

IL Corn – 45Z



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Overview:

USDA's final rule provides important certainty for farmers as they begin making crop and input decisions. The focus now shifts to implementation. To ensure farmers can fully participate and receive value for the conservation practices they have adopted, the USDA framework must be incorporated into Treasury and DOE's 45Z implementation. A near term pathway for Book & Claim also needs to be established and launched.

Current Rulemaking Wins

- **Field-level scoring:** farmers manage their fields independently and deserve to be recognized for the management decisions and conservation practices implemented on each acre
- **Evaluating nitrogen use using NUE – nitrogen use efficiency:** a valuable change that rewards farmers for practices that lower carbon intensity per bushel
- **Allowing grazing of cover crops and inclusion of manure:** elements that allow the integration of livestock and grain farming to continue and recognize the importance of the cycle
- **Evaluating soil health practices:** transition from a focus on soil erosion to a focus on soil carbon loss – the change provides more flexibility for farmers who are lowering carbon intensity, while making decisions that improve efficiency and resilience
- **Support of the Argonne GREET model's FD-CIC:** base/framework for USDA's calculator



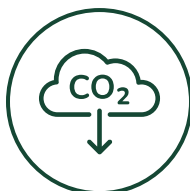
Remaining Priorities

- **A Farmer-Level Book & Claim Pathway**
 - Farmers who implement CI-lowering practices would generate an asset independent of the physical grain, which could be sold into the marketplace
 - This allows more farmers to participate and more transparency of the value of that asset
- **Treasury & Department of Energy (DOE) Adoption**
 - USDA's rule must be formally adopted by Treasury (and reviewed by DOE) so farmers and fuel producers operate under one enforceable framework in time for the 2027 crop year

Benefits of Farmers Participating in CI Lowering Markets

Decarbonizes Global Markets

Enables lower-emission U.S. products to displace higher-emitting alternatives around the world



Delivers Real, Measurable Benefits

Incentivizes emissions reductions where production occurs – driving global emissions down



Strengthens U.S. Competitiveness

Positions the U.S. as the global leader in clean energy and innovative climate solutions