

USDA

- R&D FOCUS AND AGENCY DIRECTION
 - Differences between USDA and DOE
 - All of the USDA agencies are doing different things which are not primarily focused on Biomass
 - USDA biomass projects may also be concerned with agricultural production issues and efficiencies, agricultural product marketing, and sustainability and environmental effects

USDA

- USDA is not project oriented therefore project description is not available in the Portfolio Analysis or supplemental material
- Because USDA has such a varied presence in Biomass there are many, many projects in areas related to biomass that are not related to energy

USDA

- AGENCY BREAKDOWN
 - Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
 - Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES)
 - Farm Service Agency

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- AGENCY BREAKDOWN
 - Forest Service
 - Office of the Chief Economist
 - Rural Development
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

- USDA Biomass Initiative Joint Solicitation
 - Goals/Objectives
 - NRCS is not a research agency
 - Contrary to traditional
- Western National Technology Development Center---Biomass Technology Special Team

USDA

- Program direction
- FY2004
 - Feedstock Development and Production
 - Biobased Products – Environmental and Economic Performance
 - Biomass Focused Forest Management Training
 - Incentives

USDA

- Possible Technical topics for FY2005:
 - Feedstock Development
 - Biobased products
 - Forest training
 - Biomass education
 - Other topics as per committee direction

LEGISLATION

- On September 8, 2004 the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee held their mark-up for the FY05 budget. It appears a number of preliminary cuts have been made to critical energy title programs authorized by the 2002 farm bill.

Section 9002: Federal Procurement of Biobased Products:

	Administration	House	Senate
FY 05	\$2 million	\$2.969 million	\$2 million

Section 9004: Biodiesel Fuel Education Program:

	Administration	House	Senate
FY05	\$1 million	\$1 million	zeroed

*mandatory funding of \$1 million/yr. provided in the 2002 farm bill.

LEGISLATION

Section 9006: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Rural Development Program:

	Administration	House	Senate
FY05	\$10.77 million	\$23 million	\$20 million
	*mandatory funding of \$23 million/yr		

Section 9008 Biomass Research and Development Act:

	Administration	House	Senate
FY05	\$14 million	\$14 million	No information

Section 9010 CCC Bioenergy Program:

	Administration	House	Senate
FY05	\$100 million	\$100 million	\$100 million
	*mandatory funding of \$150 million/yr.		

LEGISLATION

Section 6401: Value-Added Agricultural Product Market Development Grants (VAPG):

	Administration	House	Senate
FY05	\$15 million	\$15.5 million	\$15 million

*mandatory funding of \$40 million/yr.

- The Subcommittee has embargoed release of their official funding levels until full Committee markup, which is unlikely to occur until the week of September 20th. This allows an opportunity for amendments to be offered to restore full funding to these important energy title programs. EESI will be sending out updates as developments warrant.

USDA

- Oversight of Projects
 - FY 2003 NRCS/CSREES
 - FY2004
 - NREL-----three projects
 - USDA-FS----seven projects
 - USDA-NRCS----State personnel

USDA

- FY 2003 Projects
 - Local Energy
 - New Energy Solutions
 - T. R. Miles
- Imperial Young Farmers and Ranchers