

**Ken Bennett, 1978 & 1981**

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**Years Attended:**1978 & 1981

**Area of Study:** General Studies

**Email:** bennettfive2003@yahoo.com

**GeoBio Energy names Bennett  
CEO**



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PRESCOTT VALLEY - Former state Senate President Ken Bennett has a new title.

Bennett is chief executive officer of GeoBio Energy Inc. GeoBio's board of directors approved Bennett's appointment Thursday. GeoBio focuses on developing clean, renewable energy through distribution, production and growth of renewable economic fuels, a press release says.

Bennett is still CEO of GeoAlgae Inc., which GeoBio intends to acquire this month. "One of our critical points is we want to make bio-fuels from products that do not compete with the food industry," he said.

Bennett said that means focusing on extracting oil from algae and turning it into a clean source of fuel.

A portion of the ethanol and biodiesel companies are producing comes from corn or soybeans in the United States.

"We think it does not make sense to try to make our renewable fuels from products that are already being used in the food stream because if you increase the demand, you drive the prices up on both of them," he said.

Bennett estimates the new fuel could be on the market possibly within the next couple of years.

Bringing the alternative fuel to market eventually would ease the nation's dependence on fossil fuels.

"I think in the very long run, if we can develop larger quantities of fuel from renewable plants like algae, then we can hopefully keep the price down and we would not be completely dependent on what crude oil prices are doing," he said.

Bennett formerly led his family's company, Bennett Oil Co., and he is a member of the board of directors of the Petroleum Marketers Association of America.

Contact the reporter at [jsoifer@prescottaz.com](mailto:jsoifer@prescottaz.com)