

# Pulse

From issues relating to government policies, to infrastructure and opinion pieces, the ethanol industry has much to be reported on. Here is a representation of the past few months of news coverage. The comments do not necessarily represent the opinions of POET, LLC.

“The impacts of air pollution on health and regional climate forcing are perhaps some of the most uncertain impacts of sugar-cane ethanol, but are critical for assessing its sustainability.”

From a December study titled “Increased estimates of air-pollution emissions from Brazilian sugar-cane ethanol” out of University of California, Merced, 12/11/2011.

“This is a remarkable achievement by America’s clean, renewable fuels industry as moving to E15 results in reduced dependence on foreign oil, jobs here in America and consumer savings at the pump.”

Tom Buis, CEO of Growth Energy, on the EPA approval of health effects testing on E15, 2/17/12.

“Ethanol use is a very simple and real way South Dakotans can decrease their dependence on foreign oil and promote a homegrown product. Through this grant program, we hope more gas stations make ethanol blends available to South Dakota consumers, in turn supporting South Dakota’s economy and those employed by the ethanol industry.”

Dana Siefkes-Lewis, president of the South Dakota Ethanol Producers Association, on the state’s blender pump incentive program, 12/20/2011.

“U.S. crude oil imports during 2011 fell to their lowest level in twelve years and were down 12% from their peak in 2005, as higher domestic oil production and decreased consumption of petroleum products reduced American refiners’ purchases of foreign crude.”

U.S. Energy Information Administration’s Petroleum Supply monthly, 3/19/12.

“By adopting alternative fuels, advanced vehicles and by making their operations smarter and more fuel-efficient, these national partners are increasing their competitiveness and helping to reduce the nation’s dependence on foreign oil.”

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu, on growth of the National Clean Fleets Partnership, 3/5/12.

“I’m honored to represent American Ethanol. I not only talk about American Ethanol, I truly believe in it. I’ve been to the farms, I’ve met the families, I’ve been to the ethanol plants, and I’ve been in the hallways of the U.S. Senate in Washington, D.C., in support of it.”

Kenny Wallace, NASCAR driver, 1/21/12.

“Several billion dollars have been invested in advanced biofuels development with the expectation that Congress will stay the course with regard to its commitment to the industry. A tax increase on advanced biofuels at this time would curtail investment and undercut an industry just starting to close deals and break ground on first commercial plants.”

From a letter from the Advanced Ethanol Council to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry asking for extension of the cellulosic ethanol tax credit, 2/14/12.

“We’ve subsidized oil companies for a century. That’s long enough. It’s time to end the taxpayer giveaways to an industry that rarely has been more profitable, and double-down on a clean energy industry that never has been more promising.”

President Barack Obama, in the State of the Union Address, 1/24/12.

“Minnesota is one of the few states that offer drivers easy access to a cleaner alternative to petroleum-based fuel. ... Every time a flex fuel vehicle is filled with E85 instead of gasoline, it reduces air pollution, helps our local economy, and lessens our state’s dependence on petroleum, which we import from other states or countries.”

Kelly Marczak, director of the Clean Air Choice program of the American Lung Association in Minnesota on news that Minnesota sold 19.8 million gallons of E85 in 2011, 2/17/12.

“U.S. ethanol exports in 2011 reached a record high partly due to Brazil’s need to import more ethanol after a poor harvest of sugarcane—the feedstock for most of Brazil’s ethanol—sharply decreased that country’s ethanol production.”

U.S. Energy Information Administration, 3/6/12.