July 14, 2008

OBEY APPLAUDS GRANT COMPETITION WIN BY FLAMBEAU RIVER BIOFUELS
$30 Million Federal Grant Intended To Help Mill Become Fossil Fuel Free

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) today applauded Flambeau River BioFuels for winning a $30 million federal grant to help construct and operate a biorefinery at the Flambeau River mill, with the goal of creating an energy independent manufacturing complex that also produces renewable fuel for the region.

"I'm very pleased that Flambeau River BioFuels won this highly competitive grant to help increase renewable fuel production," said Obey. "This is really good news for all of northern Wisconsin and it will be good for the country as we try to move from fossil fuels to new types of energy."

Today's decision is the second set of good news the mill has received in the last few months. Late last year, Obey secured nearly $7 million in federal funds to help the mill in its efforts to be energy independent.

Flambeau River Papers and Flambeau River BioFuel are working to create a first-of-its-kind facility that will produce paper and energy necessary to run the mill from the same stream of inputs without the use of fossil fuels. Pulp and paper has been manufactured in Park Falls since the 1890's, but high energy costs nearly resulted in the permanent shuttering of the mill.

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