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GrowthEnergy.org

May 5, 2023

Adams County Board
507 Vermont Street
Quincy, Illinois 62301

County Board Members:

Thank you for your work to grow Illinois's economy. My name is Emily Skor, and I serve as CEO of Growth Energy. Growth Energy is the world's largest association of biofuel producers representing 91 U.S. plants that produce nearly nine billion gallons of cleaner-burning, renewable fuel annually; 106 businesses associated with the production process; and tens of thousands of biofuel supporters across the country. Our ultimate objective is to work together to bring better and more affordable choices at the fuel pump, improve air quality, and protect the environment for future generations.

I am writing to you today to respectfully ask for your support of Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS) projects in the state. These projects are vital to the long-term competitiveness of our industry in the carbon economy, and CO₂ has the potential to be just as valuable as a commodity of ethanol production as any of the co-products that come from our facilities. Illinois's ethanol industry supports thousands of jobs, generates hundreds of millions of dollars for our economy, and, critically, purchases nearly 30 percent of the corn grown in the state. Bioprocessing facilities have long been pioneers in carbon capture technology, providing pure streams of clean CO₂ for use by a range of industries and for multiple purposes, including for food, beverages, and dry ice. CCUS systems will be an important tool for many bioprocessing facilities allowing them to cut their carbon intensity by half, driving significantly more value for their product and making them more competitive. The biofuel industry, farmers, and rural communities are inextricably linked, and these projects will help the entire supply chain compete in a low-carbon economy. With better transport and storage infrastructure, ethanol plants can connect to a larger network of CCUS systems to get CO₂ where it is needed.

Ultimately, low-carbon biofuels coupled with CCUS will create thousands of high-quality clean energy jobs across the supply chain, in rural America, and throughout the country, while helping us meet our climate targets as quickly as possible. We hope that you will support our industry's ability to thrive and support the state's vibrant ag economy by carefully considering the unintended consequences of any resolution and allowing important CCUS projects the opportunity to add more value to the great state of Illinois.

We hope that you will help keep Illinois's ethanol industry competitive and maintain its reputation as a state that welcomes business investment.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily Skor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Emily" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Skor".

Emily Skor, CEO
Growth Energy