



THE STOUFFER REPORT

Senator Bill Stouffer
Senate District 21

For the Week of:
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Capitol Building, Room 332
Jefferson City, MO 65101

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Promoting the Use of Renewable Energy

“Going Green” is a term we hear a lot today. This phrase sometimes makes us think, “Great, more *tree huggers*.” However, green initiatives could mean great things for farmers and Rural Missouri.

This week, Gov. Blunt signed into law a bill known as Missouri’s Green Power Initiative, which calls for a decrease in pollution from energy production in our state. [Senate Bill 54](#) encourages an increase in the use of renewable energy from sources such as ethanol, wind, hydroelectricity, solar power, hydrogen, and biomass (plant and animal materials).

Senate Bill 54 requires the Office of Administration to ensure that at least 70 percent of all vehicles purchases for the state fleet are flex fuel. Flex fuel vehicles (FFVs) are designed to run on gasoline or a blend of up to 85 percent ethanol (E85).

The legislation renames the Missouri Ethanol and Other Renewable Fuel Sources Commission to the Missouri Alternative Fuels Commission. The commission will be charged with making recommendations on legislation to facilitate the sale and distribution of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles, promoting the production and the use of alternative fuels, and educating Missourians about alternative fuels.

The measure sets renewable energy targets for utilities — a 4 percent renewable energy target by 2012, 8 percent by 2015, and 11 percent by 2020. By creating targets for Missouri utilities, companies can begin implementing the use of alternative resources and set an example for other individuals in the state.

MORE

Missouri is rich in alternative, renewable resources — such as wind, hydroelectricity, and solar power. The [Missouri Department of Natural Resources'](#) Web site contains information on green power products available in our state, including common renewable energy topics, biomass and solar energy resources, and wind energy. This site also contains [Agriculture Energy Tools](#) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The provisions in Senate Bill 54 take effect January 1, 2008. With this law, we are taking the right steps in ensuring a clean and bright future for all of Missourians. If you have questions or comments about renewable energy resources or any other issue, please call my office toll free (866) 768-3987 or send me an e-mail at bstouffer@senate.mo.gov.

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