



Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 5, 2010

Media Contact: Grant Menke
515-252-6249

Iowa Renewable Fuels Association Awards \$2,500 Biodiesel Promotion Grant to Clay Central-Everyly Community School



<http://www.claycentraleverly.com/images/CC-E%20Biodiesel%20Backer.jpg>

JOHNSTON, IA – The Iowa Renewable Fuels Association today announced that it has awarded a \$2,500 grant to Clay Central-Everyly Community School through its Biodiesel Backer Award Program. To be eligible for one of the two available Biodiesel Backer Awards, Iowa K-12 schools were required to educate their students and communities about biodiesel and incorporate biodiesel into their school programming. The winners were then selected based on a competitive application process.

“IRFA congratulates Clay-Central Everly on its well-deserved selection as a Biodiesel Backer Award winner,” said IRFA Biofuels Manager Grant Menke. “Clay Central-Everly has implemented a unique and impressive education and advocacy program that highlights the benefits Iowa schools can realize by making the switch to biodiesel blends. Clean, renewable Iowa biodiesel is the best fuel choice for school bus fleets, and more importantly, the healthiest choice for students. IRFA encourages all Iowa schools to learn the facts about biodiesel and then try it out in their school buses.”

Clay Central-Everly Community School does not currently use biodiesel. However, that status may change very soon due to the efforts of its high school ag science class. After completing a unit on biodiesel in the classroom, this eight member group of students and its teacher set the goal of educating Clay Central-Everly’s school administration and community in order to convince the school to begin fueling its buses with biodiesel.

To achieve this goal, Clay Central-Everly’s ag science class created materials on biodiesel including an educational brochure, a persuasive PowerPoint presentation, and an informational poster. The students also conducted interviews with school district administration and community officials regarding their knowledge of biodiesel and their experiences using biodiesel. In addition, the students gave the PowerPoint presentation at a school board meeting and handed out the brochures to those in attendance. The students encouraged the school board members to begin fueling Clay Central-Everly’s school buses with biodiesel as soon as possible.

Clay Central-Everly Ag Education Instructor Betsy Brugman, states, “We are very pleased to have won this award. The students were very engaged in this project and felt that their ideas were well received by the school board members. We hope to see our school district make the switch to Biodiesel in the near future.”

The Biodiesel Backer Award Program will continue in 2010 as IRFA will be awarding four more \$2,500 grants to Iowa school districts. Visit the IRFA website at www.IowaRFA.org for the latest updates on the Biodiesel Backer Award program as well as other important information, news and events from the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association.

To learn out more about Clay Central-Everly’s biodiesel education and advocacy efforts, contact Ag Ed Instructor Betsy Brugman at (712) 834-2227.

For any questions related to IRFA’s Biodiesel Backer Award Program, contact Grant Menke at (515) 252-6249.

Iowa is the nation’s leading producer of biodiesel with 15 plants capable of producing 325 million gallons of biodiesel annually from products grown in the state of Iowa. Encouraging your school to fill its buses with biodiesel is a step toward a healthier community, a cleaner environment, and a more energy independent nation.

The Iowa Renewable Fuels Association was formed in 2002 to represent the state’s ethanol and biodiesel producers. The trade group fosters the development and growth of the renewable fuels industry in Iowa through education, promotion, legislation and infrastructure development.

###

For more information, visit the Iowa Renewable Fuels Association website at:
www.IowaRFA.org.