Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce
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March 24, 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,

On behalf of the Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our strong support for the Biofuel Development Opportunity (BDO) Zone Initiative—a visionary program that is redefining the economic potential of rural communities across the United States.

Our journey with the BDO Zone designation began in March 2023, and the results have already sparked meaningful momentum in our community. As a direct result of the study, we have received five serious inquiries about Wyoming County as a location for biofuel-related projects. For a rural county of just 27,000 residents, this level of economic development interest is both exciting and encouraging.

The BDO Zone criteria have proven to be an invaluable screening mechanism for developers. By providing a clear, measurable framework for community readiness, this initiative accomplishes what traditional economic development approaches have long struggled to do—it creates a direct pathway for transformative investment.

We strongly urge the USDA to continue expanding and supporting this groundbreaking initiative. The BDO Zone program represents a model of innovative, strategic economic development that holds great promise for rural America, including communities like ours in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Gina Suydam
President/CEO