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Company Background

The Nebraska Ethanol Board is based out of Lincoln, NE and assists with operations throughout the state of Nebraska. The Nebraska Ethanol Board's mission is to establish procedures and processes necessary to the manufacturing and marketing of ethanol fuel. The Nebraska Ethanol Board is mainly focused on agriculture, but does work with various industries that are tied to ethanol, whether it be production, export, or use.

Project Description

This project was centered on the Environmental Protection Agency's Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) regulations and how they affect and pertain to agricultural producers in the state of Nebraska. Agricultural Producers in the state of Nebraska are concerned that if they do not comply with the current EPA regulations that they may no longer have fuel delivered to them. This project will ensure that they have a path to Tier I Self-Certification.

Pollution Prevention Benefits

The biggest benefit from this project is that producers will be in compliance with EPA regulations, which means that if a spill event occurs, fines and cleanup costs could be mitigated. Along with this, it will guarantee that the producer will still have the option for the fuel to be delivered to his or her operation. Also having an SPCC plan in place will help to mitigate any environmental damage that can occur from having a fuel spill. Toxic compounds such as BTEX and MTBE in fuel have been linked to various cancers in the human body. These compounds are very harmful to wildlife and human life, specifically on the reproductive system and development.

Results/Impact

To assist producers in becoming compliant with EPA SPCC regulations, multiple tools and documents were developed to help make that process quick and easy. The Tier I Self-Certification template has been tailored to agricultural needs and has around 20 pages as opposed to the more general 60-page EPA document. To facilitate the difficult Tier I Self-Certification Plan calculations, an Excel calculator was developed with an easy-to-use user-interface. Finally, an SPCC Newsletter was made to help spread awareness of the Tier I SPCC Plan and also to address common questions. Many organizations backed this project and volunteered their time and resources to the completion and distribution of the final products. There are five organizations in Nebraska who have allowed their outlets and distribution materials to include the SPCC Tier I Self-Certification Plan, Newsletter, and Excel document. The total coverage of these organizations is 40,000 + members, out of a total 50,000 farms in the state of Nebraska. That means that over 85% of producers in Nebraska will see this information in the end.



Distribution Source	Distribution Size
Nebraska Ethanol Board	800 members
Nebraska Cooperative Council	22,500 members
Nebraska Farm Bureau	20,000 members
Nebraska Department of Agriculture	300 members
Nebraska Farm Council	2,000 members
Total	45,600 members
Percent of Nebraska Producers Reached	91%