



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **No excuses now not to mandate 10% ethanol in petrol**

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor says there should not be any inhibitors to the ethanol industry within the new Federal Parliament calling for a mandated 10% ethanol level in petrol.

“It is time for the Government to bite the bullet on renewable energy policy and mandate a scaled up 10% ethanol level in petrol,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor believes that there are a number of circumstances that are occurring at the moment and will continue into the future that demand the Government take a stronger position on renewable fuels.

These include

1. The escalating price of oil on the international market
2. The falling price of grain on the international market
3. The possibility of an energy price driven recession if the international oil price maintains its upward trend.

“I find it quite extraordinary how Australia grows exportable quantities of grain that face a corrupt world market price regime and then uses the receipt of that trade to enter another corrupt world market – the oil market – to purchase fuel for Australia.

Surely it is time to realise that we can utilise our own grain and sugar industries to advantage and produce domestic fuels rather than face two corrupt international markets.

The flow-on effects to local economies and the broader national economy are enormous,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said he was not suggesting an immediate 10% mandate but a scaled version with 10% being the target that Australia should reach.

“Australian agriculture’s profitability is governed by the international market place and hence the constant moves to obtain preferential trade arrangements with our trading partners.

The production of farm based fuels from grain and sugar could provide controllable economic security for many of our country towns.

If 10% of current fuel was farm based, it would be equivalent to approximately half the annual wheat crop.

Should the Coalition Government achieve control of the Senate in the new Parliament which is highly likely, there will be no excuses not to mandate 10% ethanol in petrol and in doing so provide a much needed boost to our country communities,” Mr Windsor said.

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