

# **USDA Montana Biofuels Forum**

**October 20, 2010, 12:15 to 2 p.m.**

**MSU-Northern Bio-Energy Center, Havre, MT**

**Hosted by: USDA Montana Food & Agriculture Council**

## **Questions**

**\*USDA is seeking your input. Please submit comments to Montana Farm Service Agency no later than COB on **Oct. 20, 2010** by email at [jennifer.cole@mt.usda.gov](mailto:jennifer.cole@mt.usda.gov); fax (406) 587-6887 or mail to FSA State Office; P.O. Box 670; Bozeman, MT 59771. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Perez Cole at (406) 587-6786 or email.**

**Is USDA's assessment of the current state of our region's biofuels market accurate?**

- Are there potential sources of feedstock that USDA did not identify in this report that locally could contribute to expanded biofuels production?

- Do you feel USDA's feedstock assumptions and/or limitations are accurate? Is there information the report missed that could provide more accurate estimates?

- Are there ways to harness current local infrastructure not considered in the report?

- 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 their differences in biofuels that you'd be willing to accept in order to switch from standard fuels?**

**In addition to Biofuels, USDA is very interested in Bioenergy. Please list below any key points in regards to Bioenergy production:**

**Additional Notes:**