

August 7, 2008



We are pleased to announce the formation of the Southwestern Biofuels Association (SWBA), a progressive trade association promoting the development of renewable biofuels in New Mexico and throughout the Southwest. The SWBA grew from your participation in the New Mexico Biodiesel Policy Summit, held last March in Albuquerque. It's only fitting that you are the first to learn of this exciting development.

We will be publicly announcing the SWBA and you are invited to join us Friday, August 15th at noon at the New Mexico Capitol Rotunda in Santa Fe. While energy and biofuels are not the emphasis, a special legislative session of the New Mexico legislature coincidentally will be underway that day.

The SWBA's primary objective is to promote biofuels development through strategic partnerships between the biofuels industry, universities, national laboratories, state and federal governmental agencies, educators, business entrepreneurs, agribusiness, environmental and other interested organizations. Educating the public and consumers on the benefits of biofuels will also be an important objective. SWBA will strive to capitalize on the Southwest's unique combination of resources to make New Mexico and the Southwest national leaders in the emerging renewable biofuels industry. Our unique assets include our outstanding scientific resources available through our universities and national laboratories, our unique climate and natural resources conducive to producing biofuels feedstock, our existing biofuels industry and other infrastructure in agribusiness and fuel production, and finally our progressive economic environment.

Your participation in the SWBA will be critical to its success. An important agenda for growth was articulated when more than 100 top New Mexico public officials, government, educational, environmental, and biodiesel industry leaders met last spring to discuss challenges and strategies for public policy and the development of environmentally beneficial biofuels. The SWBA will be the Association charged with making that agenda a reality. Membership information is available on our website at www.southwesternbiofuelsassociation.org. If you have any questions about membership or the SWBA, please contact our Executive Director, Vaughn Gangwish, at (505) 242-5151 or by emailing him at vaughngangwish@q.com. If you can join us on August 15th, please RSVP by responding to this email.

This is an exciting time for New Mexico and renewable fuels. We hope you will help us further the growth and advancements of biofuels by joining us at the SWBA.

Sincerely,

J. Leonard (Lenny) Martinez
Economic Development Advisor
New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson

Vaughn Gangwish
Executive Director
Southwestern Biofuels Association