



Citizens for Clean Energy, Inc.

3417 4th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405 406-453-0725

e-mail: cce-mt@bresnan.net www.cce-mt.org

WIND, WATER AND FUTURE

The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
Washington, DC

11 June 2010

Dear Senator Tester,

On behalf of Citizens for Clean Energy, we thank for providing an opportunity to address a Strategic Biofuel Program (SBP) with your staffers Nathan Taylor and Jacob Cowgill. This effort has the potential to bring more DOD activity to **Malmstrom AFB**, and many other active/reserve military facilities which could refine and store biofuels such as Camelina for dedication military aviation utilization that will benefit DOD and taxpayers alike and provide attractive opportunities for farmers to grow Camelina and other oilseeds for our STRATEGIC military needs and missions, and that also includes our MT Guard aviation.

As you noted on 'Face the State' last Sunday morning with Heath Heggem of KRTV, Camelina and other oilseeds have tremendous potential to revitalize Rural America, especially in regards to how we can follow CRP with a program to grow oilseeds for biofuel, an idea supported by Montana Farmers Union and CCE. There have been many pioneers in this field such as Dr. Duane Johnson of MSU, Leonard Stone (a grower and with MT Farmers Union), Al Kurki, and many others who've 'carried the ball' tirelessly and Dr. Nestor Soriano at MSU-Northern doing great work with help from you on appropriations.

Camelina also needs to get bona-fide crop insurance and you rightly noted that farmers need assurances and I suggest that the DOD/USDA contracts can provide the stimulus for Camelina production and other strategic oilseed applications. President Obama has established a Strategic Biofuels Roadmap and has a working group at the White House, and we can make it happen here in Montana by getting the DOE, USDA and DOD to cooperate, and utilize our military installations to help collect, refine, store and transport biofuels initially for military aviation first.

Oilseeds also have qualities that enhance crop rotations and may help counter sawfly infestations, provide valuable feed by-products for livestock and high-value Omega 3 oils, etc. SBP could also help us transition away from CRP and revive our farm and ranch communities.

It's time to pay America's farmer the valued premiums for homeland biofuels instead of to foreign princes and dictators. This enhances our economy, revives Rural America (something USDA/DOE pledged to do), provides DOD with homeland fuel, offers clean energy with reduced GHG emissions and shows America CAN lead again. ***Let's get these biofuels from our stoic farmers to our brave military pilots now!***

Sincerely,

Richard D. Liebert
Lt. Colonel (retired, Army) richard.liebert@us.army.mil/wvranch@3rivers.net 736-5791
Chair, CCE, Inc. , farmer/rancher, member, MFU and Purdue University 'Aggie'!