

# Michigan Renewable Fuels Commission

Initial Report to the Legislature

June 2007

Summary of Recommendations

Richard VandeVusse

# Michigan Renewable Fuels Commission

- Established July 2006 (P.A. 272)
- Organized under MDA
- 27 Appointee members
- Initial Report due July 2007

## RFC Charge

- Investigate and recommend strategies that promote the use of renewable fuels and the vehicles that use them
- Identify mechanisms that promote research into renewable fuels
- Identify mechanisms that encourage communication between state/local gov't., industry and research inst.
- Identify/review state regulations that may hinder the research/use/development of alternate fuels/vehicles
- Help move MI into RF leadership position
- Issue written report to Gov. and Leg. by 7/2007

## RFC Activities

- Limited efforts to renewable fuels (transportation)
- Studied potential ag and forestry feedstocks
- Studied current and potential processing tech.
- Studied programs/incentives of other states
- Had presentations from “Big Four” auto mfr’s regarding renewable/flex fuel issues/products

# RFC Workgroups

- Feedstocks (current/potential, ag/forest)
- Production technology (current/future, how to get located here)
- Distribution/Infrastructure (supply)
- Education/marketing (demand)

## RFC “Key” Recommendations

- Establish a \$200 Million fund/incentives for early stage technology developers
- Establish new funding sources to help spur development of regional/local biorefineries
- Reserve min. of 6 Renaissance Zones for new cellulosic renewable fuel production facilities
- Allow fuel franchisees to purchase and sell renewable fuels from alternate sources.
- Establish a “Green Retailer” program to recognize and reward outlets that reach certain milestones in the marketing of renewable fuels.

## RFC “Key” Recommendations (cont.)

- Consolidate in one agency (MEDC) the RF related promotion and economic development activities
- “Establish” (encourage) Regional Biomass Processing Centers
- Identify, publish and market a list of prime sites for renewable fuel production
- Initiate a strategy for state to achieve a 25% use of renewable fuels by 2025
- Encourage public purchase of renewable fuel vehicles through tax and license fee incentives

## RFC “Key” Recommendations (cont.)

- Establish “Next Generation” RF feedstock program to encourage feedstock development (CRP)
- Encourage technology transfer from universities and research facilities through commercialization
- Support modernization of existing RF producers
- Provide grant funds for RF retail infrastructure
- State should lead by example in purchasing RFV’s and using renewable fuels

Questions????