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American Coalition for Ethanol statement in response to *Roll Call* ad by Big Oil, Big Food, and Friends

Sioux Falls, SD (September 25, 2009) – The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) today responded to an anti-ethanol ad campaign launched by the American Meat Institute (AMI), Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA), National Petrochemical and Refiners Association (NPRO), Environmental Working Group (EWG) and others. The coalition of strange bedfellows paid for an ad that is running in *Roll Call*, a popular Capitol Hill newspaper, insinuating that moving from 10 percent ethanol in gasoline up to E15 would be bad for consumers, the environment, and rural communities.

“If the products sold to consumers by Big Food are as half-baked as their ethanol claims, we have a life-threatening food safety crisis in America,” stated Brian Jennings, Executive Vice President of ACE. “Never before has more corn been used to make more ethanol, and yet retail food prices have fallen sharply this year.”

Because ethanol disrupts the profitable status quo for Big Oil and Big Food, attacks from groups such as NPRO and GMA are to be expected. But the fact that groups claiming to care about the environment have teamed up on this smear campaign is disappointing to ACE.

In an attempt to coin a new attack narrative on ethanol, the ad suggests that ethanol “dilutes” gasoline. “If ‘diluting’ gasoline is defined as making it safer by removing harmful carcinogens and reducing tailpipe emissions, ethanol does that. Real-world facts indicate when ethanol is added to gasoline, carcinogenic aromatics and carbon monoxide emissions are reduced,” Jennings said.

“Apparently the Environmental Working group wants more gasoline use in the U.S., leading to more air pollution, more pain in the pocket for consumers, and a greater reliance on foreign oil,” Jennings said.

“This coalition of strange bedfellows is both desperate and naïve,” Jennings said. “Oil and food companies are desperate and will resort to anything to protect the status quo of cheap corn and expensive oil. Some environmental groups naively believe getting rid of corn ethanol today, in hopes that some other potentially promising but not yet commercialized technology will be available tomorrow, will somehow reduce air pollution.”

ACE is a national grassroots advocacy association for the ethanol industry, representing farmers, ethanol producers, industry suppliers, rural electric cooperatives, and agriculture associations. For more information about ethanol, visit www.ethanol.org.

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The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) is the grassroots voice of the U.S. ethanol industry, a national trade association for the ethanol industry with 1500 members nationwide, including farmers, ethanol producers, commodity organizations, businesses supplying goods and services to the ethanol industry, rural electric cooperatives, and individuals supportive of increased production and use of ethanol. For more information about ethanol or ACE, visit www.ethanol.org or call (605) 334-3381.