

### **Suggested Discussion Questions after the Presentation**

This information is provided as a roadmap – we are interested in your confirmations or you critiques because we will be compiling these and reporting back to Washington.

- Is USDA's assessment of the current state of our region's biofuels market accurate?
  - o Are there potential sources of feedstock that USDA did not identify in this report that locally could contribute to expanded biofuels production?
  - o Do you feel USDA's feedstock assumptions and/or limitations are accurate? Is there information the report missed that could provide more accurate estimates?
  - o Are there ways to harness current local infrastructure not considered in the report?
  - o What are your views of the estimated land use needed in your area for biofuels?
- How can the State or Federal government agencies partner with the private sector to expand the demand for biofuels? Would such a plan push the private sector to meet the increased supply needs?
- What can the government help to expedite infrastructure improvement in the private sector?
- Are there innovative state-based programs or incentives that have worked, and that the Federal government should consider copying nationwide?
- Are there further opportunities for expanding production capacity that should be added to the report?
- What are the top issues that you need to be assured exists before you'd grow biomass for biofuels (especially if it's not a conventional standard crop, like switchgrass or fast growing willow)?
- What are the top issues you'd want to avoid, or be protected against; what might deter you from considering growing biofuels crops?
- Who has experiences with flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs)? Why did you purchase an FFV? Do you use biofuels higher than E10? Why, or why not?
- What are your views of the accomplishments of corn-starch ethanol in achieving 10 billion, and soon 15 billion gallons, of our roughly 140 billion gallon fuel supply?
- What does your locality offer in meeting biofuels goals? What are the barriers or challenges faced by your locality in meeting biofuels goals?
- Do you think biofuels should be sustainable? What is your definition of sustainable?
- As a consumer, what are your expectations of biofuels as a fuel? (i.e. performance, access, price). Are there differences in biofuels that you'd be willing to accept in order to switch from standard fuels?