



TED STRICKLAND
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

August 21, 2009

Mr. J. Read Smith
Mr. William Richards
Co-Chairs, 25x'25 Steering Committee
1626 Bellona Avenue
Lutherville, MD 21093

Dear Messrs. Smith and Richards:

I am pleased to confirm my support of the 25x'25 Initiative's effort to reduce the nation's reliance on foreign sources of energy and create the jobs of the future here in Ohio and across the country. Job creation in the new energy economy is critical to pulling the nation out of the grasp of the worst economic downturn in almost a century. It is clear, the jobs created in the research and deployment of new energy generating sources will revitalize Ohio and the nation. And if we do not reduce our reliance on foreign sources of energy, national security policy will not evolve away from decisions influenced by our reliance on foreign sources of petroleum.

In 2008, I signed into law Senate Bill 221, bipartisan legislation that requires, by the year 2025, 25% of all electricity sold in Ohio to come from advanced sources. Senate Bill 221 changes the regulatory landscape for the production and transmission of alternative forms of energy in Ohio. These changes will expand our capability to utilize wind, solar, and other renewable energy technologies to ensure a brighter future for Ohio.

Ohio has also made tremendous strides in biofuels production in the past three years. Ohio is currently home to the largest biodiesel producing facility in the country and now boasts four, state of the art ethanol production facilities. These new jobs will only continue to add more value toward reaching our goal of 25x'25.

I am happy to be a supporter of the 25x'25 initiative and encourage others to support the initiative as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Strickland".

Ted Strickland
Governor, State of Ohio