



**LOGISTICS
INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP (IWG)
UPDATE TO THE
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

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Overview of the Working Group

- *What is your charter/mission?*

Promote collaboration and coordination of research, development, demonstration, and deployment (RDD&D) activities to help reduce the costs and increase the sustainability of harvest, handling, collection, storage and preprocessing of feedstocks.

- *Who are your members?*

Alison Goss Eng (DOE), Daniel Cassidy (USDA), Dana Mitchell (USDA), Erin Webb (ORNL), Jim Perdue (USDA), Mark Elless (DOE), Richard Hess (INL), Rob Mitchell (USDA), Erin Searcy (INL), Shahab Sokhansanj (ORNL), Shawn Johnson (DOT), Bryce Stokes (DOE), Sam Tagore (DOE), Steven Thomas (DOE), Wade Salverson (DOI), Art Wiselogel (DOE), Mike Cotta (USDA), Gene Lester (USDA)

Past, Current, and Ongoing Activities

- Information Exchange
 - Quarterly/Biannual conference calls
 - Presentations
 - Special topic discussions
 - New publications and breakthroughs
 - Updates on programs and people
 - Events and special activities
 - Meetings and Activities
 - NIFA CAPs workshops/Sun Grant Regional Partnerships
 - Sessions at American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ASABE), Agricultural Energy Technology Conference (AETC), etc.
 - Site visits: Auburn, INL, etc.
 - Coordination
 - AFRI-CAP interactions IBSS, BANR, NARA, CenUSA, NEWBio, etc.
 - ARS/FS Regional Research Centers
- Other
 - Cooperate on reviews
 - Depot workshop

Past, Current, and Ongoing Activities

- Publications
 - Biomass Feedstocks Logistics Research RDD&D in the Federal Government – July 2014
 - Integrating the Biomass Supply Chain for Improved Efficiency – February 2014 (contributor)
 - National Biofuels Action Plan Update – January 2013 (contributor)
 - Inventory of Biomass Feedstock Programs & Activities in the Federal Government – December 2011
 - Biofuel Feedstock Logistics: Recommendations for Research and Commercialization – November 2010

Focus areas for 2015 and Beyond

- *What are some areas that would be helpful for the TAC to focus on in 2015?*

Logistics barriers to growing the Bioeconomy

- Most of unused and untapped biomass are either difficult to access (e.g., forest residues in Coastal regions due to steep terrain), expensive to produce (bioenergy crops), or contaminated (urban wood waste).
- Linking production, harvesting, processing, storage, and distribution from site to site and facility to facility are spatially challenging and expensive.

Potential future activities

- A assessment of the impacts and risks from government policy intervention such as regulatory mandates, laws, incentives, subsidies, etc.
- Develop depot concept, similar to material recovery facilities in MSW to deal with a mixture of biomass with different qualities.
 - Depot allows for flexibility with different types of biomass in a large supply region, providing flexibility in the logistics system.
- Gauge the logistical degree of difficulty before concluding that an investment is sound. The maturity of experience, technology and location determines the degree of difficulty.
 - 1. Low = Existing Company, Existing Process, Same site.
 - 2. Medium = Existing Company, Repeat Process, New Site.
 - 3. Medium High = Existing Company, New Process, New Site.
 - 4. High = New Company, New Process, New Site.