



*"Making Every Resource Count"*

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**Testimony before the Senate Environment  
and Natural Resources Committee  
Respectfully Submitted by Blake Rowe, CEO of the  
Oregon Wheat Growers League  
March 18, 2013**

**Chair Dingfelder and Members of the Committee:**

RE: Support for SB 488

On behalf of the Oregon Wheat Growers League (OWGL), I am here today asking for your support of the Clean Fuels Program by removing the sunset in the original program established by the 2009 Legislature. Our members recognize that Oregon needs to continue this program to provide better long-term certainty for investors of biofuel development in our state.

At present, significant investments have been made that are dependent on continued market demand for biofuels. Many of these are in rural Oregon and have served to stimulate local economies by driving demand of key agricultural production as well as creating demand for a variety of agricultural by-products. A great example of this is in Morrow and Umatilla County where the demand for biofuels has facilitated the large expansion of canola as a rotation crop for the region's economically important wheat production.

Maintaining this standard for the fuels sector will drive innovation in alternative fuels and infrastructure. Sideboards have been added to the program to help protect fuel prices. Demand for biofuels will drive employment, increase personal income, and benefit Oregon's Gross State Product. The examples at the Port of Morrow and in Morrow and Umatilla counties with the location of ZeaChem as well as the new fuels expansion with the linkages of Pacific Ethanol to agricultural production serve as a reminder of what continuation of this program could mean to the economies of other rural counties in Oregon.

A continuation of the Clean Fuels Program will drive innovation in alternative fuels and infrastructure and contribute to the economic growth in many regions of our state. The Oregon Wheat Growers League asks for your support of SB 488.