

June 24, 2009

To: United States Senate

Re: Alternative Fuel Mixture Tax Credit Proposal

### **A Nation's Survival**

I would first like to introduce myself. My name is Jack V. Stephens III and I am currently employed with a pulp mill in Perdue Hill, Alabama by the name of Alabama River Pulp. The name of this company may not ring a bell with whoever is reading this letter right now, but in Monroe and Clarke County it is respectfully known as home of some of the few surviving, decent, honest living jobs left in this area. I know that you all probably have received many letters of concern regarding the premature end to the alternative fuel tax credit. This credit has been a significant factor why our company has been able to tread through these difficult times in our Nation's economy. I could go on to point out that there are about a million other people employed by U.S. paper and wood products manufacturers besides myself, and how the unemployment rate in our region is almost 17% due to recent cutbacks and closures of textile, plywood, and lumber mills, but I am pretty sure that you all are more aware of these facts than I am. I don't want to sound like a broken record stating facts that I am almost certain have been quoted to you all repetitively, but I would like to say that I am a father of 2 handsome young men (Ages 4years old & 6 months old). I think of my sons each day, praying with all of my heart that I will be able to not only continue to provide for them during these trying times, but that I will be able to bring them up in a way that they too can provide for their future family. I am a humble man that cares more for the well being of his family than his own foolish pride. That's why I call upon you all today to take into consideration the plea of not only myself but thousands of others that will **perish** or **prosper** because of this one decision. Right now you all hold in your hands the ability to send the unemployment rate for Alabama soaring to even more unimaginable heights or to be a significant spark in the rebuilding of the effervescent **Flame** that was once known as our **Nation**. All I ask is that you all step outside of the life you all are living right now and just imagine that the well being of your family as well as everyone you care deeply about will be affected by this decision, then decide. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

~JVIII~

Jack V. Stephens III