FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACTS: Will Harwood, wharwood@hastingsgroup.com, (703) 276-3255; or Jeff Benzak, jeff@e2.org, 202-513-6248.

E2 REPORT: NORTH AMERICA’S ADVANCED BIOFUEL INDUSTRY PRODUCED 800 MILLION GALLONS IN 2014

Smart clean fuel policies in OR, WA, CA and at federal level could drive additional job growth, improve air quality, generate more homegrown energy

WASHINGTON (January 6, 2015) – North America’s advanced biofuel industry reached a production capacity of more than 800 million gallons in 2014, up from the previous year and almost double the capacity in 2011, according to a new market report unveiled today by the national nonpartisan business group Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2).

This is the highest capacity since E2 released its first advanced biofuels market report in 2011, and it’s more than the 787 million gallons produced in 2013. It’s roughly enough to fill an entire lane of Interstate 5 from Seattle to San Diego with nothing but large tanker trucks filled with advanced biofuel.

The report, “E2 Advanced Biofuel Market Report 2014,” projects that by 2017, as many as 180 companies are expected to produce 1.7 billion gallons of advanced biofuel, doubling current capacity. The report shows how advanced biofuels are on track to meet targeted emission reductions for clean fuels standards in both California and Oregon, according to E2. It also offers the latest evidence that Washington state should quickly move forward with a clean fuels standard of its own, something Gov. Jay Inslee indicated he was prepared to do in his recently announced carbon plan, according to E2.

The complete report is available at www.cleanenergyworksforus.org or directly through this link. E2 members on the West Coast, biofuel industry executives, and E2 Western states advocate/report co-author Mary Solecki are available for phone interviews. Infographics are available for download here and here.

“The advanced biofuel industry is meeting the growing demand for cleaner-burning transportation fuels,” said Solecki. “Americans who want more local jobs, cleaner air, and more homegrown energy should demand elected officials enact policies, right now, that will promote the growth of advanced biofuel.”
E2 defines advanced biofuel as liquid fuels made from non-petroleum sources that achieve a 50-percent reduction in carbon intensity compared to a petroleum-fuel baseline. Advanced biofuel companies included in the report range from small biodiesel businesses like Beaver Biodiesel in Oregon, which produces about 1 million gallons annually, to POET, which at facilities in South Dakota and Iowa produces more than 20 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol annually using corn stover, or waste from corn crops, as a primary feedstock.

“If state and federal leaders want to reduce our dependence on foreign oil – and support American farmers, businesses, and entrepreneurs – they should ensure this clean, cutting-edge industry can expand,” Solecki said.

The report comes at a time when various initiatives, especially in the Pacific Northwest and in California, are in the works or are under review:

- **In Oregon**, the state’s Environmental Quality Commission meets in Portland Jan. 7-8. DEQ staff will present proposed rules for Phase 2 of the Clean Fuels Program. Later in the year the legislature will decide whether or not to remove the sunset date for the Clean Fuels Program, which is expected to create as many as 29,000 jobs and save Oregon consumers and businesses up to $1.6 billion in fuel costs.

  “The DEQ report should make it clear that clean fuels work. If our state legislature wants to create good jobs, save consumers money, and improve public health, it should waste no time removing the sunset date for the Clean Fuels Program,” said Chris Dennett, a consultant for Portland-based management consulting firm ACME Business Consulting and an E2 Pacific Northwest chapter director.

- **In Washington state**, Gov. Jay Inslee has asked the state’s Department of Ecology to recommend a proposed clean-fuel standard that, through executive order, would increase the use of advanced biofuel, creating local jobs and keeping hard-earned money in-state by reducing the billions of dollars Washington spends annually on out-of-state oil.

- **In California**, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) has been in place since 2009 and has lowered carbon emissions since 2011, but last year during a re-adoption period the LCFS was frozen at 2013 levels, forcing several promising facilities to delay or idle production. E2 partnered in the release of this report showing how the LCFS is both achievable and growing the state’s economy. E2 also co-authored this report on the biodiesel value chain in California.

- **In Washington, D.C.**, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2015 is expected to finalize federal renewable fuel requirements, after delaying its announcement on the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) through last year. The regulatory uncertainty caused by the delay reined in 2014’s production capacity and investment levels, according to the report.

The new E2 report found that nationwide, the private sector has since 2007 invested $4 billion in active advanced biofuel producers and companies along the advanced biofuel value chain, with more than $200 million of that coming in the past year. An additional $848 million in grants have been distributed to advanced biofuel producers since 2007.
Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors and others who promote smart environmental policies that drive economic growth. E2 members, active in nearly every state in the country, have built or financed more than 1,700 companies that have created more than 570,000 jobs, and manage more than $100 billion in venture and private equity capital.