

NOVOZYMES APPLAUDS COMMITMENT TO ENERGY PROGRAMS IN FARM BILL

Leading Enzyme Maker Applauds Bi-Partisan Support of Renewable Energy for Rural America

WASHINGTON, DC – Novozymes, the leading producer of enzymes that turn biomass into biofuels, applauded a move to provide mandatory funding for the energy programs in the current farm bill, including the Biorefinery Assistance Program, Biomass Crop Assistance Program and Bio-Based Markets Program.

“America’s renewable industry is putting steel in the ground, Americans to work and strengthening our rural economy. We believe these investments are right for the country but need a stable policy environment to grow them. Funding the farm bill’s energy program helps maintain that stability – and we have seen it work,” Adam Monroe, President of Novozymes North America, said. **“We thank Chairwoman Stabenow for her leadership, the Senate Agriculture Committee for passing this measure on a bipartisan basis and Senators Conrad and Lugar for co-sponsoring. We urge the full Senate to follow their lead and stand ready to help make it happen.”**

The Senate Agriculture Committee today marked up the *Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2012*, which reauthorizes the nation’s farm policy. The bill includes an energy title and the Conrad-Lugar amendment provided \$800 million in mandatory funding for the USDA programs listed under that title. Programs like these help jumpstart biorefinery construction, new feedstock growth and consumer demand of biobased products – all encouraging further commercialization of the industry.

Novozymes is nearing completion of a new enzyme manufacturing plant in Blair, Nebraska, a \$200 million investment in America’s future to support the growing biofuels industry. The facility has already created 400 construction jobs and will bring 100 permanent jobs when it opens in 2012; 95 full-time employees are already at work.

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