



# BIOECONOMY

COALITION OF MINNESOTA

**March 10, 2025**

Dear Chair Putnam, Vice Chair Kupec, Ranking Minority Member Westrom, and members of the Senate Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate File 1359. The Bioeconomy Coalition of Minnesota supports this language change, which would ensure that all facilities that began producing advanced biofuels after 2015 are eligible to participate in the program.

The Bioeconomy Coalition of Minnesota brings together everyone involved in the bioeconomy value chain for collective decision making and action to educate, evaluate environmental impacts and benefits, and incentivize sustainable products to benefit our environment and grow our economy. We envision a thriving Minnesota economy based on biobased products that benefit the environment, support communities, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Minnesota Bioincentive Program has a track record of boosting Minnesota's economy and creating value across the bioeconomy supply chain. Additionally, the program only makes payments to participating companies after production has already started, making it a low-risk, high-reward investment for the state. However, the existing statute prevents the program from achieving its maximum benefits by barring eligibility for facilities that produced over 23,750 MMbtu of *any* biofuel prior to 2015. The technical fix in SF 1359 will allow the program to achieve its intended goals by rewarding companies that benefit the state and the environment by transitioning from producing conventional biofuels to advanced biofuels.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation, and for the opportunity to submit written testimony. The Bioeconomy Coalition of Minnesota urges your support for SF 1359.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Berninger

Public Policy Manager, Transportation & Fuels

Great Plains Institute (Bioeconomy Coalition of Minnesota facilitator)