



# talk about bioenergy

May 2012

## Bioenergy Initiatives

### Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS)

#### What is an RFS?

An RFS is a government requirement to blend renewable fuels such as ethanol or biodiesel into fuels that are sold to customers, like gasoline and diesel.

Renewable fuels are made from biological sources, like grains, canola, corn, cellulose from plant fibres, switch grass and straw, and forestry and livestock waste products.

#### How does an RFS benefit Alberta?

The RFS will help Alberta meet its climate change targets and has a number of environmental advantages:

- The RFS will reduce carbon dioxide emissions, carbon monoxide emissions and smog-creating compounds.
- The use of renewable fuels in Alberta has the potential to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by at least one million tonnes per year.
- Renewable fuels are biodegradable.
- The production of renewable fuels has its own set of environmental benefits including reduced water and energy use and improved technologies for the use of waste.
- Alberta currently produces 20 million tonnes of waste each year. Emerging technologies have the potential to convert this waste to bioenergy products, including renewable fuels.

#### When will Alberta have an RFS?

Alberta's RFS was implemented in April 2011.  
Email questions to [RFS.Energy@gov.ab.ca](mailto:RFS.Energy@gov.ab.ca).

#### What will Alberta's RFS require?

Alberta's Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS) will require an average of two per cent renewable diesel in diesel fuel and five per cent renewable alcohol in gasoline sold in Alberta.

The renewable fuel must have at least 25 per cent less greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) than the equivalent petroleum fuel. The RFS is expected to reduce GHG emissions by at least one million tonnes per year.

### Bioenergy Producer Credit Program

The Government of Alberta has expanded and extended the Bioenergy Producer Credit Program (BPCP) until 2016.

The BPCP is intended to encourage the development of bioenergy products including renewable fuels, electricity and heat. By supporting development of renewable fuels, the BPCP will also help Alberta meet the requirements contained within the RFS.

Email questions to [BPCP.Energy@gov.ab.ca](mailto:BPCP.Energy@gov.ab.ca).

### More Information on Bioenergy Programs

Alberta Energy  
[www.energy.alberta.ca/ourbusiness/bioenergy.asp](http://www.energy.alberta.ca/ourbusiness/bioenergy.asp)

Federal programs  
[www.oeenrcan.gc.ca](http://www.oeenrcan.gc.ca)