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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Farmers Union Supports Use of E30 in All Fuel Injected Vehicle

Watertown, South Dakota- March 13, 2017: Calling increased ethanol use one of the most important demand drivers for American agriculture, the National Farmers Union (NFU) called for the US Environmental Protection Agency to open the market to higher blends of ethanol in a landmark resolution passed at the NFU annual meeting in San Diego last week.

A grassroots organization with affiliates in 33 states, NFU members are taking a stand against EPA regulations that limit the use of ethanol blends in non-flex vehicles (FFVs), according to Doug Sombke, President of the South Dakota Farmers Union.

“Ethanol is a critically important part of our future and higher ethanol blends are the key to creating demand for ethanol and corn,” said Sombke. “EPA and all Government Regulators should immediately reverse statements and policies that unfairly limit the amount of ethanol we can put in our cars.”

The NFU resolution comes at a time when there is increasing national interest in the benefits of higher ethanol volumes such as a 30% volume blend (E30). In addition to being endorsed by the US Department of Energy as a potentially optimum blend level, it has successfully been demonstrated in Watertown, South Dakota through the Glacial Lakes Energy’s ***E30 Challenge*** program. The data collected shows that that non-flex fuel vehicles actually run better than flex fuel vehicles on E30. This high octane, cleaner burning fuel is available at a lower cost and provides consumer choice while supporting local communities. NFU believes this historical experiment paves the way for reduced governmental regulation.

The NFU action also comes at a time when the state government of South Dakota has announced its hoping to use E30 in state vehicles and begun the process of soliciting bids for supply of the fuel. According to Sombke, this should come as no surprise since South Dakota has long been a leader in the development of ethanol and produced many national leaders over the years, including former U.S. Senate Majority leader Tom Daschle who was the featured speaker at the Siouxland Ethanol Annual Meeting last week.

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Daschle told the attendees that public policy initiatives had helped to create an industry that reduced the nation's oil import bill by \$20 billion in 2016, and contributed nearly \$50 billion to the nation's economy. "What I want to get across is how dynamic the ethanol industry is and how we need to build on our success of the past. We passed the Clean Air Act amendments and that gave us a threshold. We passed the Renewable Fuel Standard and that gave us an opportunity, catalytically, to see the explosion of the industry."

National Farmers Union will continue efforts to expand retail fuels infrastructure and support the Renewable Fuel Standard. NFU has filed legal comments challenging EPA's invalid, arbitrary and capricious overreach with its interpretation of the Clean Air Act that limits ethanol volumes to ten or at most fifteen percent.

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For more information please contact:
Doug Sombke
605-350-4211
Dsombke@sdfu.org

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