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DOE/NASULGC Project Team Conference Call  
March 18, 2004

Conference Call Minutes

The conference call among the five DOE-NASULGC project teams began at 11:00 a.m. and finished at 12:00 noon. In addition to representatives of the five teams, James Fischer, Stan Johnson, Jill Long Thompson, and Michael Mills also participated.

Jim Fischer: Opened the call with a briefing on his recent presentations around the country. All have been received well and there is good acceptance of what this group is undertaking.

Mike Mills: Briefed the group on the process for setting up conference calls for Project Team meetings

- E-mail Mike Mills and/or Deidre Wilkinson, at michael.mills@ee.doe.gov and deidre.wilkinson@ee.doe.gov, with date, time and number of expected phone lines to be used.
- Mike or Deidre will set up the call using the DOE conference call system and email you back with the call-in number
  - This number does not need a password, it is direct dial into the call.
- Minutes should be kept for each call and disseminated to the members of the project team(s), as well as to Jim Fischer, Stan Johnson, Mike Mills, and Jill Long Thompson.
- Project team leaders were selected as the main point of contact for that project:
  - Project 1:
  - Project 2: Dick Wootton
  - Project 3:
  - Project 4: Tom Fretz
  - Project 5:

Project Team: Updates were provided by each of the project teams, as follows:

Project Team #1 Update – Carl O'Connor

March 4, 2004: Conference call with Jim Fischer, Tobin Harvey and Sam Baldwin of DOE.

- Tobin Harvey provided an overview of EERE Advisory Boards and agreed to share documents with information on the operation of the boards.
  - Nominations are due in August.
- Sam discussed several areas he could be involved in for these projects:
  - National Research Council runs the peer reviews
    - They can help facilitate the focus on bench level, cutting edge research.

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- Competitive grants: how will DOE get more names into the process.
  - Currently decentralized process. Do they want more centralized? And if so, how can NASULGC help?
- Rules:
  - Currently writing rules on who can serve on peer review panels for earmarked funds.
- DOE would like to move bench science to practicality. Need to help decide what research has use in today's world.
- New projects are being developed and are looking for scientists.
- Group decided to meet with Daryl Lund, Carl O'Connor, and Jim Fischer to develop follow on steps.

Jim Fischer comments that DOE is working on qualifying those areas where we need expertise (i.e. DOE may need help with Section 9006 Farm Bill technology reviews.)

- A training session on DOE's CHRIS system will occur at a future meeting at DOE.

#### Project Team #2 Update – Ron Brown:

Ron briefed the group on a Project Team #2 conference call:

- Tobin Harvey of DOE provided an update of the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), state energy offices and the different means for getting energy projects funded on the state level.
- Charles Newcomb of the National Renewable Energy Lab briefed the group on rural energy coordinators, wind workshops in Colorado, and the need to educate farmers on wind, solar and biomass technologies.
- The group decided to seek to work with the NASEO to select pilot efforts
  - Dick Wootton was to contact USDA to determine if any land grants are currently involved in any projects.
- The group feels they are ready to select pilot projects once Dick and Tobin make their contacts.

Jim Fischer reiterated the point that we must make sure NASEO is supportive of our work.

Peter Dreyfus suggested that the September 2004 NASEO meeting would be a good forum to discuss our projects.

- Jill offered NCFAP assistance if we decide to present to NASEO.
- Bill Becker stressed the need to identify the value-added from our work and the fact that we are not trying to usurp their activities.

#### Project Team #3 Update – Linda Benning:

Project Team #3 has had three meetings in person and three conference calls. Activities and discussions include:

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- Discussions with 4-H youth development task force advisors
  - Identified states for pilot projects
    - Currently don't match to regions, but will work on adjusting to ensure each region has a project
  - Will use the 4-H After-school program to introduce curriculum to the children in the areas of lighting and renewable energy that were already developed by the NEED program.
  - Timeline: training for pilot sites in July 2004, pilot to begin in late September or early October 2004.

### Project Team #4 Update – Eric Young:

Jeff Baker has been working on identifying current awards between EERE and NASULGC institutions.

- Looked at FY03 awards:
  - 1) directly with NASULGC institutions
    - 277 awards for \$44 Million
  - 2) the National Renewable Energy Lab's (NRELs) work with NASULGC institutions;
    - 257 awards for \$9 Million.
- Biomass portion estimated to be in the 15 – 20% range.
- Currently refining these numbers and looking into the other labs.
- A discussion on intellectual property issues ensued. A boiler plate of conditions is being created and university directors will be asked to comment.

### Project Team #5 Update – Mike Harrington:

Mike Harrington updated the group on a team conference call:

- A dual-track biomass and solar workshop at NREL is being planned for July 19 – 22 or August 2 – 6. Team members are expected to come.
  - Rick Brenner will send more information to the participants of this meeting.

### NREL Visit Update – Jill Long Thompson:

- Scheduled for May 20 – 21, 2004.
- NASULGC members will meet on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup>
- Jill will send an e-mail to this group to respond regarding attendance.

**Next Meeting: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 11AM**  
**Call-in number: 202-287-1376**