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**From:** Browning [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 30 June 2015 2:24 PM  
**To:** biofuels  
**Subject:** Ethanol submission

Mandated ethanol production in North Queensland could go a long way towards stabilising the cane industry, ensuring smaller regional town populations are not forced to leave for larger cities.

At the present rate a Queensland sugar mill is closed every two years, which is completely unsustainable. Ethanol should be mandated at 10 per cent as soon as growers can supply the extra cane and production plants can ramp up.

The farm gate cane price for Brazilian farmers is \$420 a tonne. Our farmers receive only \$340 a tonne. The vast majority of Brazilian sugar goes to ethanol while ours goes into sugar. Motor vehicles in Brazil can operate on a 100 per cent ethanol fuel. Brazilian cane growers are cross-subsidised.

The value of our currency and the dollar plus massive direct subsidies in America and Europe make it impossible to compete.

There is no argument to support the oil company proposition that Australian cars cannot use ethanol fuel. Quite simply Australian car manufacturers export Holdens to Brazil that run on high levels of ethanol fuel.

The avaricious fuel companies should be forced to toe the line and monitored by government inspectors to ensure they blend the required amount of ethanol.

Yours faithfully,

Ross Benstead  
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