



November 22, 2021

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Chairwoman
Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Scott
Chairman
House Committee on Agriculture
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Stabenow and Chairman Scott:

We write today to express our appreciation and support for provisions included in the agriculture portion of the Build Back Better (BBB) Act that will build new markets for farmers and biofuel producers and help lower the carbon intensity of agriculture.

One of the most pressing challenges facing biofuel producers is ensuring that consumers have consistent access to higher-level ethanol and biodiesel blends, which are lower carbon and lower cost than petroleum fuels. The Biofuel Infrastructure and Agriculture Product Market Expansion provision in the BBB Act helps address this issue and contains much needed funding to ensure consumers have access to these fuels. This provision contains nearly \$1 billion in funding to provide grants to retail fuel stations and fuel terminal operators to upgrade refueling infrastructure and to upgrade distribution systems. Most importantly, this provision looks to improve past U.S. Department of Agriculture efforts to provide these refueling infrastructure incentives by allocating grants where they will drive the most market growth for low carbon biofuels.

In the life cycle analysis for biofuels like ethanol and biodiesel, farming practices account for roughly 50-65 percent of the carbon emissions associated with these fuels. Farmers have already responded to the call for sustainability, using fewer inputs and increasing efficiencies in their farming practices. These improved practices have already helped reduce the carbon intensity of farming, and therefore the overall carbon intensity of biofuels.

The BBB Act provides further voluntary incentives like cover crops, nutrient management, buffers, and incentives for locally-led conservation efforts that will help reduce the carbon intensity of agriculture even further, helping biofuel producers provide an even lower carbon liquid fuel at a time when demand for low carbon fuels is rising. As biofuel producers capture the value of low carbon farming practices, farmers would also have the opportunity to benefit in the form of premium prices for their commodities. These further reductions are important to ensure a long-term future for biofuels as policymakers and the public look to lower the carbon intensity of transportation.

We thank you again for your efforts to help ensure a more vibrant and sustainable biofuels sector through the Build Back Better Act.

Sincerely,

Growth Energy
National Biodiesel Board
National Corn Growers Association
National Farmers Union
Renewable Fuels Association