

## **Text Version for Secretary of Energy Steven Chu's Biomass 2011 Keynote Video**

*[The video shows Secretary Chu standing at the podium at the Biomass 2011 Conference, speaking to the audience.]*

*Secretary Chu:* It's a pleasure to be here and tell you about some of the things we're doing in the Department of Energy in the area of biofuels. I think this is a very bright area. Some of the most rapid advances in science have been incurred—occurring in these areas, and although we're not there yet in terms of technologies for breaking down cellulosic materials, lignocellulosic materials, to advance biofuels, I think we will be there.

So when the price of oil goes up, we push the panic button. When the price of oil goes down, we push the snooze button. And this is not a really good plan.

So I just want to remind you of what Wayne Gretzky said when asked why he was such a good hockey player—being, as you see, not a really big guy... he's, he's a pretty skinny—for arguably the greatest hockey player that ever was, and he said, 'I skate to where the puck is going to be, not where it's been.'

So where's the puck going to be in terms of transportation fuel? It's likely the price of oil in the coming decades will be higher, and so we have to diversify our transportation energy needs.

So, for that reason, President Obama called for a one-third reduction by 2025 in our imports of oil. I think this is a very achievable goal. And it will be one that we can achieve through our innovation, through our ingenuity, and through our natural resources, which include our great agricultural resources.