

NRSP-RC Meeting Mintues
Embassy Suites Hotel
Memphis, TN
June 3-4, 2008

Participants:

Craig Nessler, Marshall Martin, Tom Bewick, Ralph Cavalari, James Wade, Dan Rossi, Don Latham, Al Parks, Eric Young

NRSP-1

- Important for One Solution Stakeholder Committee to stay engaged with REE policy makers and IT folks to make sure the databases are useful for universities as well as USDA and Congress.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2010.

Marshall Martin/Don Latham - \$346,829 FY'09 budget recommended for approval.

NRSP-3

- Off-the-top funding is now less than 2%, an excellent example of decreasing dependency on this funding source.
- NE region suggested this project become a multistate project with participating stations supporting the \$50,000.
- No compelling argument to keep this project as an NRSP and maintain a low level of funding.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

Dan Rossi/Craig Nessler – Recommended that the NRSP-3 renewal proposal not be approved and that this activity be established as a multistate project that can be funded through MRF by participant AES's and other sources. The NRSP-3 group is commended for exemplifying the ideal of becoming self supporting.

Note: Disapproval of the NRSP-3 renewal proposal will automatically grant a one year extension for this project to Sep 30, 2009 with a budget of \$50,000.

NRSP-4

- Specialty Crops Research Initiative is not designed to support this type of activity, so this funding still needs to come from off-the-top Hatch.
- Project group should consider how they could reduce dependence on off-the-top funding when the renewal proposal and next 5-year budget are developed.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2009.

Dan Rossi/Al Parks - \$481,182 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval.

Marshall/Tom – Project extension to Sep 30, 2010 is recommended for approval.

NRSP-5

- 2008 Farm Bill includes mandatory funding for NRSP-5 activities through the National Clean Plant Network.
- It appears these funds will be administered through APHIS, but it is not sure the funds will be available for FY'09, so off-the-top funding approval is needed to ensure continuation.
- If it is learned that APHIS will provide funding for FY'09 prior to the ESS meeting, the off-the-top funding request will be withdrawn.
- If APHIS provides funding during FY'09, the difference between that funding and the approved off-the-top will be returned to CSREES for redistribution to the SAES.
- One year project extension is needed to allow off-the-top funding in '09, if necessary.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

Craig Nessler/Marshall Martin – Project extension to Sep 30, 2009 is recommended for approval.
Marshall Martin/Dan Rossi – FY'09 \$145,678 budget is recommended for approval, if funds do not become available from the National Clean Plant Network.

NRSP-6

- Request that the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee take another look at whether or not this project should be funded in some other way through the National Plant Germplasm system.
- As project is rewritten there needs to be a serious justification for off-the-top funding.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2010.

Don Latham/Marshall Martin - \$110,000 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval and the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee is requested to consider new ways to fund this by end of the current project.

NRSP-7

- Proposal for renewal of this project in 2009 will have to show substantial funding from other sources, including industry, in order to be approved and funded.
- Current project terminates on Sep 30, 2009.

Dan Rossi/Don Latham – \$325,000 FY'09 budget is recommended for approval, minus any funds made available to this project in the FY'09 federal budget.

NRSP-8

- Need to include grants and other funding sources that support activities of this project in the FY'10 budget request to justify recommendation of this level of funding again.
- Current project terminates Sep 30, 2008.

Marshall Martin/Ralph Cavalari – Renewal project proposal is recommended for approval with a FY'09 budget of \$500,000. It is recommended that subsequent years' funding be contingent on more details regarding other funding sources supporting the NRSP-8 activities and information on efforts to obtain funding from industry and other non-public sources.

NRSP_temp101

- Discussion at the spring regional meetings resulted in the following general opinions on this project proposal:
 - West favored approval and funding
 - Northeast was not favorable because the proposal did not justify the project as a NRSP and the deliverables from the activity are not a high priority need.
 - North Central was not in favor of approving this proposal and thought it was more suited to being established as a multistate project.
 - South did not favor approval because most stations are not using this data and generally thought that the data collection should be supported by other agencies.

Craig Nessler/Marshall Martin – It is recommended that this new NRSP project proposal not be approved. Any subsequent submission of this proposal should include a better justification of the activity as a NRSP, explanation of the priority need for this information and its use, and how this activity could support research on global climate change.

NRSP Renewal Proposal Review Process

- The NRSP-RC discussed how it could better manage and oversee the development of renewal proposals, including the external and peer reviews and the writing committee's responses to those reviews. The following procedures were approved to accomplish this.

- External review done in early fall needs to include both merit and scientific (peer) review of both current project and proposed future project.
- NRSP-RC Chair will communicate to AA's of projects that terminate in fall '09 the following procedures for external review.
 - First proposal draft needs to be available for review team for its initial review in early fall.
 - First proposal draft should be entered into NIMSS and the NRSP-RC Chair and ED Executive Vice Chair will check proposal for completeness.
 - External review team is established by CSREES in consultation with the project AAs and the NRSP-RC. CSREES representative on the NRSP-RC will be primary contact for this.
 - Initial review should be done in August or September and cover past accomplishments and proposed future activity. Reviewer comments are sent to the NRSP AAs and the NRSP-RC.
 - NRSP writing group revises proposal and sends final draft back to external review team for final review and comment.
 - NRSP revises proposal in NIMSS and submits it as final by January 15. External review comments and the NRSP's response to those comments are sent to the NRSP-RC Chair.
- Letter from NRSP-RC Chair should highlight paragraph V.E. in guidelines regarding the intention for off-the-top funding to be reduced or eliminated over time and the need to transition to other funding sources.
- Letter should also highlight paragraph V.H. regarding the requirement that both "off-the-top" and "other sources" budget forms must be completed. Separate "other sources" forms must be completed for each source type.

Potential New NRSP Areas

- Plant/crop genomics
- Regulatory approval support for transgenic speciality crops
- Digestion/conversion technology for biofuels
- Climatology data compilation, analysis, interpretation, and communication

Items for Section Report

Do graph of NRSP budget changes from '04 to '08 and include graph of 1% of Hatch and total from other funding sources.

Current Member Terms

Bill Vinson (WV)	through 2011 (2010-2011 chair)	SAES-Northeast Region
Marshall Martin (IN)	through 2010	SAES-North Central Region
Craig Nessler (VA)	through 2009 (2008-2009 chair)	SAES-Southern Region
Ralph Cavilera (WA)	through 2011	SAES-Western Region
Al Parks (TX)	through 2009	ARD
James Wade (NASULGC)	through 2010	ECOP
Tom Bewick	through 2011	CSREES
Don Latham (Latham Seeds)	through 2009	Industry Stakeholders
Dan Rossi (NERA))	through 2011	Regional ED
Eric Young (SAAESD)	through 2009	Regional ED