



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 3, 2008

Contact: Eva Malecki
(202) 228-1793

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL OPENS E-85 FUELING STATION TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AGENCIES

WASHINGTON – The Acting Architect of the Capitol Stephen T. Ayers, AIA, is pleased to announce that, beginning October 6, 2008, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol's (AOC's) ethanol (E-85) fueling station will be open to Legislative Branch Agencies. This pump may be used by flex-fuel vehicles in Legislative Branch agencies' official fleets.

Ayers noted, "As part of our Agency-wide effort to help reduce the Capitol complex's carbon footprint, we have installed this alternate fuel source which is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline."

"We support Congress in leading its national effort to conserve energy, and as stewards of the Capitol complex, we will continue to do our part to make this goal a reality. Installing this new E-85 fueling station is just one of many projects we've completed in our efforts to improve energy efficiency and reduce the carbon footprint of the Capitol complex," said Ayers. "We appreciate Speaker Pelosi's support and direction through her Green the Capitol Initiative, and that of Congress by their providing us the necessary funding to complete this project on schedule."

The AOC has been able to reach its energy reduction goals over the past several years through a variety of projects and pilot programs. For example, the AOC installed dimmable lighting ballast systems with daylight and occupancy sensors in overhead lighting; are replacing conventional light bulbs with compact florescent light bulbs across the Capitol complex, and have installed modern heating and cooling systems throughout the Capitol complex. In addition, the AOC has implemented procurement policies that establish its preference for the use of bio-based products, and the purchase or lease of alternate fuel vehicles. The AOC also manages a robust recycling program throughout the Capitol complex. In FY 2007, it recycled approximately 2,300 tons of paper from the House and Senate Office Buildings.

###

Photo caption: Stephen Ayers, Acting Architect of the Capitol, pumps E-85 fuel into an AOC vehicle. The fueling station is available to Legislative Branch Agencies to use to refuel their official government fleets.