

## 11. ENERGY

We support:

1. The development of a national energy policy to define the energy needs of the nation and how these needs can best be met consistent with the use of natural resources, protection of the environment, sound land use, and the welfare of the people. In addition, this policy should continue to reduce dependency on foreign energy sources with a focus on national energy security.
2. Independent studies that would compare the different energy programs for our nation's needs (such as the conversion of wind energy to ammonia) and see how these will impact the agricultural community.
3. Working with legislators to enable more U.S. oil and gas production by opening known oil and gas reserves in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve (ANWR), off shore and on the U.S. mainland, exploring for additional oil and gas sites, and building new oil and gas refineries.
4. Efforts to expedite the pipeline permitting process to bring Canadian crude oil to the United States.
5. Promotion of programs encouraging the increased use of Illinois coal as an important component of a national energy policy and source of rural economic development.
6. Energy conservation and development of information programs to encourage conservation of all fuels by all sectors of our economy. We encourage universities and others to institute and conduct appropriate research and education programs designed to inform the public about energy conservation including the design and promotion of more energy efficient equipment.
7. Research, education, and incentives to further the development of methane and renewable sources such as wind, biomass energy, and methane digester systems.
8. Renewable Energy Standards to encourage the development of more renewable sources for energy production.
9. The market system as the best long-term means of allocating scarce energy resources and encouraging development of adequate energy supplies.
10. Further research of coal gasification technology.
11. Upgrading the electricity generation and delivery infrastructure to provide consumers access to reliable low cost energy.
12. The basic goals and objectives of the 25x'25 Alliance in promoting renewable energy.
13. Development of electricity delivery systems that are in the best interest of rural and farm residents.