



COMPREHENSIVE U.S. ENERGY POLICY

Issue:

In the recent past, tight oil and natural gas supplies drove prices of energy and other U.S. farm inputs to all-time highs, substantially increasing farm production costs. In the near term, stopping exploration for and use of fossil fuels cannot be done without severely disrupting our economy and threatening Americans' standard of living.

Farm Bureau advocates policies that will create a diverse, domestic energy supply to fuel America's economic growth and prosperity while strengthening our energy security. Further development and use of renewable energy sources such as ethanol, biodiesel, biomass, solar and wind are critical to our nation's energy future and will help further strengthen the overall national security of the United States. Farm Bureau supports a comprehensive approach to fulfilling our energy needs of today and into the future.

Background:

Farm Bureau supports a comprehensive energy policy to help reduce the nation's dependence on foreign energy sources, to stimulate energy production within the agricultural sector and to ensure that farmers and ranchers have access to affordable energy.

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

Farm Bureau strongly supports energy policies that provide for increased exploration and use of domestic energy resources. Farm Bureau supports additional access for exploration and production of oil and natural gas, including the use of hydraulic fracturing. Farm Bureau also supports the expanded use of coal in an environmentally sound manner.

RFS

Farm Bureau supports the production and use of agricultural-based fuel, including corn and cellulosic ethanol and biodiesel. Farm Bureau also supports the Renewable Fuel Standard 2 (RFS) as adopted in 2007.

TAX INCENTIVES FOR RENEWABLE FUEL AND ENERGY

Farm Bureau supports tax provisions that incentivize the production of biodiesel, agri-biodiesel, renewable biodiesel and cellulosic biodiesel, and supports tax incentives for the installation of alternative fuel vehicle refueling property. Farm Bureau also supports tax incentives for electricity produced from open and closed-loop biomass and from wind energy.

Legislative Status:

It is expected that there will be multiple attempts to change, weaken or dismantle the RFS in the 115th Congress. Farm Bureau opposes any attempts to weaken or change the RFS.

AFBF Policy:

Farm Bureau supports efforts to revitalize our national energy policy to take maximum advantage of all available domestic resources to achieve energy independence and a stable energy market.

Farm Bureau supports a comprehensive energy policy to help alleviate the energy-related economic hardship being suffered by U.S. farmers and ranchers by creating a more diverse energy supply, including renewable energy sources such as ethanol, biodiesel, biomass and wind.

Farm Bureau supports a comprehensive energy plan that also will increase the exploration and production of oil and gas here at home and reduce U.S. dependence on foreign energy sources.

Farm Bureau supports the Renewable Fuel Standard 2 (RFS2) as passed in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Farm Bureau supports tax provisions that incentivize the production of biofuels and renewable energy.

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