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Schmack BioEnergy Joins Bipartisan Senators to Support Biogas Bill

Schmack BioEnergy (Schmack), a Cleveland, Ohio, based waste management and renewable energy company, has joined Ohio's Senator Sherrod Brown (D) and six other Senators to support the Biogas Production Incentives Act of 2009. The proposed legislation provides a tax credit of \$4.27 per MMBTU of biogas produced.

Biogas is recycled from municipal biomass, farm waste, food and cannery residuals, landfill methane, and alcohol & ethanol distillers' waste. It is composed of approximately 60% methane – the principle ingredient in natural gas. Schmack turns biomass into biogas using a tested process called anaerobic digestion.

"This bill puts an existing byproduct to a productive use," said Senator Brown. "Ohio's strength in agriculture along with its growing renewable energy industry positions us to be a leader in the production of renewable natural gas. By encouraging its production, we can create jobs, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and improve the environment."

"Promoting the biological conversion of biomass to methane is the most responsible, lowest cost way to improve our environment and generate sustainable renewable energy," said Mel Kurtz, President of Schmack BioEnergy based in Cleveland, Ohio. "Methane that previously contributed to greenhouse gas emissions will be used to make America energy independent. We can extend landfill life, create another revenue stream for farmers, and reduce utility costs while creating jobs."

The legislation is also supported by Senator Crapo (R-ID), Senator Johanns (R-NE), Senator Nelson (D-NE), Senator Stabenow (D-MI), Senator Thune (R-SD), and Senator Wyden (D-OR), the American Farm Bureau, Ohio Farmer's Union, and the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio.

Schmack BioEnergy is a Cleveland, Ohio, based company that builds, owns and operates clean energy production facilities in North America. The company was jointly formed with Schmack Biogas AG, a leading anaerobic digestion company based in Germany with almost 300 plants operating or under construction worldwide. Schmack houses a laboratory facility at The Ohio State University's Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) in Wooster, Ohio.

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