Biomass R&D Board Meeting Notes

TO: Biomass Research and Development Board Members
SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes
TIME: 9:00am–11:30am, Monday, September 26, 2011
LOCATION: USDA Whitten, 104A

Welcome/Initial Business
The Board approved the June 2011 meeting minutes with no objections or corrections.

Briefings and Presentations to the Board
- **Tom Hicks**, Deputy Assistant Secretary/Energy, Department of the Navy; **Sarah Bittleman**, Sr. Advisor to USEC Tonsager and Sec. Vilsack, USDA; and **Zia Haq**, Lead Analyst/Biomass Program, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, DOE, provided an informal brief on the Defense Production Act (DPA), Memorandum of Understanding, and Request for Information, including fiscal information and roles of each department. Questions regarding scale, cost, and timeliness arose and were addressed by the DPA representatives. There was a brief debate about technology readiness.

- **Steven Koonin**, Under Secretary for Science, DOE co-chair, provided a brief on the Quadrennial Technical Review (QTR), discussing goals and energy challenges that will be addressed in the QTR, released September 27, 2011. Questions regarding implications and what the QTR would mean for current activities arose and were addressed by Under Secretary Koonin.

- **Avi Gopstein**, Senior Advisor to USEC Koonin, provided an update on the National Biofuels Action Plan.

- **Marilyn Buford**, National Program Leader, Silviculture Research, Forest Service, USDA, provided a summary of the draft for Bioenergy Feedstock Best Management Practices: Summary and Research Needs for Board member approval. It was decided that approval would be granted via email after more discussion, as was done with the National Algal Biofuels Plan Update.

September 26 Meeting Attendees

**Biomass Research and Development Board Attending Members**
- Steven Koonin, Under Secretary for Science, DOE co-chair
- Dallas Tonsager, Under Secretary for Rural Development, USDA co-chair
- Greg Winfree, Deputy Administrator of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), DOT
- Steve Fetter, Office of Science Technology and Policy, attended for former OSTP member

**Board Operations Committee Members**
• John Ferrell, Biomass Program, DOE
• Bill Hagy, Rural Development and Special Assistant to Sec Vilsack and USEC Tonsager, USDA
• Alan Hecht, Office of Research and Development, EPA
• Shawn Johnson, RITA/DOT
• Bob Czincila, RITA/DOT

Additional Attendees

DOE
• Avi Gopstein, Senior Advisor to USEC Koonin
• Sharlene Weatherwax, Office of Science
• Paul Bryan, Program Manager, Biomass Program
• Joyce Yang, Biomass Program
• Sarah Lynch, Biomass Program
• Zia Haq, Biomass Program
• Elliott Levine, Biomass Program
• Elizabeth Penniman, Biomass Program

DOD
• Robert Boyd, Associate Director, Environment, Energy, Infrastructure, and Military Engineering Technologies, Department of Defense

EPA
• Andy Dupont, EPA/Office of Research and Development
• Mark Segal, Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics

USDA
• Carmela Bailey, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
• Marilyn Buford, USDA Forest Service
• Richard Hegg, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
• Harry Baumes, USDA Office of Energy Policy and New Uses
• Sarah Bittleman, USDA Office of the Secretary
• Nora Stein, USDA Examiner

Navy
• Tom Hicks, Deputy Assistant Secretary/Energy, Department of the Navy