

renewable energy and growing the heartland's new energy economy.

I want to close by thanking our Secretaries and the many dedicated and talented people of DOE and USDA who put in the countless hours to bring us all together. And our committed sponsors, as well as all of you attending, for your commitment to furthering this great national call to progress. Thank you, welcome and enjoy the conference. Tom Dorr.

**VI. WELCOME REMARKS
BY UNDER SECRETARY TOM DORR**

SECRETARY DORR: Thank you very much, Andy. On behalf of President Bush, Secretary Johanns, Secretary Bodman and the Departments of Agriculture and Energy, it is a distinct pleasure to welcome all of you to Advancing Renewable Energy; an American Rural Renaissance.

First, I would too, like to thank Andy Karsner and his colleagues at DOE for their terrific support of this joint initiative. For without it, it would have been a very poor collaboration. None of this would have worked. This relationship in my view, exemplifies some

of the best of President Bush's management agenda initiatives. So, thanks again Andy.

This is a time of transition, it's an enormous opportunity. An ancient promise is being realized, renewable energy finally is coming of age. Literally, week by week, we are breaking old barriers and charting new territory. And today, renewable energy is not, -- is not business as usual. Anymore than the internal combustion engine was business as usual at the turn of the century; or the airplane was business as usual in 1912; or penicillin was business as usual in 1933; or computers were business as usual thirty or forty years ago. These technologies, I submit, were transformational, and so is renewable energy. It is good for national security, it is good for the economy, it is good for the environment. And for rural America this is the biggest new market in history.

In the next two days, we are going to consider some of the challenges we must overcome along the way and overcome them together, we will.

So I would like to thank our very distinguished speakers, our panelists, for leading these

discussions. I also want to thank you, our many sponsors, exhibitors, and particularly, each of you, who have attended and joined us today, particularly those of you for your vision, your leadership and your commitment to this great effort. I particularly want to acknowledge those of you who have persevered over these last thirty years, because your passion has sustained us through all of this.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for America and indeed, the world. And we are proud to be your partners in this effort and we look forward to a terrific conference. Thank you very much.

MR. TOLMAN: Thank you Assistant Secretary Karsner and Under Secretary Dorr. I do want you to know that in his real life Mr. Dorr is a farmer, a corn grower and a long time member of the National Corn Grower's Association, which we're very proud of.

PLENARY SESSION I

RENEWABLE ENERGY: REFLECTIONS FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR

MR. TOLMAN: The Archer Daniels Midland Company is one of the largest processors of agricultural commodities in the world. The company takes raw