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Subject: BILLION TON STUDY WORKSHOP
Date: Tuesday, October 20, 2009 12:46:32 PM
Attachments: [Invitation background 10-20-09.docx](#)

Bill,

The DOE Office of Biomass Programs is updating the Billion-Ton 2005 Report and would like your participation in a five hour mid-day workshop in Chicago on December 10, 2009. Attached is some background on this and related workshops.

Please let me know if you can participate.

Best regards,

Tom



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HIGH-YIELD RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SCENARIO WORKSHOPS

Objectives

1. Develop alternate assumptions for biofuel feedstock assessment analyses beyond current baseline assumptions that factor in potential improvements in crop yield and management strategies
2. Validate alternate assumptions with scientific experts and gather industry, academic, and government support for the high-yield feedstock assessment

Summary

Developing a sustainable cellulosic biofuels industry capable of meeting ambitious national targets (e.g., Renewable Fuel Standard) presents a number of challenges for current production systems. While existing systems are effective at meeting demands for food, feed, and fiber, serious questions remain about the sustainability of pushing land resources to produce significant quantities of fuel. Securing the volume of biomass feedstocks necessary to achieve national goals will likely require crop yield improvements, as well as implementing innovative management strategies that increase the productive capacity of the landscape.

The overall goal of the High-Yield Scenario Workshop is to develop an industry-based U.S. biofuel feedstock assessment that challenges current baseline assumptions. This high-yield scenario will accompany the forthcoming update to the 2005 report *Biomass as Feedstock for a Bioenergy and Bioproducts Industry: The Technical Feasibility of a Billion-Ton Annual Supply* (Billion-Ton Study). The updated Billion-Ton Study will include county-level baseline feedstock supply estimates and a high-yield scenario to support program objectives of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Biomass Program (OBP) and the multi-agency Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI).

Feedstock base assumptions will be identified and prioritized based on their impact to the total available supply. The focus of the High-Yield Scenario Workshops is on the collection of data that supports an alternative high-yield resource assessment and on obtaining reputable scientific and industrial support that validates high-yield scenarios developed for different biomass feedstocks.

Where possible, alternate assumptions with potential to increase the amount of cellulosic biomass available will be identified based on published literature and industry input. Three workshops with invited experts from industry, academia, and government will be coordinated to validate the alternate assumptions and outline science and technology advances needed to achieve these new targets. The workshops, to be held in December of 2009, will be organized by type of biomass resource – Corn/Agricultural Crop Residues, Herbaceous Bioenergy Crops, and Woody Bioenergy Crops/Forest Residues. A new high-yield scenario assessment will be developed using the alternate high-yield assumptions and evaluated during these workshops.

Workshop Schedule

Corn/Agricultural Residues
The Renaissance Hotel
St. Louis, MO

Dec 3rd

Herbaceous Energy Crops
Hyatt near airport
Chicago, IL

Dec 10th

Woody Energy Crops/Forest Residues
Hyatt near airport
Chicago, IL

Dec 11th