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Putting food in your car you Won't Get Far.

See your self in a field of corn. But none of that corn is going to be eaten. All this corn is going to run peoples car. That's because all of this food will be made in to biofuel. I think that is a waste of food. Cars should not consume food. Biofuel is fuel produced from food crops such as corn, soy and sugarcane. It is also made from non-food crops like grasses, crop leftovers such as wheat stalks and more recently from algae. My uncle Randy makes his own biofuel with used cooking oil from the family restaurant. Fast-growing biofuel movement is causing food shortages and high food prices all around the world. It is especially affecting poor countries. The U.S. needs to work with other countries to help identify and resolve biofuel issues before they cause an international food crisis.

The governments of some countries, like the U.S. and Brazil, are paying farmers to grow crops for biofuel, not for food. And some non-food crops like grasses are replacing food crops in fields. That makes less food available for people to buy, which makes food prices rise. Oil and grain prices have increased around the world. About 1/3 of that increase is due to biofuel. My uncle Craig, who runs our family farm in Illinois, says that the price of corn and soybeans are higher than they've ever been before.

Many U.S. farmers are changing crops from soy to corn. They did this because the government is paying them to grow corn for biofuel. Since 2006 the U.S. corn production has grown about 20% and 15% less soy is grown. This has caused the price of soy around the world to almost double in a little over a year. In Brazil, soy is used to feed livestock. As the price of soy has risen in Brazil, the price of beef also goes up. In Mexico, the high demand for corn for biofuel caused the price of corn to rise sharply. Thousands of people marched in Mexico City to protest the high cost of tortillas, which are made out of corn.

The U.S. has huge interest in the biofuel business. We are one of the top four producers of biofuel, along with Brazil, India and China. Along with being one of the top producers, we are *the* top user of energy, both fossil fuels and biofuels. Did you know that a typical SUV driver spends as much money on fuel in one month as a person in a poorer country spends on food for one year? We are not only using other country's oil supplies to run our cars, but we are now using the world's food supplies to support our massive use of energy. We would like to shrink our use of fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and petroleum. We would also like to reduce the need to import oil from the Middle East. But, we don't want our country to cause a world food crisis because of our increasing dependence on biofuel.

As Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton has the power to convince other government leaders. If I were her, I would want the leaders to make some changes. For example have them change the way we make biofuel by using non-food sources like, alga. They could pay farmers to grow non-food crops and use farm leftovers for

fuel. But, the non-food crops shouldn't be grown on land that can produce food. The most important thing is that the U.S. and other high energy consuming countries need to find ways to use less energy. Biofuel cannot meet all of our energy needs. To use 5% less diesel fuel in the U.S., about 60% of our crops would have to be used to make biofuel. The world would be better off if we can use less energy, and the U.S. should lead the way.

Fourth Paragraph

- The US has a huge interest in the biofuel industry. We are one of the top four producers of biofuel. We would like to reduce the amount of coal and petroleum that we use, and also to reduce our need for oil from the Middle East.
- The US uses a lot of energy. The typical SUV driver spends as much on fuel in a month as a person in the poorer parts of the world spends on food. We are using the world's food supply to run our cars. We have a duty to make sure our country is not contributing to world food scarcity.

Last Paragraph

- As Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton has the power to influence government policy. If I were her, I would talk to other government leaders about making some changes:
 - Governments should not pay farmers to grow crops like corn or soy for biodiesel instead of for food.

- They could pay farmers to grow non-food crops and to use farm leftovers for fuel, but the non-food crops should not be grown on land that can produce food.
- Most important – the US and other high-demand energy countries need to agree to find ways to use less energy overall. Biofuel cannot meet all of our energy needs. To make a 5% reduction in US diesel use, about 60% of our crops would have to be used to make biofuel. The world will be better off if we can use less energy, and the US is in a position to lead the way.