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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PURDUE – HENDRICKS COUNTY EXTENSION TO HOST ON-FARM EE IBAT PROGRAM

MONROVIA, IND. – March 3, 2011 – On Thursday, March 17, 2011, Purdue Extension and the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) will hold a On-Farm Energy Efficiency Issue Based Action Team (EE IBAT) information session for energy efficiency, open to members of the public and surrounding farming communities.

The REAP and On-Farm EE IBAT information session will benefit and assist those in search of grants for energy audits and renewable energy development. Renewable Energy Extension Specialist, Chad Martin will address the grain drying energy efficiency audit program and other energy audit services, as well as online tools for producers interested in making energy efficiency improvements. Mr. Martin is dedicated to helping you receive an energy audit for replacing your grain drying system.

Sarah Aubrey, owner of Prosperity Ag & Energy Resources, will discuss the benefits of USDA REAP Grants Program and how to receive their grants and loan funds. The USDA REAP Grants Program provides grants for energy audits and assistance to renewable energy development. The USDA REAP Grants Program also looks to provide funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses. These funds will help to purchase and install renewable energy systems and will help to make energy efficiency improvements to agriculture producers.

Additional speakers for this event will include Roberto Lopez of the Purdue Horticulture Department and David Hardin, a Hendricks County Hog Producer. Mr. Lopez will discuss greenhouse energy efficiency opportunities while Mr. Hardin will address the benefits of the energy efficiency program, the system evaluation process and common expectations and results of an energy audit.

All members of the agriculture industry are encouraged to attend this event, with high regard to those interested in acquiring energy audits and REAP grants. In Danville, Indiana, this program will take place at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds, 1900 E. Main Street. This program will begin at 9:00a.m. and will conclude at 12:00p.m. noon.

There is no registration fee required for this event but expected attendants are asked to please RSVP by March 15, 2011. Registration will be accepted by Janet Cunningham at jcunningham@purdue.edu or call 317-745-9260.