



STATE OF ILLINOIS
Office of Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn

State Capitol, Room 214, Springfield, IL 62706 100 W. Randolph, Room 15-200, Chicago, IL 60601

For Immediate Publication
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Letter-to-the-Editor
from
Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn
(310 words)

“E85: A cheaper, cleaner All-American fuel”

Dear Editor,

Recently, I drove a 2002 Ford Taurus into a gas station and up to a special pump marked “E85”. As I filled my tank (for \$1.99 per gallon, a full 30 cents less than regular gas), I joined millions of drivers who have discovered E85, a new blend of fuel made with corn-based ethanol, which is cleaner, cheaper and produced here in Illinois.

The cost of gas continues to spiral upward. As summer nears and vacationing Illinois families take to the road, smart drivers should check to see if their car can use E85 and then obtain a list of gas stations making E85 available.

E85 may only be used in “Flexible Fuel Vehicles” which are regular cars, trucks or SUVs with engines that may use either E85 or regular gas. There are now 4 million Flexible Fuel Vehicles in the U.S. In Illinois, 31 gas stations offer E85, a number expected to double this year.

E85 is not only cheaper than regular gas, but it’s grown in our own backyard. Using E85 supports Illinois corn growers and creates jobs in the manufacture, blending and shipment of this fuel. Cleaner than regular gas, E85 produces fewer harmful emissions and gives us healthier air. E85 is a sensible option. That’s why the city of Aurora now uses E85 in 50 of its vehicles, and 13 percent of the vehicles in the State of Illinois government fleet use E85.

Let’s build this natural market for Illinois corn. Tell your local gas station owner to add an E85 pump. And urge your state lawmakers to support legislation designed to foster use of E85. Tell them you want to use All-American energy produced by farmers here in the Middle West, not by foreign potentates in the Middle East.

For locations of E85 gas stations and the kinds of vehicles which use E85, see www.RuralAffairsCouncil.il.gov.

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Illinois Lieutenant Governor