

President Bush Recognizes Ethanol's Role in Ensuring Energy Security

Washington, D.C. (January 31)--In calling for greater production and use of ethanol in tonight's State of the Union, **President George W. Bush** is not only reinforcing provisions in the energy bill he signed last August, but laying out a roadmap to go even further.

"We are pleased that President Bush recognizes the need to move the country toward an energy future that is less reliant on unreliable and increasingly costly foreign sources of oil and more dependent on domestically produced renewable fuels like ethanol," said **Bob Dinneen**, president of the **Renewable Fuels Association**.

In his remarks, the President emphasized the important role ethanol can play in America's energy future, helping reduce our dependence on foreign oil while improving our environment.

The President pointed to the need to expand on our corn-based ethanol industry by developing cellulose-to-ethanol technology, utilizing corn stalks and switchgrass.

"By doing this, the President recognizes that the future of ethanol is not just as a blending component, but as a replacement fuel in the form of E85," said Dinneen.

"A mixture of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline, E85 can be used in flexible fuel vehicles being produced in increasing numbers by Ford and General Motors."

Vital Ethanol Facts:

Currently, 95 ethanol refineries have a production capacity of more than 4.3 billion gallons annually.

An additional 32 ethanol refineries and 9 refinery expansions are set to come into production in the next 18 months, adding an additional 1.8 billion gallons of annual production capacity.

Ethanol refineries exist or are being constructed in 20 states across the country.

While representing just 3 percent of the U.S. gasoline market, ethanol is blended into 30 percent of gasoline sold.

Virtually every gallon of gasoline in the state of California and the New York City metropolitan area is blended with ethanol.

Over the life of the **Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)**, a key component of the 2005 Energy Bill, ethanol use will displace more than 2 billion barrels of oil.

Ethanol use in 2005 significantly reduced dangerous greenhouse gas emissions, having the same effect as removing well over one million cars from American highways.

For more information, call Matt Hartwig at 202-289-3835.

- [Renewable Fuels Association](#)