental programs used for renewable fuels give a competitive advantage to farmer-owner and locally-owned efforts.
- Extend and create renewable energy production tax credits for community-based projects.
- Support production and development of biomass energy crops.
- Support efforts to expand biofuels distribution system including support for expansion of E85.