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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Optimism Around Growing Biofuels Industry**

Founder and CEO, Cindy Thyfault, was interviewed by Biorefining Magazine to discuss her thoughts on the biofuels industry. Read her discussion below with Biorefining Magazine and how she believes there is a lot of hope for the industry to grow.

### **The Good Side of Government**

Biorefining Magazine | By Luke Geiver | [Read the entire article here](#) .

**For all the gripes, some government-backed programs are working.**

Cindy Thyfault is more excited about the biofuels industry than she's ever been. That is saying a lot for Thyfault, and more importantly, the biorefining industry. She has seen the boom years of the ethanol and biodiesel build-out, all as the founder of Westar Trade Resources, a Texas-based company specializing in the development of cutting-edge technologies and the financial solutions that make such technology economically feasible. "I think technology is really advancing," she says. "I see new technologies that are amazing every day, technologies that are finding ways to become more efficient." And she should know-when Sapphire Energy received \$54.5 million from the U.S. DOE, the algae company had Thyfault and her team at Westar to thank. The same can be said for Ineos Bioenergy, Coskata Inc. and Enerkem, all Westar clients that used Thyfault's services to help in the process of seeking out and receiving government-linked funding.

Thyfault may know the financial ins and outs and project-to-policy match game that goes with government-based bioenergy funding more than anyone, but she isn't alone in her optimism about the growing biorefining industry. Thyfault speaks with Biorefining Magazine about the programs that have worked to fund the economic needs of companies such as Coskata or Enerkem; the positive indications she sees amidst a dysfunctional Congress heading into a critical year when the Farm Bill could be potentially overhauled; and simply, to get a positive perspective from someone who has firsthand knowledge of why the political agenda in the U.S. doesn't always equate to the financial well-being of anyone linked to biobased products and the energy production industries. But just to make sure, we spoke to others in the industries who've dealt with government funding, and response is simple: it's hard work seeking funding, but the end result can transform a technology or idea into a thriving company.

## **Because of BCAP**

One of the programs Thyfault believes has worked is the Biomass Crop Assistance Program. "The program has had some success in payments to producers," she says, "but the goal of that program has been to incentivize cellulosic ethanol production. It's not been successful in incentivizing advanced biofuels because the plants haven't been built yet." But according to Scott Coye-Huhn, director of business development for Aloterra Energy, an Ohio-based energy crop developer, that doesn't matter. "Aloterra Energy," he says, "was formed because of BCAP."

[Continue reading the entire article from Biorefining Magazine here](#) .