



NEBRASKA ETHANOL BOARD

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DAVE HEINEMAN
GOVERNOR

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ADMINISTRATOR

PRESS RELEASE

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New Publication Highlights Positive Economic Impacts of Ethanol Production

The *Ethanol Across America* education campaign released the latest in its series of Issue Briefs. The [Economic Impacts of Ethanol Production](#) illustrates the significant benefits of ethanol production to Nebraska and the U.S. economy.

The new publication examines the impacts of fuel ethanol facilities in Nebraska, Indiana, Iowa, and South Dakota. The publication documents how these domestic biorefineries are helping the economy. Nebraska ranks second in ethanol production nationally with annual production capacity of nearly two billion gallons. Todd Sneller, Administrator of the Nebraska Ethanol Board, said, "Nebraska's economy continues to weather tough economic conditions in part due to the benefits of ethanol production. The strong tie between corn, cattle and ethanol yields a host of economic benefits from value-added processing to new jobs in many sectors of the Nebraska economy."

Douglas A. Durante, Director of the national Ethanol Across America Campaign, said, "We have long been aware of the benefits of ethanol production at the local level. The case studies in Nebraska and other states clearly quantify the economic benefits of ethanol production and use. This new publication also makes it clear that jobs resulting from the ethanol industry, both direct and indirect, fuel the economy at all levels," said Durante.

The ethanol industry added \$2.9 billion of gross output to the US Economy in 2009 alone according to a study cited in the brief and it notes the reduction in Federal outlays for farm programs as well as the substantial energy costs savings. Increasing the motor fuel pool with ethanol lowers the cost of gasoline to consumers and the potential for reducing oil imports could lower the US oil bill by more than \$60 billion dollars per year. Full implementation of the Renewable Fuel Standard, which will largely be met with ethanol, could increase net farm receipts by \$13 billion per year.

Durante noted that ethanol production facilities are not limited to the Midwest. One case study illustrates that a 50 million gallon per year biomass ethanol plant in the Northeast would generate \$170 -- \$200 million in income and create between 4,000 and 6,000 jobs during construction. Ethanol production from wood, agriculture residues, waste paper and other cellulosic sources is being looked at in every state in the union. Recent announcements of cellulosic ethanol projects in Iowa and other states confirm that opportunities exist for production of ethanol and other biofuels from a diverse portfolio of agricultural, forestry and waste products.

"Displacing imported oil, reducing health costs, creating jobs, reducing federal outlays-- the list goes on," said Durante. "With Congress and the Administration calling for a renewed commitment to produce domestic, clean energy, biofuels like ethanol make more sense than ever. With so many new members of Congress eager to look at these issues, we wanted to make this information available to them as they begin this new session."

The *Economic Impacts of Ethanol Production* Issue Brief can be [downloaded](#) from the Ethanol Across America website and [Nebraska Ethanol Board website](#). Hard copies are available by contacting the Nebraska Ethanol Board at www.ne-ethanol.org. Other Briefs in the **Ethanol Across America** series include [Environmental Impacts of Ethanol Production](#), the [Net Energy Balance of Ethanol Production](#), the [Impact of Ethanol Production on Food, Feed, and Fuel; Converting Cellulose into Ethanol and Other Biofuels](#); and [Energy Security](#). For these and other publications log on to www.ethanolacrossamerica.net

A meeting of the Nebraska Ethanol Board is scheduled for Thursday, January 27 at 8:30 am at Country Inn & Suites, 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln.

Established in 1971, the Ethanol Board assists ethanol producers with programs and strategies for marketing ethanol and related co-products. The Board supports organizations and policies that advocate the increased use of ethanol fuels – and administers public information, education and ethanol research projects. The Board also assists companies and organizations in the development of ethanol production facilities in Nebraska. For more information, please visit www.ne-ethanol.org.