



CONFERENCE 2007

RADIO ALERT

**BIOFUELS, ENERGY AND AGRICULTURE:
Powering Towards or Away From Food Security?**

13 August 2007

**BIOFUELS –
WINNERS AND LOSERS WHEN FOOD MAKES FUEL
15 August 2007**

Biofuels, or crop-based transport fuels, may provide a new form of energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and also offer another much needed source of income for farmers. But what of the growing concern about them soaking up food and raising food prices and inflation? And just how far away are new generation sustainable biofuels?

The following specialists are speaking at “Biofuels, Energy & Agriculture” on Wednesday, 15 August at Parliament House, Canberra and will be available to talk about the range of issues for wealthy countries like Australia, for poorer nations and the environment due to the growing interest in biofuels.

- Lord Ron Oxburgh, former Chairman of Shell and now climate change advocate, Chairman of D1 Oils and President of the Carbon Capture and Storage Association
- Dr Joachim Von Braun, Director General of the Washington-based think-tank, the International Food Policy Research Institute;
- Dr Stephen Schuck of the International Energy Agency’s Biofuels program;
- Dr John Wright, Director of CSIRO’s Energy Transformed Flagship Program;
- Dr Alok Adholeya, Director of The Energy and Resources Institute, India.

Some of the possible topics that speakers can address for your listeners include:

- What are biofuels and why have they become an issue?
- Just how much are biofuels increasing food prices?
- What are the environmental concerns with biofuels if they are so effective in cutting greenhouse gas emissions?
- Are biofuels really good for farmers in Australia and poorer countries?
- What are the current and future generation biofuels technologies?
- How long until we can make biofuels from material such as urban waste and algae?
- Are biofuels viable for Australian farmers and industry?

For press releases or to arrange an interview contact Wendy Parsons on 0419 208 194.

The ATSE Crawford Fund wishes to thank the sponsors for this event, including:

AusAID – the Australian Agency for International Development; Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research; Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Australian Government Department of Transport and Regional Services; Bioenergy Australia; Energy Transformed Flagship; Grains Research and Development Corporation; International Food Policy Research Institute; Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation