October 3, 2005

The Honorable George Pataki
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Pataki:

It is my pleasure to welcome the great state of New York as the newest member of the Governors' Ethanol Coalition. As GEC chairman, I look forward to working with you and your staff as we strive to build America’s renewable energy industry and reduce our reliance on foreign energy sources.

As you know, it is the Coalition’s goal to increase the use of ethanol based fuels, to decrease the nation’s dependence on imported energy resources, improve the environment and stimulate the national economy. We believe this can be accomplished through a coordinated set of activities designed to educate and demonstrate to the public the benefits of ethanol use; to encourage ethanol fuel production and use through research and market development efforts; and to make investments in infrastructure to support expansion of the ethanol market. The Coalition supports the production of ethanol from corn or other domestic, renewable resources using sustainable agricultural methods and encourages its use in environmentally acceptable applications.

With the addition of New York, the coalition now is comprised of 32 states, as well as Puerto Rico, Sweden, Canada, Mexico and Brazil. By extending the benefits of ethanol and other renewable fuels across the entire country, all Americans can enjoy the benefits of a stronger rural economy, improved air quality, and reduced reliance on foreign oil.

Like other GEC members, I firmly believe that renewable fuels are a part of the energy solution for America. If you are interested in additional information about GEC activities, or about Minnesota’s experience with ethanol, please contact my office at 651-296-3391 or the Minnesota Department of Agriculture at 651-297-3219 for more information.

Sincerely,

Tim Pawlenty
Governor of Minnesota
Chair, Governors’ Ethanol Coalition