



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **ICYMI: Business Journal Reports “Clean Fuels Standoff Could Put Republicans On Thin Ice”**

Yesterday, the Portland Business Journal [reported that business leaders are speaking out against Republican opposition](#) to Oregon’s new Clean Fuels Program and the possibility that they’ll oppose a transportation package.

Some excerpts:

“A demand by Oregon Republicans that the state repeal the Low Carbon Fuel Standard program before they’ll consider a popular transportation package could put the minority party on thin ice with supporters of both issues...”

“...[T]he Republican House caucus could face questions from home over the high-stakes stand against the clean fuels program because businesses already are investing in producing biofuels here in Oregon.

“Fort Collins, Colorado-based Red Rock Biofuels LLC is pursuing permits for to construct a proposed \$200 million plant in Lakeview. While much of its output will be sold to the U.S. military and Southwest Airlines, the investment anticipates demand will soar as states such as Oregon, Washington and California tamp down the carbon content of transportation fuels...”

“The standoff between clean fuels and transportation illustrates just how vulnerable the party’s position is.

“The clean fuels program is touted as a potential economic engine for rural communities that could attract more investors like Red Rock while a transportation package would reinvest Oregon tax dollars in the state's roads and bridges, providing an economic boost of a different sort.”

Another example of the economic development spurred by the Clean Fuels Program, Salem’s SeQuential Pacific BioFuels just announced it has expanded capacity at its refinery by 20%.

“Alex Wall, a business attorney and director of the Oregon chapter of Environmental Entrepreneurs, which advocated for clean fuels, said it's foolish to pit the two against one another. Together, transportation and clean fuels will result in cleaner air, jobs and investment, he said.

“These things are not mutually exclusive,’ he said. ‘Politically, I think they're going to be on the wrong side of history.’”

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