

Sustainability Committee

Report to the NGFA Board of Directors

March 2025

I. Key Issues

- Inflation Reduction Act: The Clean Fuels Production Credit (section 45Z) guidance was issued by Treasury and IRS on January 10th, 2025: Comments Due April 10th, 2025
- USDA Publishes Interim Rule on Technical Guidelines for Climate-Smart Agriculture Crops Used as Biofuel Feedstocks, January 15th, 2025: 60-Day Comment Period ends March 16th, 2025
- Navigating New Administration Changes and Uncertainty Around:
 - Inflation Reduction Act, Climate Smart Commodities

II. Committee Activities

- A. In person Committee Meeting:** In October 2024, the committee held an in-person committee meeting at a member location.
- The Committee group aligned to an Operating Structure. The committee agreed that its operating structure should continue to consist of the following workgroups: 1) Policy; 2) Protocols and Standards; and 3) Communications.
 - Topics that were discussed:
 - Clean Transportation Fuel Initiatives
 - Updates to GHG Protocol and Science Based Targets Initiatives
 - The Election: Impacts on Federal Climate Policies
 - EU Deforestation Regulation
 - IRA Section 45Z implementation
- B. List of Acronyms:** During the Committee Meeting in October, a list of sustainability acronyms was shared by a member of the Committee. The committee feedback on the acronym was positive and NGFA has asked for feedback from the committee to update the terminology as an NGFA resource.

III. Issues for Discussion

- **Traceability to the farm continues to have increasing importance as it relates to sustainability programming in voluntary markets, international markets, and domestic policy (biofuels):** What should NGFA's role be in these conversations, especially as it relates to navigating the complexities of the agricultural supply chain?

- **Identity Preserved (IP) Grain:** Should NGFA be fostering education and feasibility of IP through the supply chain?

IV. Other Actions:

- A. The committee drafted and recommended a mission statement for the committee moving forward: “NGFA’s Sustainability Committee will help create a more resilient and sustainable future for North American grain and feed supply chains. Our work aims to advance food security, resource optimization and economic growth for its members in a rapidly changing world via knowledge sharing, partnerships, and influencing domestic and global policy as it relates to sustainability.”
- B. The Communication workgroup has recommended that NGFA conduct a webinar to provide an update on the anticipated status of existing federal climate policies under the Trump Administration and the status of EUDR. A webinar on 45Z would likely make sense too.