



Contact:

Sarah Aubrey

(317) 996-2777 (office)

sarah@prosperityagenergy.com

BIOMASS CROP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (BCAP) FINAL RULE ANNOUNCED

Monrovia, Ind, October 22, 2010 -- USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced today the Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) Final Rule to be published. Farm Service Agency (FSA) will administer the program that provides payments for land conversion and production, harvest, transportation and storage of eligible biomass.

BCAP Final Rule

Farm Service Agency offices will implement the policy and specific dates of the new BCAP program issued today in the Final Rule. The ruling is expected to be released to the public in the Federal Register early next week. FSA offices will implement enrollment into BCAP program components. According to Prosperity's sources at the Indiana FSA office, initial enrollment and other activities are set to begin in early November 2010. Check back with FSA press releases or with Prosperity in coming weeks for implementation news and deadlines.

The BCAP Final Rule provides two components of assistance; matching payments and land conversion assistance payments. Matching payments for transportation of eligible biomass may be paid to the eligible material owner with proof of ownership. Growers or transporters who can provide documentation of biomass ownership are eligible for the payments. As the final rule provides some new program provisions, any biomass facilities previously registered in BCAP *will have to reapply*.

Institution and payments may be available to certain producers who enter into contracts with the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to produce eligible biomass crops on contracted acres within BCAP project areas.

Other highlights of the new program:

- Crop producers will be eligible for up to 75% of the cost of establishing bioenergy perennial crops and can receive up to five years of payments for grasses and up to 15 years for woody crops.
- Assistance for collection, harvest, storage and transportation will be available for two years in the form of matching payments.
- Biomass must be certified to have been collected and harvested with an approved conservation, forest stewardship or similar plan.

Prosperity Ag & Energy

6680 N. Baltimore Rd. Monrovia, IN 46157 • Phone/Fax: 317.996.2777 • sarah@prosperityagenergy.com



Additional program rules apply; these are just highlights and can be found at [BCAP Final Rule Provisions](#). Contact [Prosperity](#) at (317) 996-2777 for assistance in completing applications for either component of BCAP.

About Prosperity Ag & Energy Resources

www.prosperityagenergy.com

Prosperity Ag and Energy Resources began in 2007 and is a full service funding opportunities development firm. Prosperity focuses on grant writing, guaranteed loans and general grant administration working closely with state and federal contacts to strengthen communities, empower entrepreneurs and foster growth for farms and businesses.

Biomass Crop Assurance Program (BCAP)

[Biomass Crop Assistance Program for FSA](#)

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) provides financial assistance to owners and operators of agricultural and non-industrial private forest land who wish to establish, produce, and deliver biomass feedstocks.