

**From:** [Bill Rooney](#)  
**To:** ["George L Hodnett"](#)  
**Cc:** ["Stelly David"](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2009 2:36:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [DARPA Energy Crops Assigned Tasks.doc](#)  
[TIGM DTRA Milestones and Deliverables.pdf](#)  
[Budget Instructions.doc](#)  
[RR FedNonFed Budget 2010.xls](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Dr. William L. Rooney  
Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics  
Chair, Plant Release Committee  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas 77843-2474  
979 845 2151

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Helms, Adam [mailto:ahelms@dsml.tamu.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2009 2:58 PM  
**To:** wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.; ssearcy@tamu.edu; jwrichardson@tamu.edu; jmgould@ag.tamu.edu; pklein@tamu.edu  
**Cc:** Simpson, Shay; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda; Giroir, Brett; Avant, Bob; McCutchen, Bill  
**Subject:** Highest Priority: DARPA Energy Crops  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon:

Please find attached the proposal for the DARPA Energy Crops proposal. I have updated each objective to include assigned PI's. There are several things we need to accomplish to submit this proposal to DARPA by October 9<sup>th</sup>.

1. Please submit your budgets by close of business October 1 to myself and Shayna Spurlin. Shayna prepared the budget template (attached) with instructions for entering information – if you have any questions, please refer them to her ( [sfspurlin@tamu.edu](mailto:sfspurlin@tamu.edu) ). If you have any capital equipment or lab supplies, we will need a detailed list of items to be purchased as well as a quote for the expenses. We will send an example budget justification out ASAP.
2. Timelines for Gantt Chart development – The example we were given for the latest DARPA proposal from Engineering showed a Gantt Chart developed on the weekly level. I do not know if we can honestly justify developing a Gantt Chart to that level of detail and defend it (specifically due to unknown weather concerns, start time, etc). We are aiming for a quarterly Gantt Chart timeline to begin this project, and if need be, refine the chart to DARPA's specific needs (Dr. Giroir – do you know reporting format is preferred?).
  - a. For each Objective you are assigned, please submit a numbered Milestones and Metrics/Deliverables/Total Cost breakdown (example attached)
3. PowerPoint – John Mullet will send me a PPT which I will distribute to the group. This PPT will be presented to the DARPA team and can be thought of as the “defense” for this project. Please add no more than a slide or two summarizing your assigned task with budget in the spirit and theme of the original PPT.
4. Drs. Gould, Rooney & Searcy – please forward this note on to Dr. El-Hout, Dr. Blumenthal, Dr. Peterson and Dr. Thomasson once you have updated them to the situation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Best,

Adam

Adam Helms  
AgriLife Research Corporate Relations  
979-255-0752 (mobile)  
979-458-2677 (office)

---

**From:** Avant, Bob [mailto:bavant@tamu.edu]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 27, 2009 12:54 PM  
**To:** McCutchen, Bill; wlr@tamu.edu; stelly@tamu.edu; Mullet, John E.; ssearcy@tamu.edu; jwrichardson@tamu.edu; jmgould@ag.tamu.edu; pklein@tamu.edu  
**Cc:** Simpson, Shay; ahelms@tamu.edu; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda; Gilliland, Diane M.; Giroir, Brett; Slovacek, Jackie  
**Subject:** RE: Highest Priority: DARPA

Bill (and Brett can correct me), we do not need to add much more to the scope of work, but we do need to provide the detailed forms that include budget outlays, budget justification, Gantt chart, etc. This takes a lot of work and we must have direct input from all involved PI's (which is the critical path). In the morning, Shayna will be in contact with the PI's to develop this information unless you or Brett advise me otherwise.

Bob Avant  
Program Director  
Texas AgriLife Research  
979/845-2908  
512/422-6171 (Cell)  
[bavant@tamu.edu](mailto:bavant@tamu.edu)  
<http://agbioenergy.tamu.edu>

---

**From:** McCutchen, Bill  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 27, 2009 12:45 PM  
**To:** 'wlr@tamu.edu'; 'stelly@tamu.edu'; Mullet, John E.; 'ssearcy@tamu.edu'; 'jwrichardson@tamu.edu'; 'jmgould@ag.tamu.edu'; 'pklein@tamu.edu'  
**Cc:** Avant, Bob; Simpson, Shay; 'ahelms@tamu.edu'; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda; Gilliland, Diane M.; Giroir, Brett; Slovacek, Jackie  
**Subject:** Highest Priority: DARPA

All,

Please read Brett's email below.

Timing is of critical importance for completing the DARPA package, but we do not have to be as stringent as the example the Bob has (or will) provided.

We need to shoot for having a final package ready for submission by October 9th. Therefore we need to get started immediately, and I believe we have most of the RD components outlined. There maybe a little flex in the budget (+/- 5percent) starting in year 2 but especially year 3-5. We also need to ask Ceres for their input for Hawaii, TX and any other RD/plots that they may oversee.

I have asked Bob and his group to make this project their top priority, and I would suggest we meet as team or small groups periodically to facilitate. Now I am asking all of you to make this your top priority. We have a great opportunity to advance our bioenergy programs to the next level.

Thanks and please call with any questions.

Bill

---

**From:** Giroir, Brett  
**To:** McCutchen, Bill  
**Cc:** Pollard, Claudia  
**Sent:** Sun Sep 27 08:28:24 2009  
**Subject:** RE: DARPA UPDATE

I don't think you need that detailed of a statement of work as we did for DTRA. But it gives you some idea. I would not sit too long on this.

I will be happy to meet multiple times in the next 2 weeks to get this done

Brett P. Giroir, MD  
Vice Chancellor for Research,  
The Texas A&M University System;  
Research Professor, Dwight Look College of Engineering;  
Adjunct Professor, The Bush School of Government and Public Service;  
200 Technology Way, Suite 2043  
College Station, Texas 77845-3424  
Phone: 979-458-6054  
Fax: 979-458-6044

---

**From:** McCutchen, Bill  
**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 5:33 PM  
**To:** Schuerman, Peter L.; Ellison, Mark M.; Howell, Bill; Diedrich, Guy  
**Cc:** Giroir, Brett; Avant, Bob  
**Subject:** Fw: DARPA UPDATE

We are starting to round 3rd base with DARPA per dedicated energy crop proposal.

Bill

---

**From:** McCutchen, Bill  
**To:** Rooney Bill <wlr@tamu.edu>; John Mullet (jmullet@tamu.edu) <jmullet@tamu.edu>; stelly@tamu.edu <stelly@tamu.edu>; James Richardson (jwrichardson@tamu.edu) <jwrichardson@tamu.edu>; 'Gould Mike' <jmgould@tamu.edu>; Steve Searcy (ssearcy@tamu.edu) <ssearcy@tamu.edu>; (pklein@tamu.edu) <pklein@tamu.edu>  
**Cc:** Avant, Bob; Dugas, William; Hussey, Mark; Giroir, Brett; Lunt, David; Baltensperger, David; Reinhart, Gregory; Riskowski, Gerald; Nichols, John P; Davis, Tim; Simpson, Shay; Gilliland, Diane M.; Adam Helms <ahelms@tamu.edu>; Spurlin, Shayna; Nelson, Michelle; Bridges, Brenda  
**Sent:** Fri Sep 25 13:51:48 2009  
**Subject:** DARPA UPDATE

All,

I just wanted to provide an update on progress with DARPA per Dedicated Bioenergy Crops proposal.

DARPA is now asking for a detailed technical brief (detailed task, work plan, schedule, and budget) inclusive of the recent proposal that we submitted. We will be receiving an example for you to work from in the near future. We will ask all of you to coordinate with Bob Avant's Corporate Relations and Diane Gilliland's Contracts and Grants groups to make this happen as soon as feasible.

Thanks again for all of your hard work and dedication, and no doubt that this request from DARPA is very positive news - no guarantees yet, but good news.

Thanks,

Bill

--

Bill F. McCutchen, Ph.D.

Associate Director

Texas AgriLife Research

Texas A&M University System

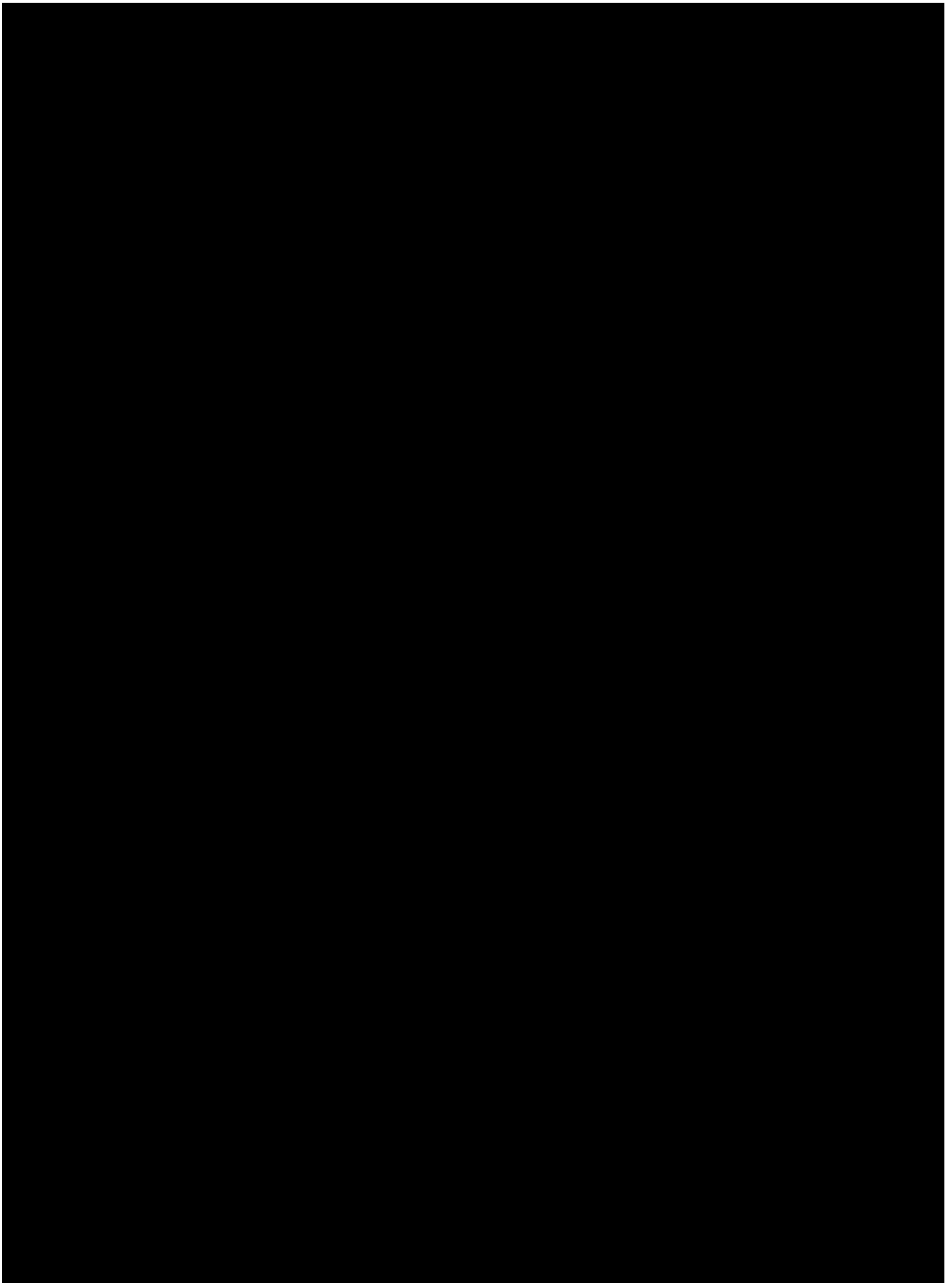
113 Jack K. Williams Administration Building

2142 TAMU College Station, TX 77843-2142

979-845-8488 Tel

979-458-4765 Fax

bmcutchen@tamu.edu



979.845.2364 office  
979.575.2070 mobile  
979.458.2155 fax  
[sfspurlin@tamu.edu](mailto:sfspurlin@tamu.edu)  
<http://AgriLifeResearch.tamu.edu>







