



## **FAMILY FARMING AND EXPANDED HIGHER ETHANOL BLEND UTILIZATION**

### **2017 SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

For over four decades, National Farmers Union and many state Farmers Union organizations have provided the education, embraced the cooperation, and championed the national and state legislation needed to create the modern 'home-grown fuels from the farm' industry.

The modern biofuels industry has brought billions of dollars of capital investment, millions of dollars of new tax base, and many thousands of new good paying jobs with benefits to struggling rural communities. In contrast to decades of flat exports, the biofuels industry has provided 'home grown' domestic utilization for domestically grown corn that helps stabilize and support corn prices while dramatically reducing carbon emission and improving air quality.

At each step on the long road to biofuels development, family farmers have faced and overcome the powerful opposition of the oil industry. Their opposition to the expanded utilization of higher blend biofuels products in the retail marketplace continues.

At a time when rural America is facing a major financial crisis in the farm sector with three years of below the costs of production commodity prices that finds many family farmers struggling to get their farm operating loans renewed, the need to reduce the size of price depressing surplus of corn supplies through more aggressive retail use of higher blend ethanol is paramount.

The more higher-blend ethanol fuel products Americans purchase, the more farmers, rural communities, our environment, and our state and national economies benefit. Now is the time for our nation to find and pursue bold and innovative strategies to dramatically expand the use of 'home-grown fuels from the farm'.

Ethanol does not contain or produce gasoline's benzene or benzene-related known human carcinogens called polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons which are identical to those found in cigarette smoke. There is no safe level of exposure to benzene or benzene-related polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

Research confirms non-flex and flex-fuel automobiles have the same engines and parts except non-flex auto engine computer programming is more efficient for unleaded E10, E30 blends than flex-fuel engine computer programming that must also adjust to blends near E85.

National Farmers Union continues to champion to expand the retail fuels infrastructure and support the RFS. NFU has filed legal comments through both law firms; Bowden Gray Associates and Larson and King LLP with EPA exposing EPA's invalid, arbitrary and capricious overreach with interpreting Clean Air Act sections 211(f), 201(c) and 1974 Clear Air Act Memorandum 1a.



EPA and all government regulators should immediately reverse statements and policies that say or even indicate it is illegal for so-called non-flex fuel auto owners to fuel with blender (flex) pumps' E30.