

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program

Background

American farmers are producing record amounts of feedstocks for use as renewable fuels. Along with this impressive production, however, lower commodity prices continue to create uncertainty.

Higher-Blend Renewable Fuels funding can help significantly increase the use of biofuels derived from U.S. agricultural products. Their use also prioritizes climate-smart solutions to help America build back better.

Biofuels contribute to energy security, help reduce air pollution, support rural economic development, and are an important market for U.S. feedstocks producers.

Since the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program's debut in August 2020, USDA has invested more than \$77.8 million in projects expected to increase biofuels sales by 1.2 billion gallons annually.



Key Points

- USDA designed the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIIP) to increase availability of higher blends of ethanol, such as E15 and biodiesel, such as B20.
- HBIIIP grants support transportation fueling and fuel distribution facilities, lowering out-of-pocket costs for businesses to install or upgrade fuel dispensers, storage tanks and systems, and other related equipment.
- The grants also support fueling stations, convenience stores, hypermarket fueling stations, and fleet and fuel distribution facilities, including terminal operations and home heating oil distribution centers.
- Expanding availability of higher-blend biofuels gives customers more choices at the pump, including access to environmentally-friendly fuel with decreased emissions.
- According to the American Coalition for Ethanol, E15 can be used in 96 percent — roughly 290 million — of the cars on the road in the United States today. Additionally, more than 22 million flex fuel vehicles in the U.S. can use E85, and all diesel vehicles can operate on B20.
- Since the federal government approved E15 in 2011, consumer use has grown consistently — especially since the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved E15 for year-round use in 2019.

For additional information, visit: rd.usda.gov/hbiip or contact HigherBlendsGrants-access@usda.gov.

NOTE: Because citations and other information is subject to change, please visit rd.usda.gov/hbiip for accurate details. You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at rd.usda.gov.

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