

Renewable Energy Action Plan Tasks

WORKING DRAFT - (5-5-06)

	Biofuels – Biodiesel:	Purpose and Context	Status
16	Help form partnerships with growers, state agencies and interested investors for building a crushing plant to separate oils from crop feedstock.	One of the major hurdles in the NW biofuel market is the lack of a crushing facilities to convert an oil seed to oil feedstock. This has been identified as major barrier in biodiesel production market.	Multiple presentations given and partners identified. New grower tax credit standards allow seed and equipment incentives. Oregon worked with Oregon Environmental Council to present two workshops on biodiesel on the farm in Pendleton and Salem.
17	Assist in the completion of a demonstration project where oil seed crops are grown as a healthy rotational crop, are crushed and refined on-site, and produce all of the farm's fuel.	Efficiency is a critical component of the fuels production and use industry. A model where a feedstock is grown, converted to fuel, and used on-site is an ideal scenario to demonstrate high efficiency. Demonstration projects prove to be effective. Establish 'Best Practices'.	Work with Oregon Wheat Growers Commission and Pendleton Grain Growers is underway. Seed oil crops will be planted spring 2006 to be processed at facility in Pendleton.
18	Develop a program to support school districts that use B-20 biodiesel fuel in their entire school bus fleet. The program would include public information on the public health benefits of clean-burning, renewable biodiesel fuel.	Biodiesel has significant air quality benefits compared with conventional diesel. In addition, unhealthy air affects younger children much more than adults. A school program would increase the air quality around schools, improve child health, and grow the market. Need to address air quality issues in and around schools. Public support encouraged the development.	Eugene Clean Diesel demonstration where ultra-low sulfur diesel mixed with biodiesel is the most likely best demonstration.
19	Support work that focuses on the identification of an oilseed that produces a high-value meal product and a generous supply of low-value oil.	Utilizing all aspects of a particular oil seed crop is critical. Adding value to what becomes a commodity will increase the profitability of growing a biodiesel market. Opportunity to further define "Best Practices."	Sunflower or crops other than canola have not yet been evaluated. Mustard seed research is underway at Oregon State University.

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	Biofuels – Ethanol:	Purpose and Context	Status
20	Support Oregon University System's research on alcohol fuels produced from cellulosic materials.	OSU continues to research cellulosic ethanol. Cellulosic ethanol is currently uneconomical, according to most experts. Cellulosic feedstock includes biomass and would serve Oregon businesses well. Cellulosic ethanol remains the most promising technology to convert ethanol from Biomass in Oregon	Nanotechnology for biodiesel reactor looks most promising, and development, grants and demonstration sites are being sought on behalf of OSU.
21	Continue and enhance efforts to work with the national Governors' Ethanol Coalition.	The Governors' Ethanol Coalition is made up of representatives from states across the country aimed at further development of ethanol. Continue to leverage opportunities on a national scale to leverage resources	Work with Montana Microbial continues. Oregon co-funds research on Oregon grass straws.
22	Support policies and actions to promote government and private purchases of hybrid vehicles fueled with E-85.	Hybrid vehicles that can consume E-85 are not yet available; however, they are being developed by the automobile industry. Context: A niche market opportunity to be developed further. The State could lead by example.	State fleet purchase policy is to purchase E-85, CNG or hybrids.