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March 25, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250

Subject: Strong Support for the Biofuel Development Opportunity (BDO) Zone Initiative

Dear Secretary Rollins,

I am writing to offer Falls City, Nebraska's endorsement of the Biofuel Development Opportunity (BDO) Zone Initiative. Our experience with the BDO Zone rating process, completed in September of 2024, has been transformative for the development of our 1,017-acre Mid-America Rail Campus.

The BDO Zone designation aided in landing a $5 billion bio-polypropylene (bio-PP) manufacturing project by Citroniq Chemicals, LLC. This innovative technology creates bio-PP pellets out of ethanol instead of the industry-standard petroleum. As the anchor tenant, Citroniq shares Falls City's vision to create Nebraska's first BioEconomy Hub with businesses and companies that compliment each other's operations with a shared vision for sustainability.

The BDO Zone criteria has proven to be an invaluable screening mechanism for developers that goes beyond traditional economic development approaches. The rating has enabled Falls City to stand out as an optimal location for new project developers, which is evidenced by the inbound inquiries we have received since completing this process.

Falls City EDGE strongly endorses the BDO Zone Initiative and urges the USDA to continue expanding and supporting this important program that can be replicated across rural America.

Regards,



Lucas Froeschl
Executive Director
Falls City EDGE