# **WELCOME BIOECONOMY**.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Expanding America's Bioeconomy

### 2023: A YEAR IN REVIEW

# Growing stronger one year to the next.

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# Growth Energy<sup>™</sup> Expanding America's Bioeconomy

96

**Producer Plants** 

113

**Associate Members** 

See full list of members on page 22.



# **A NOTE** FROM OUR CEO

Over the past year, we've worked harder than ever to highlight how our members are helping Americans meet our energy needs, our economic demands, and our nation's carbon reduction goals all at the same time.

A major part of that effort has focused on implementation of new tax incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act. Where simplicity was once an advantage, we are now calling on regulators to embrace complexity - so incentives can accurately reward the myriad ways that American biofuel producers are cutting carbon intensity – plant by plant, lab by lab, and field by field across the country.

We've also provided policymakers with a clear roadmap for expanding the American bioeconomy. Where some see only a field of corn, we see clean energy, nutrient-rich animal feed, green chemicals, and an evergrowing array of bioproducts that deliver benefits, on the ground and in the air. But to reach our full potential, we need smart policy, including a permanent fix for year-round E15, a stronger Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), and reliable access to growing markets in the U.S. and around the world.

As you will see in this year's report, Growth Energy has been using every tool in our arsenal to achieve these goals — from defending the RFS in court and advancing our priorities in Congress to educating consumers alongside partners like gold medal Olympian Shawn Johnson East.

On behalf of the board of directors and the entire team at Growth Energy, thank you for your unwavering support. With a strong and engaged membership standing behind us and bipartisan champions at our side, the biofuel industry is poised to deliver a new generation of plant-based energy and climate solutions, and we're grateful to you for sharing our vision for expanding the American bioeconomy.

Emily Sko

CEO, Growth Energy



"Where simplicity was once an advantage, we are now calling on regulators to embrace complexity - so incentives can accurately reward the myriad ways that American biofuel producers are cutting carbon intensity."

# 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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### **INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP**

# Leading the way with steady leadership.

2023 was a year of transition for Growth Energy — fitting for a year that ended with the launch of our new logo, website, and refreshed look.

Whereas last year we focused on the enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), this year we focused on its implementation. In previous years, we fought for year-to-year Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). in 2023 we received a multi-year RVO that set strong conventional volumes through 2025. We also worked tirelessly to expand access to E15 in recent years. We sustained those efforts and preserved the progress we'd already made, bringing the industry closer than we've ever been to a permanent fix for year-round sales.

Growth Energy was in the middle of every major policy discussion and a key part of every political victory the biofuels industry experienced in 2023. When the U.S. Treasury started considering how to implement the IRA's biofuel tax incentives, we worked aggressively to tell the industry's story. When EPA needed to slightly delay the release of their multi-year RVOs beyond the deadline we set for them, we got the call to negotiate the extension. When the Biden administration needed to know how important it was for all drivers to be able to access E15 throughout the summer driving season, we served up a seven-figure surroundsound public affairs campaign that ultimately vielded an emergency waiver – marking the fifth consecutive summer of approved E15 sales.

U **GET BIOFUEL** 

At the same time, we opened up a number of new fronts in our continuing push to maintain biofuels' rightful place in the conversations happening nationwide about sustainability and rural economic growth.



G Fifteen years after the association's founding, Growth Energy conducted a brand review exercise resulting in a new brand narrative, strategic focus, and visual identity.



CEO Emily Skor accepts the inaugural Women in Ethanol award at the Fuel Ethanol Workshop.

For instance, when Republican leadership put the new biofuel tax credits on the chopping block during debt ceiling negotiations in the U.S. House of Representatives, our champions put a stop to it. Growth Energy worked with biofuel champions including Reps. Feenstra, Hinson, Nunn, Miller-Meeks, Fischbach, Finstad, Van Orden, and Alford, many of whom are serving their first term, to protect these tax credits and to educate the Republican conference about the vital role they play in the future of liquid fuels and the rural economy.

We made promising inroads with key administration officials and regulators working on sustainable biofuels for the aviation sector. Just this summer President Biden acknowledged what we knew to be true, that "in the next 20 years, farmers are going to be providing 95% of all the sustainable airline fuel."

Across the board, our efforts were backed by a steady drumbeat of earned, owned, and paid media to showcase data on the savings benefits of E15, advance state-level priorities, and push back against baseless attacks on bioethanol's environmental profile.

We also celebrated exciting victories along

"Growth Energy members are fueling a new era for America's bioeconomy. We are blazing a new trail toward a clean-energy future that is both affordable and sustainable, and we want our brand to reflect these advancements."

growth energy

**GET BIOFUEL** 

growth energy

**GET BIOFUEL** 

O USDA Secretary Tom

Growth Energy Chairman

Dan Sanders, CEO Emily

Harris, and POET's Matt

2023 Biofuels Summit in

Washington D.C.

Skor, The Anderson's Rod

Traen and Matt Ward at the

Vilsack (third from left)

poses with outgoing

Emily Skor

the way. Highlights include CEO Emily Skor accepting the inaugural Women in Ethanol award at the Fuel Ethanol Workshop (FEW), welcoming new biofuel infrastructure grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and ensuring passage of a new E15 standard in Nebraska, making it the second state after lowa to enact such a law.

Nowhere was Growth Energy's leadership clearer than at our two major events, the Executive Leadership Conference (ELC) and the Growth Energy Biofuels Summit (GEBS) - each one an industry-leading gathering of the best and brightest in biofuels.

Hosted at the Waldorf-Astoria in Dana Point, Calif., the 2023 ELC invited attendees to "Fuel Beyond" with a program focused on the horizon of opportunity and how to overcome hurdles as we seek to add value and open new markets. It also served as the formal kickoff of the Get Biofuel Green American Road Trip, as Get Biofuel ambassadors Shawn Johnson East (gold-medal-winning Olympian) and Andrew East (former NFL long snapper) were in attendance to promote the Green American Road Trip.

As for GEBS 2023, the speaker line-up spoke for itself. Led by a news-making address by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, the program also featured presentations by the Department of Energy's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Sustainable Transportation and Fuels Michael Berube and White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi. Reviews of ELC and GEBS were uniformly positive, with attendees saying each was the "best-ever" iteration.

Yes, it was a transitional year, but that doesn't mean that it was an inconsequential year. Our successes – driven by the relentless creativity and innovation of our membership - set the stage for a new era of bioethanol producers expanding America's bioeconomy. 🕼

### POLICY

# Crafting commonsense policy with America's policymakers.

On the policy front, we began the year with a new Congress and an administration that recognized the value of biofuels in a net-zero future, and we worked to raise the bar for policies that support the bioeconomy.

We argued that biofuels tax incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) should be interpreted in a way that ensures the industry can take full advantage of them as Congress intended; defended strong biofuel blending obligations that uphold the integrity of the RFS; and expanded access to lower-cost, lower-carbon fuel.

This August, we marked the one-year anniversary of the IRA by publishing a study on how rural America benefits from the 45Z tax incentives for clean transportation fuels. We also remained at the forefront of the fight for access to sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) incentives, working alongside our champions on the Hill. We commented in every regulatory docket, and we

pressed the Department of Treasury at every step of the way, opening up a new front in our advocacy with an agency that wasn't as familiar with our industry's issues as the EPA, DOE, or USDA. They're certainly more up to speed now after Growth Energy's numerous letters to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) outlining one of our core demands of Treasury: to recognize Argonne National Lab's GREET model, the global gold standard for modeling agriculturebased energy sources. GREET has been the centerpiece of our advocacy on SAF and the focal point of our numerous media appearances and other public communications on the subject, including a panel on SAF hosted by the Environmental Law Institute and a POLITICO

Clockwise from middle left: White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi speaks to members at Growth Energy's Biofuels Summit in September General Counsel Joe Kakesh speaks at the North American SAF Conference & Expo; Growth Energy CEO Emily Skor participates on panel hosted by POLITICO focused on sustainability.

• Biofuels champion Sen. John Thune (R-S.D.) sits down with CEO Emily Skor and Growth Energy members for a meeting during the Biofuels Summit.

We also worked with governors and attorneys general of key Midwestern states seeking their own permanent state-based solution for summer sales of E15 and continued to call on EPA to finalize this Midwestern solution. Beyond this state and federal activity, we redoubled our efforts on a permanent legislative fix for E15. We will continue to work with our champions in Congress, accelerating our push to protect consumer savings through a new law that would allow this fuel to be sold everywhere, all year long, and put more gallons of American bioethanol in fuel tanks across the country.







panel on a more sustainable future. We continue to call on our leaders to make GREET an option for claiming tax incentives that will help build a stable SAF market and set the stage for growth in renewable energy sources.

On the RFS, we established a firm foundation for the future. Starting the year off with CEO Emily Skor outlining the industry's needs in testimony to the EPA, Growth Energy remained in constant contact with the agency to reiterate the concerns and comments of its members. The final rule provides strong volumes, and three years of certainty under the RFS, where previously we've only gotten one year (or none at all). Protecting the gains we made with the RFS Set will continue to be a cornerstone of our advocacy, but with a multi-year rule in place, we can also attend to other pressing priorities.

Among those priorities is finding a permanent fix to the year-round sale of E15 nationwide. This spring, we pressed the White House, EPA, and other policy makers alongside a sevenfigure surround-sound media campaign where Growth Energy demanded swift action by the Biden administration. We were successful. The administration issued an emergency waiver for the second summer in a row and consumers were able to fuel up on the affordable, low-carbon bioethanol blend. In response, we ran a thank-you campaign to show the industry's appreciation and maintain our strong relationship with the administration.

# By the **Numbers**

# 259

GE member Hill visits during fly-ins.

# 5

economic or environmental research studies

# 6

letters to Treasury regarding **GREET** modeling and other key provisions of Sections 40B and 45Z of the Inflation **Reduction Act** 

# 11

federal regulatory comments filed (RFS, EPA's Multipollutant Rule for Vehicles, NHTSA's CAFE Rule, and the IRA)

16 pro-bioethanol bills introduced

6 pro-bioethanol congressional letters with 117 signatures

•	11 federal regulatory comments filed		rds for digital excellence e Get Biofuel campaign
•	5 economic or environmental research studies	259 GE member Hill visits during fly-ins	statewide pro-
	10+ Beltway Policy Panels featuring Senior Management Team members	10 lawsuits on RFS	Secured E15 legalization in Phoenix
	16 pro-ethanol bills introduced	local letters of support on CCUS	Grew E15 footprint to 3400+
*	<b>10 testimonies befor policymakers</b> (1 fede	retail sites 6 pro-ethanol	
E	6 letters to Treasury biofuel tax incentive	congressional letters with 117 signatures	

### LEGAL

# Working to make the law work.

This year, Growth Energy's work in the courts reflects two longstanding principles:

- 1. Oil industry interests should be held accountable to RFS blending obligations that Congress clearly intended for them to meet, and
- 2. EPA should be held accountable for properly implementing the RFS as Congress intended.

As it has done in previous years, Growth Energy led the industry in pressing EPA to timely act on its RFS obligations. When EPA fell behind in finalizing the RFS Set, Growth Energy challenged EPA's delays, and successfully negotiated a hard deadline. As a result, we now have

three years of RVOs that provide industry certainty through the end of 2025.

In addition, Growth Energy has remained

at the vanguard of the legal battle

to preserve the integrity of the RFS,

and EPA's decision to end the abuse

of small refinery exemptions (SREs).

challenged the agency for its failure

obligated to blend. Finally, Growth is

also ramping up to defend the RFS

to ensure that refiners who are denied

SREs blend every gallon they are legally

against baseless attacks relating to the

engaging in a robust defense of RVOs

Concurrent with this effort, Growth has

environmental impacts of biofuels under the Endangered Species Act. These efforts will continue through 2024. 🦚

• General Counsel Joe Kakesh shares updates on legal efforts to ensure RFS is upheld as Congress intended at NAFB's Washington Watch event in Washington, D.C. in March.



### **Court Battles**

### Intervening to defend the RFS Reset and the RFS Set

Sinclair v. EPA, No. 22-1210 (D.C. Cir.) – 2020-2022 RVOs (RFS Reset)

Center for Biological Diversity v. EPA, No. 23-1177 (D.C. Cir.) -2023-2025 RVOs (RFS Set)

### Holding EPA Accountable to the RFS

Growth Energy v. EPA, No. 22-1126 (D.C. Cir.) - SRE "alternative compliance"

Growth Energy v. Regan, No. 22-cv-01191 (D.D.C.) -RFS Set deadline

### **Pushing Back on SRE Abuse**

Sinclair v. EPA. No. 22-1073 (D.C. Cir.)-April/June 2022 SRE denials

Calumet v. EPA, No. 22-60266 (5th Cir.) – April/June 2022 SRE denials

Hunt Refining v. EPA, No. 22-11617 (11th Cir.) -April/June 2022 SRE denials

Calumet Montana v. EPA, No. 23-1194 (D.C. Cir.) -July 2023 SRE denials

San Antonio Refinery v. EPA, No. 23-60399 (5th Cir.) -July 2023 SRE denials

Hunt Refining v. EPA, No. 23-12347 (11th Cir.) -July 2023 denials

### STATE POLICY UPDATES

# Transforming the nation one state at a time.

Across the country, we've taken our push for year-round E15 to the states, fighting to advance E15 and enshrine biofuels in clean energy standards nationwide.

The Nebraska legislature passed the Adopt the E15 Access Standard Act, cementing Nebraska's leadership role in homegrown, renewable energy, expanding access to E15 at more Nebraska fueling stations, and increasing tax incentives for fuel retailers selling higher bioethanol blends.



Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen signs the Adopt the E15 Access Standard Act into law.

'This legislation cements Nebraska's leadership role in homegrown, renewable energy, ensuring that more drivers can enjoy savings at the pump thanks to the state's world-class biofuel sector."

Emily Skor

In Illinois, the governor signed legislation reducing taxes paid on higher blends of bioethanol and clarifying requirements for a tax credit for Sustainable Aviation Fuel.

### **Other Victories:**

At our urging, the **Arizona Department** of Agriculture Weights and Measures Services Division delivered a final rule to allow the sale of E15 in the greater Phoenix area under the state's Clean Burning Gasoline (CBG) program. This means that regional restrictions will no longer discourage retailers from bringing new options to the pump statewide.

**Denver** is completing its move to reformulated gasoline, which will allow permanent summer sale of E15. Growth worked with the city's regional air quality council to inform the important role of biofuels.

In **Washington**, legislators approved a new tax credit for SAF.

In **California**, we continue to provide comment and input on the important role for higher biofuel blends like E15 as part of the state's effort to revise and expand the low carbon fuel standard.

Growth Energy supported efforts to approve E15 for use in **Phoenix** and **Montana.** 

We also backed petitions from the governors of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin notifying EPA of their intent to provide permanent parity between E10 and E15 in their states. As a result of the governors' notices, EPA proposed a rule this spring to make the necessary regulatory changes to implement the year-round sale of E15 in eight states beginning in the summer of 2024. Today, we're pressing the agency to move faster on the final rule, so retailers can be ready to offer savings at the pump next summer.

### **IOWA CAUCUSES**

# Growing support for biofuels in America's heartland.

The lowa Caucus was front and center for us once again. As an industry, we know our future isn't tied to one party or one politician.

That's why our focus this caucus season was to maximize the number of office holders and influencers who make firm commitments to bioethanol – whether they capture their party's nomination, or return to their positions as governors, senators, and diplomats.

We've worked hand in hand with our members to host candidates at plant tours and educate them on the vast potential of the bioeconomy. Thanks to members like POET, the Andersons, and Siouxland Energy who hosted tours, candidates learned first-hand the value of biofuel production on the rural economy. Just this summer, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, South Carolina Senator Tim Scott, and Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson all visited our member plants in Iowa to learn more about bioethanol production, carbon capture, nutrient-rich animal feed, and other innovations.

In 2023, nine Republican presidential candidates made commitments to our industry, and our team continues to engage the field through Caucus Day to firm up and expand that support.

These efforts are key opportunities to engage future office holders and secure policy commitments for our industry.



• Growth Energy staff were pleased to attend plant tours with Republican presidential hopefuls hosted by member companies POET, The Andersons, and Siouxland Energy.

### SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL

# **Cleared** for takeoff.

Growth Energy has been heavily involved in the media and policy discussions surrounding Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) among policy leaders in the Beltway and beyond.

Our strong focus reflects our members' commitment to build out this new market.

Since the IRA was passed into law, Growth Energy has stressed the importance of bioethanol to the development of the SAF market. In 2023 we sent six comments and seven letters on the topic. Some of these letters were coalition efforts, and it's noteworthy too who else signed onto them - one letter was sent jointly by 70 companies from across the Sustainable Aviation Fuel supply chain, including 10 major airlines like Delta, American, Southwest. It isn't just bioethanol producers that are excited by the possibilities of SAF --- it's the entire aviation supply chain.

Of course, success in SAF will depend on federal officials getting the lifecycle analysis modeling right. Bioethanol producers and their farm partners must get credit for every molecule of carbon eliminated from their production processes. By allowing this, officials in the Treasury Department can make sure that bioethanol rightly qualifies as a cornerstone feedstock for SAF and that tax credits designed "Mark my words: the next 20 years, farmers are going to be providing 95% of all the sustainable airline fuel."

- President Joe Biden





CEO Emily Skor moderates a panel that includes Paul Kearns, Director of Argonne National Laboratory in November. Panelists discussed the importance of alternative fuels and the benefit to the airline industry, innovation, farmers, and climate.





to support SAF production have the greatest possible impact, economically and environmentally. This, of course, means that Treasury must allow bioethanol producers and farmers to qualify for the tax credits through the use of the Department of Energy's Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Transportation (GREET) model for lifecycle analysis.

To date, Treasury has yet to formally issue guidance as it pertains to modeling for SAF tax credits, but President Biden Growth Energy worked tirelessly in 2023 to promote GREET might have put it best in July 2023 when he said "mark my and to tell the industry's story to policymakers and Treasury words, the next 20 years, farmers are going to be providing 95 and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) officials in letters, percent of all the sustainable airline fuel." SAF is the next phase testimony, comments, and numerous other meetings. We in the evolution of our industry. Growth Energy will continue built coalitions and were founding members (along with to lead the way toward a brighter future for the broader Delta, Airbus, and other aviation leaders) of Americans for bioeconomy through the development of a strong, sustainable Clean Aviation Fuels (ACAF), a new group formed to drive SAF market, supplied by homegrown American biofuels. 🕼

# **AMERICANS FOR** AVIATION FUELS

Growth Energy joined Delta, Airbus, and other aviation leaders as a founding member of Americans for Clean Aviation Fuels (ACAF), a new coalition focused on driving investment in Americangrown feedstocks for SAF.

오 Dustin Marquis (far left) of Marquis Energy moderated one of the panels at this year's Executive Leadership Conference focused on SVE

investment in American-grown feedstocks for SAF. Our senior management team participated on numerous panel presentations, and we hosted presentations of our own on the topic at the 2023 Executive Leadership Conference and 2023 Biofuels Summit.

### E15 WAIVER

# **Securing year-round** access to E15.

Growth Energy helped ensure EPA issued an emergency RVP waiver for the 2023 summer driving season and advanced legislative work toward a permanent fix.

Whether it was pressing EPA and the White House or organizing a retail fly-in to make the case for year-round access, Growth Energy was leading the charge.

In April, Growth Energy launched its E15 Now engagement campaign, an ad campaign calling for uninterrupted access to cleaner, more affordable E15 fuel during the fast-approaching summer driving season.

The campaign targeted President Biden and his administration, calling for an emergency waiver. It created a drumbeat of attention on E15 inside the Beltway via television and digital advertising, including spots on CNN and MSNBC. As part of this effort, Growth Energy also leveraged highly targeted television advertising in major biofuelproducing states. 🕼



"Immediate action on a summer waiver would signal relief at the pump for consumers and provide retailers with the certainty they need to fully commit to offering E15 over the summer ahead. That's why we're rallying grassroots supporters, retail partners, and elected leaders across the heartland to protect access to fuel savings with E15." - Emily Skor



WITH E15

SAVED ON AVERAGE WITH E15

THIS SUMMER

### **GROWTH ENERGY PAC**

**Growth Energy's Political Action Committee** had a record year, raising more than \$300.000 to support 61 candidates. Our generous supporters helped us expand our efforts in Washington to ensure that probioethanol candidates will have the support they need to run campaigns for office.



• From left, Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-Wisc.), Growth Energy Chairman Tom Willis of Conestoga Energy, and Rep. Brad Finstad (R-Minn.) at a PAC event in September





different events this year (pictured above) and got many additional opportunities to educate our nation's elected leaders and thank them for their support of our industry.

# **Growing markets** in our own backyard.

Despite volatility in the fuel markets, E15 remained the more affordable option across the country.

To showcase the need for a permanent E15 fix, we gathered the data, which showed that E15 saved Americans an average of 15 cents per gallon this summer – only one cent shy of the 16 cents drivers saved last summer when gas prices reached an all-time high in the wake of the conflict in Ukraine.

And we made every effort to share the results with U.S. policymakers and our champions on the Hill. In March, Growth Energy hosted a press conference in conjunction with its 2023 retailer fly-in. We welcomed representatives from key E15 retailers to DC to deliver the message that not only does E15 serve an important role in the continued success of fuel retailers of all sizes across the Midwest, but if adopted nationwide, it would slash carbon emissions while saving consumers a total of \$20.6 billion in fuel costs annually.

A testament to E15's growing demand, consumers have now driven more than 90 billion miles on the fuel - a statistic we proudly promoted. We also added more than 400





Vice President of Market Development Jake Comer meets with former Olympian Shawn Johnson and her husband, Andrew East, during a stop on the Green American Road Trip to fill up with UNL88/E15. Read more about the trip on page 20.

By the end of November, drivers across America had logged 90 billion miles on E15.

"Drivers saved an average of 15 cents per gallon compared to standard E10 fuel choices, with savings reaching 40 to 60 cents per gallon in some states." - Emily Skor

new retail locations in 2023 (a 15 percent increase), offering American motorists more opportunities to fuel up with a lower-cost, lower-carbon option. We project to end 2023 with 3,386 sites offering E15 and 254 sites replacing the 87/E10 with E15 as the standard fuel offering. 🕼

• Yet again, E15 saved drivers money at the pump in 2023. A number of our retail partners also offered special discounts on the more affordable, lower-carbon fuel option around holidays like Memorial Day and Thanksgiving, saving drivers even more money during 2023's busiest travel periods.





# **TOP 5 EXPORT MARKETS FOR 2023\***

# **Breaking barriers and** crossing borders.

Growth Energy continues to expand market development efforts across the globe.

Earlier this year, the Senate confirmed two of our key global trade negotiators: USDA Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs Alexis Taylor and U.S. Trade Representative Chief Agricultural Negotiator Doug McKalip - a victory for the ag community after nearly two years of vacancies. Since then, we've been working with the administration to maximize opportunities, like those in Japan, India, and Canada.

Canada, the number one export destination for U.S. bioethanol, increased its imports again this year. Canada's federal Clean Fuels Regulation (CFR) went into effect this past July, setting the stage for a greater role to be played by biofuels in the years to come. Imports of U.S. bioethanol into the European Union (EU) also increased in 2023. However, in September the EU announced it will be conducting retroactive surveillance of these imports-meaning the European Commission will be reviewing import transactions from the last three years to identify different pricing trends and potentially implement new policies that prioritize domestically produced (e.g., European) bioethanol. Growth Energy continues to monitor this situation and stands ready to engage should this new surveillance policy result in any unfair trade practices.

The biggest news from Japan in 2023 came after the country's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) approved U.S. bioethanol to be eligible for use in up to 100% of the country's ethyl

tert-butyl ether (ETBE) production. This shift gives American companies the opportunity to provide Japan with all of its ETBE, setting the stage for greater export growth in the coming years.

Brazil has been a key focal point for Growth Energy for several reasons. Imports to Brazil dropped substantially in 2023 due to a strong dollar and the continued rise in Brazilian corn-bioethanol production. The country also continues to levy unfair tariffs on U.S. imports of bioethanol, despite the fact that Brazilian imports enter the U.S. tariff-free, and Brazilian bioethanol producers have approved pathways under the U.S. Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) and California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). Growth Energy CEO Emily Skor visited the nation in Spring 2023 and continues to rally support in Washington to address the current trade imbalance U.S. bioethanol producers face in Brazil.

In January 2023, India achieved its bioethanol fuel blending target of 10 percent, five months ahead of schedule. The south Asian juggernaut also continued to make great strides in increasing its blend rate and have set a new target of 20 percent by 2025. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced the formation, alongside the U.S. and Brazil, of a new Global Biofuels Alliance during the September G20 summit. We're hopeful the announcement will reflect a stronger partnership between major economies to advance the world's most important, affordable, and abundant clean fuel. 🕼



### CONSUMER

# Powering change by empowering consumers.

# **OGET BIOFUEL**

Growth Energy's Get Biofuel consumer program expanded its reach and influence in 2023 by connecting consumers through shared interests and experiences. This campaign enlightened consumers on the benefits of biofuel and empowered them to make a positive change for their family and for the world by making a simple change of choosing Unleaded 88 at the pump.

This year, Get Biofuel introduced the Green American Road Trip, an initiative that promoted just how easy it is for consumers to choose eco-friendly travel and sustainable practices on their own road trips. Inspired by the grand tradition of exploring our native land and racing out to enjoy the freedom of the open road, we tapped influencers across the U.S. to amplify their own road trips and travels, including making stops across the country where UNL88/E15 was available. The campaign leveraged the Get Biofuel fuel finder and partnered with Waze and Google maps to help consumers find nearby stations selling higher blends.

Taking the influencer partnership a step further, this year Olympic Gold Medalist Shawn Johnson East and



FOR DIGITAL EXCELLENCE

• Top photo: a screen capture of Shawn Johnson East and Andrew East in their 30-second kickoff ad for the Green American Road Trip. Bottom photo: the Easts onstage at the Growth Energy Executive Leadership Conference.

former NFL player Andrew East joined the Get Biofuel team to partner on The Green American Road Trip. Shawn and Andrew packed their family up and took audiences on two summer road trips making stops to fuel up at our retail partners. Along the way, they they shared lifelong family memories, all fueled by Get Biofuel and Unleaded 88.

### **NASCAR** in the Windy City

2023 marked the first Chicago Street Race, which was surrounded by heightened media buzz and coverage, and had a record-breaking viewership of 4.8 million, and 1.7 million impressions from Get Bioethanol's social media posts and ads.

Sugar HUNSTER



C The Easts stop to fill up with E15 on the Green American Road Trip.

Two posts from Get Biofuel's influencer campaign that appeared in thousands of users' social media feeds this year.



### **BY THE NUMBERS**

Through paid and organic socialposts and YouTube videos, the partnership gained national visibility with:

### **207MM** impressions

**11.9MM engagements** 

212K fuel finder engagements

**1.8MM retailer store visits** 

## Participating Retailers









KWIK STAR





Growth Energy CEO Emily Skor (in white) supporting the No 3 Get Bioethanol ca at the last NASCAR race of the season ir hoenix\_Ear left: Sko oses with Tammie roin and POET CEC eff Broin: left: Skor with Get Bioethanol No. 3 Chevrolet Driver Austin Dillon and Growth Energy hairman Tom Willi

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Growth Energy is the nation's largest association of biofuel producers, representing 96 U.S. plants that each year produce more than nine billion gallons of low-carbon, renewable fuel; 113 businesses associated with the production process; and tens of thousands of biofuel supporters around the country. Our members play a key role in every segment of the supply chain.

As Growth Energy's role has grown, so have our ranks. Growth Energy added six new plants and 14 new associate members to the fold. Each new member brings different and valuable expertise to the table, and at Growth Energy we will continue to expand our membership and partnerships even further in 2024.

Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC – Mina

# **PRODUCER PLANTS**

Absolute Energy, L.L.C. Ace Ethanol LLC Adkins Energy LLC Archer Daniels Midland Co. - Decatur Archer Daniels Midland Co. – Cedar Rapids Dry Mill Archer Daniels Midland Co. - Cedar Rapids Wet Mill Archer Daniels Midland Co. – Clinton Archer Daniels Midland Co. – Columbus Dry Mill Archer Daniels Midland Co. - Columbus Wet Mill Archer Daniels Midland Co. - Marshall **Big River Resources Boyceville, LLC** Big River Resources Galva, LLC Big River Resources West Burlington, LLC Big River United Energy, LLC Bridgeport Ethanol, LLC **Bushmills Ethanol** Cardinal Ethanol. LLC Cargill Inc. – Blair\* Cargill Inc. - Eddyville\* Cargill Inc. – Fort Dodge\* CHS – Annawan Conestoga Energy Partners, LLC – Arkalon Energy Conestoga Energy Partners, LLC – Bonanza Conestoga Energy Partners, LLC – Diamond Ethanol Corn, LP Denco II. LLC Didion Ethanol LLC ELEMENT. LLC Fox River Valley Ethanol LLC\* Front Range Energy, LLC Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC – Aberdeen Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC - Huron

Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC – Watertown Golden Grain Energy, LLC Greenfield Global Winnebago, LLC Husker Ag, LLC ICM, Inc. Iroquois Bio-Energy Company, LLC Kansas Ethanol, LLC Lincolnway Energy, LLC\* Marguis Energy, LLC Marguis Energy – Wisconsin, LLC Mid America Bio Energy & Commodities, L.L.C. Midwest Ag Energy Nebraska Corn Processing, LLC Pennsylvania Grain Processing, LLC Pine Lake Corn Processors, LLC POET Bioprocessing – Alexandria POET Bioprocessing – Arthur POET Bioprocessing – Ashton POET Bioprocessing – Big Stone POET Bioprocessing – Bingham Lake POET Bioprocessing – Caro POET Bioprocessing – Chancellor POET Bioprocessing – Cloverdale POET Bioprocessing – Coon Rapids POET Bioprocessing – Corning POET Bioprocessing – Emmetsburg POET Bioprocessing – Fairbank POET Bioprocessing – Fairmont POET Bioprocessing – Fostoria POET Bioprocessing - Glenville POET Bioprocessing – Gowrie

POET Bioprocessing - Groton POET Bioprocessing – Hanlontown POET Bioprocessing – Hudson POET Bioprocessing – Iowa Falls POET Bioprocessing – Laddonia POET Bioprocessing - Lake Crystal POET Bioprocessing – Leipsic POET Bioprocessing – Macon POET Bioprocessing – Marion POET Bioprocessing – Menlo POET Bioprocessing – Mitchell POET Bioprocessing – North Manchester POET Bioprocessing – Portland POET Bioprocessing – Preston POET Bioprocessing – Shelbyville POET Bioprocessing – Shell Rock POET Bioprocessing – Jewell Redfield Energy, LLC Siouxland Energy Cooperative Sterling Ethanol, LLC Tharaldson Ethanol Plant I, LLC The Andersons – Albion The Andersons – Clymers The Andersons – Denison The Andersons – Greenville Three Rivers Energy\* United Wisconsin Grain Producers, LLC Western New York Energy, LLC Western Plains Energy, LLC White Energy Hereford, LLC White Energy Plainview, LLC Yuma Ethanol, LLC

\*New Members Joining in 2023



# **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

AgCountry Farm Credit Services AGRA Industries. Inc. Agricultural Retailers Association Applied Material Solutions Archangel, Inc. ArrowUp\* Association of Equipment Manufacturers\* BASF Battelle BetaTec Hop Products, Inc BION Brown Tank LLC Chase Nedrow Manufacturing\* Christianson PLLP CHS. Inc. **Clearflame Engine Technologies** CoBank, ACB Colorado Corn Growers Association Commodity & Ingredient Hedging, LLC Compeer Financial Corn Marketing Program of Michigan CTE Global, Inc. Cullen + Rose\* D3MAX. LLC\* **Decision Innovation Solutions\*** Dedert Direct Automation, LLC Distillers Grains Technology Council Duragrind\* Eco-Energy, Inc. EcoEngineers Ecolab USA Inc. Energy Integration Inc Fagen, Inc. Farm Credit Services of America Flottwea Fluid Quip Process Technologies, LLC FNC Ag Stock

Franzenburg, LLC Gevo, Inc. Greenfield Global Inc. H2O Innovation Hawkins, Inc. HTP Energy Hydrite Chemical IFF IMA of Kansas Indigo Ag, Inc. Innovative Technologies Iowa Corn Growers Association Kansas Corn Growers Association Kurita America Inc. Lallemand Biofuels & Distilled Spirits LanzaJet Leaf LiYF Bioethanol\* Minnesota Bio-Fuels Association\* Mitsui & Co\* Murex N.A Ltd. NCP West, LLC\* Nebraska Corn Board Nebraska Ethanol Board North Dakota Corn Growers Novozymes Nutrien NUVUFuels nZero

GEA Mechanical Equipment U.S., Inc

Indiana Ethanol Producers Association

Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

Mid America Agri Products / Wheatland, LLC Minnesota Corn Growers Association Missouri Corn Growers Association

National Corn to Ethanol Research Center

North Dakota Ethanol Producers Association

Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association

One Ethanol P&E Solutions LLC Phibro Ethanol Performance Group Pinion Prai Americas Inc.\* PROtect LLC Proteum Energy Renew Kansas Renewable Fuels Nebraska Richard Childress Racing RPMG RSM US LLP SAFFIRE Renewables\* SBI General & Mechanical Separator Technology Solutions South Dakota Corn Growers South Dakota Farmers Union Sukup Bins Summit Carbon Solutions Svngenta The Greenbrier Companies Tom Farms TransMontaigne Trident Automation Trucent TrueNorth Companies UGI Corporation Unison Energy, LLC\* United Sorghum Checkoff Program Veolia Water Technologies & Solutions Vertimass, LLC Vitol Biofuels Marketing LLC Whitefox Technologies Willis Towers Watson Winhco Wisconsin Biofuels Association Wisconsin Corn Growers Association Wolf Carbon Solutions

# **FINANCIALS**

# **2023 EXPENSES**

	THOUSANDS
Accelerate E15 Market Adoption	\$8,830
Serve as Premier Biofuels Voice	\$5,645
Drive RFS Success	\$4,464
Compete on Carbon	\$3,052
Open Global Markets	\$1,990
	\$24 million



Figures represent 2023 board approved budget. Final 2023 financials will undergo review in our voluntary annual financial audit.

### **ABOUT GROWTH ENERGY**

Growth Energy is the leading voice of America's biofuel industry. Our members operate and support biomanufacturing facilities at the heart of America's bioeconomy, delivering a new generation of plant-based energy and climate solutions.

### WE REPRESENT

- **BILLION GALLONS** 9.5 of Member-Produced **Biofuels Annually**
- 96 Member Plants
- Associate Members 113
- 20% of U.S. Corn Supply Purchased by Member Plants



# Growth Energy™

## JOIN TODAY

More than half of American biofuel producers and industry service companies are currently members of Growth Energy.

To find out more contact Kelly Manning at KManning@GrowthEnergy.org.

GrowthEnergy.org/become-a-member

# 2023 STAFF

### EXECUTIVE





EMILY SKOR CEO

LORRIE KING Vice President of Operations & Chief of Staff

LILIANA COVINGTON-STOUT Executive Assistant

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS





JOHN FUHER Vice President of Government Affairs Government Affairs

**KATIE WEBSTER** Senior Manager of Government Affairs

#### **COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

MARY KATE

MUNRO

Director of



Director

ELIZABETH FUNDERBURK Vice President of Communications & Public Affairs

MAJDA OLSON Senior Director of Communications

HOUSTON RUCK Senior Creative

#### MARKET DEVELOPMENT



Senior Vice President. Vice President of





Director of Market Market Development Market Development Development Operations



#### MEMBERSHIP



**KELLY MANNING** Senior Vice President of Development



**BRYCE JONES** Senior Director of Membership



**RYAN WELSH** Director of Sales & Marketing



VALARIE **KAUFFMAN** 

Administrative Assistant

#### REGULATORY **AFFAIRS**



CHRIS BLILEY Senior Vice President of **Regulatory Affairs** 

#### STATE **AFFAIRS**



DALLAS GERBER Director of State Government Affairs

#### **GENERAL** COUNSEL



JOE KAKESH General Counsel



JAKE BARRON Director of Communications & Media Relations



HOLLY CULLEN Communications Associate

**OPERATIONS** 



DANIEL CONES Director of Data & Operations

ANDREW FALCO Manager of Market Development & Analytics

### **FINANCE**



BEN BUTTERFIELD Controller



SCOTT GREENE Senior Finance Associate



Expanding America's Bioeconomy

### HEADQUARTERS

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GrowthEnergy.org

GetBiofuel.com

