

Rep. Brian Babin at TFA Roundtable



U.S. Congressman Brian Babin met with the Texas Forestry Association (TFA) Roundtable at the Pickett House in Woodville on Monday, August 15th. Attendees from several East Texas counties included leaders from TFA, lumber mill owners, logging company owners, foresters, landowners and others.

Rep. Babin reviewed the various opportunities and projects emerging in East Texas, including USA BioEnergy's new biorefinery set to be built in Bon Weir in Newton County. This facility will provide numerous jobs as well as a mill for processing plantation pines from tree farms within a 75-mile radius. The mill will produce sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), renewal diesel (RD) and naphtha (a gasoline blend stock). The company claims that their ultra-low sulphur fuels reduce emissions by 80% compared to traditional fossil fuels. An industry partner has been selected to construct a pipeline to transport residual CO₂ for secure permanent geological storage deep underground in Louisiana.

Rep. Babin was also enthusiastic in his support for extending broadband infrastructure in East Texas. He discussed his work on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to ensure the forest industry will be able to utilize the new Interstate 14, once completed, in ways consistent with how the industry is currently using U.S. Route 190.