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Michael Maffei  
Environmental Innovations  
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Dear Michael,

I would like to thank you for keeping me informed about the progress you are making in bringing your products and ideas to reality. Our many discussions about the development of Slip Guard and Kwik Grow as well as the potential beneficial uses that could increase agricultural yields to enhance the viability of ethanol production have been very enlightening to me.

The idea that you can take the by product from a wood power generation facility turn it into a product that enhances plant growth and yield in order to process ethanol to meet transportation fuel needs and that the by product from ethanol production can be palletized for use in that same wood power generation facility is the ultimate in recycling.

On a large scale this could have a big impact on reducing fire danger, providing electrical power, increasing production of needed crops for ethanol and bio-diesel, and put much needed carbon back in the soil

I feel that you will find many more uses for your products and ideas as this develops. We have even talked about developing a small turnkey system that generates the power from wood waste, the by product is used to grow crops for ethanol production, the ethanol is used to supplement fuel needs, the by product of the ethanol process can be returned to the wood power generation facility to be burned along with waste wood. By putting this idea into small turnkey plants for small communities could help reduce their costs tremendously.

My hope is that you will be able to secure the funds necessary to make this a reality.

Gary A. Mitchell  
USDA-NRCS