

## SUMMER RECESS PLAN

Currently, we are working on finalizing legislation on NORA and having it introduced. A summary of the bill is attached, and it does everything we need it to do. It extends NORA for nine years, which will provide us time to set up a robust research program, it will move oilheating towards a renewable fuel, and will make minor corrections to respond to GAO concerns. Unfortunately, before Congress adjourned we were unable to have legislation introduced, but we still need your help. Here are some steps that you can take during the August Recess.

- 1) With your state association, set up meetings with your Representatives and Senators. Make the following points.
  - a) We understand that enacting energy legislation seems unlikely, but if an opportunity is presented, we would like to have the NORA bill move.
  - b) That the current bill will move the heating oil industry into a renewable fuels model, increase America's energy independence, and provide good jobs for workers in oilheat country.
  - c) An audit of the program was conducted by the GAO and found only minor issues that are being corrected in the legislation.
  - d) We are working with Senators Shaheen and Snowe on the Senate legislation, and Representatives Pitts and Welch on the House legislation.
  - e) Ask them to look into the bill and sponsor it when it is introduced.
  
- 2) Work with your state association to identify potential supporters of this legislation and meet with them.
  - a) Unions and vocational schools
  - b) Business groups such as Rotary and your local Chamber of Commerce
  - c) Farm groups and biodiesel producers
  - d) Any group that might support our efforts to turn heating oil into a renewable fuel.
  - e) Communicate information to your local state association for follow-up later.
  - f) When the bill is introduced, we will want these people to send in endorsement letters, and if they are willing to send in letters prior to introduction, that would be helpful, and we can draft letters for them.

Our work will create a buzz around getting NORA reauthorized as soon as possible. Similar efforts in many states, and at the national level will ensure that our legislators will know of the program and will understand the need to help at the critical moments.

We are maintaining an open database to track reports and meeting information. The state associations will be provided the data entry, which will allow them to maintain data on contacts, and ensure follow-up occurs.