Biomass Research and Development Initiative (And NIFA Activities)

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Biomass Research and Development Initiative

• Objectives
  – Advanced Biofuels
  – Bioproducts
  – Biobased chemicals

• Technical Areas
  – Feedstock Development
  – Fuels/Product Development
  – Development Analysis (LCA)
Process

• Broad eligibility
• Pre-application Review overseen by DOE
• Full Application Review overseen by USDA
• Awards made by each Department
  – No comingling of funds between Departments
  – No comingling of R&D and Demonstration
Cooper Tire

- $6.9 M BRDI Grant
- 100% Guayule Tire
  - Genome and molecular breeding
  - Improved yield/acre
  - 1.7M miles road-tested (7 one way-trips to Moon)
  - “Green Across the Board” LCA
BRDI Funding in Millions

Year | Funding (in Millions)
-----|----------------------
2009 | 20
2010 | 25
2011 | 30
2012 | 40
2013 | 0
2014 | 5
2015 | 5
2016 | 5
2017 | 5
Applications and Budget

• ~ 370 LOI/Pre-applications

• ~ 70 Full Proposals
  – USDA Combined year budget ~ $6 Million
  – DOE up to $3 Million
Advances

- Using One Single Portal
  – DOE EERE-Exchange

- Yes, there have been hiccups

- On pace…Early 02/2018 decision
Committee Diversity

- Gender
- Ethnicity
- Professional Background
- Professional Growth
BRDI Beyond

• Proposal for Third Party Review
  – All projects funded/to be funded
  – $100,000 OC-40 to Multistate Committee

• No FY 2018 Funding
  – Portfolio Review
NIFA

• Extramural funding arm of USDA
• Research, Education, and Extension
• 4 Institutes and Center for International Programs
  – Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
    • Division of Bioenergy
2017 Budget (~$56.7 Million)

- Biobased Products
  - $10.7 M

- Bioenergy/Biofuels/Analysis
  - $40.5 M

- Education/Extension
  - $5.5 M
AFRI Sustainable Biomass Education

- 3,394 Educators and Students reached
  - 30 states
  - 33% Minority
  - 38% teach where free/reduced lunch rate exceed 50%
- 30,240 Professional Development Credits
Outcomes

- $1.6 Million grant for Anaerobic Digester
- Teacher of the Year
- New School Business
  - Tomato Mulch Mats
- Community College Certificates
Other AFRI Foci

- Co-Products Development
- Land-use Change
- Carbon Sequestration
- Wildlife and Pollinators
- Socio-Economics and Policy
Other NIFA Competitive Programs

- Biodiesel Education Program
- Joint Feedstock Genomics with DOE
- Sun Grant Initiative (ENDING)
- Critical Ag. Materials Program (ENDED)
- Forest Research Initiative
- Innovation at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water
Future Bioenergy at NIFA

• Hiring
  – NPL for Logistics
  – NPL for Behavioral Economics

• AFRI BNRE
  – Potential topics in logistics, feedstock management

• AFRI Nano/Cellulosic Technologies