



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

Kristin Kerwin  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Golden Field Office  
1617 Cole Boulevard  
Golden, CO 80401

SEP 20 2010

Dear Ms. Kerwin:

RE: Final Environmental Impact Statement for Abengoa Biorefinery Project, To Support the Design, Construction, and Startup of a Commercial-Scale Integrated Biorefinery, Federal Funding, and Located near the City of Hugoton, Stevens County, Kansas

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Department of Energy's (DOE) Abengoa Biorefinery Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) (CEQ # 20090328).

EPA had assigned a rating of "EC-2" (Environmental Concerns-Insufficient Information) to the Draft EIS on the basis of a lack of information related to the impacts of biomass harvest on soil sustainability, the disposition of solid waste during construction and operation, the potential movement of land-applied wastes through groundwater and the relationship between this project and a future grain-based ethanol production facility. EPA appreciates the attention that DOE has given to our comments, as is reflected in the degree of additional analyses, coordination and modified discussion in the FEIS. EPA no longer has concerns with these issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the FEIS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph E. Cothorn".

Joseph E. Cothorn  
NEPA Team Leader  
Environmental Services Division