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**American Coalition for Ethanol Statement on EPA Peer Review Process  
for Renewable Fuels Standard II Provisions**

**Sioux Falls, SD** (August 7, 2009) – The American Coalition for Ethanol (ACE) released the following statement in response to the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) release of the names of the individuals participating in the peer review of the Agency’s preliminary assumptions and modeling of the lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) carbon intensity of various forms of fuel – including ethanol – as called for in the Renewable Fuels Standard II of the Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007.

Brian Jennings, Executive Vice President of ACE, stated:

“While some of the individuals EPA relied upon to conduct the peer review of the lifecycle greenhouse gas assumptions have impeccable credentials, we are shocked and deeply concerned that individuals such as Timothy Searchinger, an attorney who has created extraordinary controversy with his unrelenting attacks launched against ethanol and American agriculture, were named to the peer review panel. Because Timothy Searchinger is so divisive, his service on the peer review perhaps unnecessarily tarnishes the efforts of the other esteemed individuals named to the panel to undertake this critically important work. In addition, why was the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its extensive knowledge on the subject not given a seat at the table?”

By insisting in the RFS2 proposed rule on arbitrarily ascribing GHG emissions to biofuels that cannot be shown empirically and which depend upon tortured use of computer models lacking the confidence of so many scientists, EPA has already exposed itself to a barrage of criticism. But to make matters worse, the naming of Timothy Searchinger to the peer review panel simply invites cynicism about the motives of EPA about the basic veracity of the lifecycle GHG analysis, and about the potential use of the lifecycle analysis tool as a political weapon against other energy sources in future GHG reduction programs.”

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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](http://www.ethanol.org) or call (605) 334-3381.*