

Penn State Bioenergy Shortcourse Series

CELLULOSIC ETHANOL PRODUCTION

March 23-24, 2009

San Francisco, California



Biofuel Promises and Perils: Addressing the Challenges of Global Sustainability

The past two years have brought increasing uncertainty around the potential of biomass to be a major player in our renewable energy future. Rapid increases in corn ethanol and soy biodiesel production, combined with large swings in market prices for commodity grains, have created concerns about potential impacts on the global food supply. Initial assessments of indirect land use change associated with future biomass production project loss of forest and grasslands, deteriorating soil quality, and decades of carbon debt. It has become clear that there are unsustainable pathways to large-scale biofuel production, and that current practices and policies permit trajectories of peril. At the same time, new research shows that there are strategies that protect soil quality and biodiversity, create near-term carbon benefits, and promise global economic and environmental benefits. Join **Lee Lynd** of Dartmouth College, **Chris Somerville** of UC Berkeley, 's Energy Biosciences Institute, **Ruth Scotti** of BP, and **Allen Dusault** of Sustainable Conservation for an evening discussion of the challenges and opportunities of sustainable biofuels.

7:30 – 9 pm March 23, 2009

Hyatt Fisherman's Wharf

San Francisco, CA

This event is free, but space is limited and preregistration is required. To register, please visit: <http://www.bioenergy.psu.edu/shortcourses.asp>.