

*The President.* That's right.

*Mr. Ruse.* And so all of the price concerns from the animal growers and from the Wall Streeters will be evaporated.

*The President.* Will be eased somewhat. That's right. He's right. It's amazing how the market responds.

*Mr. Ruse.* And the one last piece of our project is that we intend to build a "green" truckstop on each one of these sites that sells biodiesel, sell E-10 and E-85.

*The President.* That would be good. E-10 is ethanol, 10-percent ethanol.

*Mr. Ruse.* Ten-percent ethanol and 85-percent ethanol and then biodiesel.

*The President.* Yes. Well, the purpose was to give everybody a sense of where a lot of smart people and good capital are moving. And smart people are here working on some amazing technologies that—you know, that I believe 10 years from now, people will say: "Gosh, it's interesting that they were worried about this particular technology coming to fruition," because it's coming to fruition. And the role of the Government is to stimulate thought and investment and set goals. And we've set a

big goal, really have—reduction of gasoline by 20 percent over the next 10 years.

I wouldn't have done that if I didn't think it was achievable. Part of it is to change our CAFE standards on automobiles, which will encourage conservation. The other part is to change the fuel mix across America.

And this is a coming time; it really is. And I want to thank those of you who are on the frontline of changing it. It must be exciting for you to be able to work on something so novel and so encouraging and so important for our country.

I thank the good folks at this important company for letting me come by to say hello. I ask for God's blessings on the United States of America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:10 p.m. at Novozymes North America, Inc. In his remarks, he referred to Steen Riisgaard, president and chief executive officer, Novozymes; and Denmark's Ambassador to the U.S. Friis Arne Petersen. A participant referred to David L. Brady, chairman and chief executive officer, Agri-Ethanol Products, LLC.

## Remarks Following a Meeting With Transportation Fuel Experts and Researchers

*February 23, 2007*

Listen, I just had a fascinating discussion. First, I'm dealing with some entrepreneurs, people who believe that there is a market developing for automobiles that will use high-technology batteries to—for people to be able to motor back and forth from work.

I also met with some of our scientists who are working on new battery technology. I also met with people that are working to help us develop a fuel industry that will be able to have ethanols derived from produce other than corn. In other words, I'm talking with people on the leading edge of change. And the reason why

I've asked them to come in to see me is because I want to make sure that the goal I set by reducing gasoline usage by 20 percent over a 10-year period is a realistic goal. I know it's a necessary goal. It's necessary for national security purposes; it's necessary for economic security purposes; and it's necessary in order to be good stewards of the environment.

My question is, is a practical goal—can we achieve that goal? And the answer is, absolutely. Now, it's going to require continued Federal research dollars, and I call upon the Congress to fully fund my request

for alternative sources of energy. It's going to require collaboration between the public sector and the private sector. It's going to require making sure our smartest scientists understand that this is a national priority. But I firmly believe that the goal I laid out, that Americans will use 20 percent less gasoline over the next 10 years, is going to be achieved. And here's living proof of how we're going to get there.

So I want to thank my fellow citizens for joining us. We've got a Nobel Prize winner; we've got all kinds of Ph.D.s, a couple of history majors. But what we're talking about is practical and necessary for the country. So thanks for coming. Americans ought to feel optimistic about our future. We're going to be driving our cars using all kinds of different fuels other than gasoline, and using batteries that will be able to be recharged in vehicles that don't have to look like golf carts.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. Participating in the meeting were David Bransby, professor of agronomy and soils, College of Agriculture, Auburn University; Steven Chu, director, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and cowinner of the 1997 Nobel Prize for physics; Bruce E. Dale, professor of chemical engineering and materials science, Michigan State University; Daniel J. Elliott, president and chief executive officer, Phoenix Motorcars, Inc.; Lonnie O. Ingram, professor of microbiology and cell science, University of Florida; Stephen P. Long, professor of crop sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Alex Molinaroli, president, Power Solutions, Johnson Controls, Inc.; Michael M. Thackeray, senior scientist, Argonne National Laboratory; and David Vieau, president and chief executive officer, A123 Systems.

## The President's Radio Address *February 24, 2007*

Good morning. This week, I traveled to a hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where I visited with doctors and health care experts. We discussed an urgent priority for our Nation: how we can make health care coverage more affordable and accessible for all Americans.

This week, the Department of Health and Human Services released a study that showed why we must act now to reform our health care system. The study forecast that our Nation's health care spending will almost double by the year 2016. If this happens, health care spending will account for nearly one out of every \$5 spent in our economy. The study forecast that the Government's share of these costs will rise as well. Unless the system is reformed, within a decade taxpayers will be should-

ering nearly half of all health care spending in our Nation.

There's also some encouraging news in this study. It provides fresh evidence that the Medicare prescription drug benefit we enacted is working to help get seniors the drugs they need. Millions of seniors are filling more prescriptions because they now have coverage, yet overall national spending on prescription drugs is lower than it would have been without this program. This is because we set up a system where private drug plans must compete for the business of Medicare beneficiaries. This competition is delivering better prices for seniors and good results for taxpayers. We need to maintain the gains we made by keeping competition in Medicare and by opposing