October 5, 2005

Dear Dr. LastName:

As the market for renewable fuels quickly expands, this industry creates new opportunities in and around the state of Texas. Ethanol and biodiesel plants built in Texas will change agricultural markets and impact opportunities for those entering the workforce. Because of your extensive research in this field, the Department of Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University extends an invitation to speak at our departmental seminar next spring.

The seminar, to be held in College Station, Texas on April 11, 2006, is mainly for the benefit of undergraduate students. The seminar will be focused on new technologies and industries that could have a sizeable impact on state and national economies. Other speakers from across the nation and world will present an array of agriculture-related topics. Your expertise comes at a time when renewable fuels begin to replace petroleum-based fuels. Our region and most of our students are unfamiliar with renewable fuels, but many may be employed in it as processing facilities are built statewide. Specifically, we want to hear about the feasibility of creating fuels from biomass such as corn stover or wheat straw. This topic presents a way to increase producer profits while expanding rural economies, both of which are major faculty and student interests.

Preparations for the event will be finalized in November, and invitation responses are requested by November 2, 2005. Hotel arrangements will be made for speakers, and transportation in College Station will be provided. If you accept the invitation, hotel and airfare will be reimbursed by the department as a token of appreciation. More information will be conveyed as it becomes available. Correspondence and concerns may be directed to me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Levi Estes

Levi Estes