



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN D.V.M.
COMMISSIONER



January 21, 2009

Mr. Ernie Shea, Project Coordinator
Mr. Read Smith, Co-chair
Mr. Bill Richards, Co-chair
25x25 Renewable Energy Initiative
Post Office Box 603
Brooklandville, MD 21022

Dear Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to endorse the 25x25 Renewable Energy Initiative. It is imperative that we explore and create opportunities for our nation's farms, forests, ranches and other working lands for the production of renewable energy sources. As you may be aware, Louisiana has a comparative advantage in that our extended growing season allows for the possibility of producing a variety of potential feedstock crops. The Louisiana sugarcane industry as well as the forestry industry has begun to make advancements toward the production of biomass feedstock, and I hope to see a continued effort amongst other commodities to take advantage of renewable fuels development.

Louisiana is eager to participate in efforts that will enhance the production of renewable energy sources and I look forward to making this become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Strain".

Mike Strain DVM
Commissioner

MS:sw