NECC 1501 Sustainable Farm Energy Meeting Minutes

Location: Madison, WI; June 20-22nd, 2017

**Tuesday, June 20 – Travel to Madison**

6:00 PM – meet for dinner in hotel lobby

**Wednesday, June 21: Meeting in Ag Engineering Rm 212**

8:00 Welcome and Introductions (S. Sanford)

8:15 Administrative Advisor Update

8:30 State Reports (10 min each x 8 stations)

1. University of Maryland (Stephanie Lansing)
2. University of Wisconsin (Scott Sanford)
3. University of New Hampshire (Matthew Smith)
4. Rutgers University (David Specca and Tom Manning)
5. Pennsylvania State University (Daniel Ciolkosz)
6. University of Connecticut (Xiusheng "Harrison" Yang)
7. University of Illinois (Stanley Solomon, Jr)
8. University of Vermont (Christopher Callahan)

10:30 Cooperative Grant Ideas / programs

- Beginning Farmer and Rancher update on proposal submission

11:00 Project Plan Development

Determining actions for each of the three NECC 1501 Objectives

1. **Prepare a survey report on the "regional farm energy status and outlook"**

**Survey Outline**

1. Energy Use On-Farm Data
   1. NRCS Farm Audit Data Analysis (lead: PSU, collaborate: UMD). A proposal was submitted by PSU with a letter of support from the NECC 1501 group to NRCS to complete a farm energy audit. The group will work with PSU on this audit and the proposed Energy Summit in July 2018, if the proposal is funded.
2. Energy Efficiency
   1. Smart Metering (lead: UI; collaborate: XX)
   2. Equipment Use and Installation (lead: UW; collaborate: XX)
   3. Greenhouse Energy Management (lead: Rutgers; collaborate: UConn)
3. On-Farm Energy Production
   1. Solar, Wind, Geothermal (lead/collaborate: Rutgers/UNH)
   2. Biomass Heating
      1. Combustion/Gasification (lead/collaborate: PSU/UI/UMD/UV)
      2. Composting Heat Recovery (lead: UNH; collaborate: XX)
   3. Biogas (lead: UMD; collaborate: PSU)
   4. Biofuels (lead/collaborate: PSU/UV/UNH)

**2. Identify research, education, and extension opportunities and needs for the topic of farm energy**

1. Investigate opportunities to collaborate with the National Energy Extension Group

**3. Prepare joint proposals for funded projects in farm energy research, education, and Extension**

1. **NRCS** – Dan will lead. Due date: This week (note: proposal was submitted with letter of support from NECC 1501).
2. **NERA** – Stephanie will lead: We applied last year and were unsuccessful. UMD will take the lead on a reapplication, which is due at the end of August 2017.
3. AFRI – (Network, Foundational Programs, Challenge Areas) – All investigate further
4. SARE – Farmer Partnerships ($5k), Research/Extension ($300k), Professional Development ($70k) – All investigate further

12:00 Lunch – DeJope Hall – Four Lakes Market

13:00 Leave for Tours from Ag Engineering Lab

13:30 Dane Co multi-farm Digester Site – Gundersen Health Systems / WES Engineering – 7167 Schneider Road, Middleton, WI 53562 - <http://www.gundersenenvision.org/envision/resources/photos/middleton-dairy-digester/>

14:30 Leave for WMARS

14:45 West Madison Agricultural Research Station - 8502 Mineral Point Road, Verona, WI

- Rotatable Guarded Hot Box Research (David Bohnhoff) (30 minutes)

- Mint oil extraction research - Scott Sanford (30 minutes)

16:00 Brennan’s Cheese – (Sample cheese)

Tour of Ag Engineering Lab

17:00 Return to Campus / hotel

18:00 PM Dinner

**Thursday, June 22**

7:45 AM - Leave for Blue Star Dairy - N1399 County Road Q, Arlington 53911

8:30 AM - Tour of Blue Star Dairy Farms - Sherri Meinholz - farm office number: 608-846-4379

9:30 AM - Leave for Arlington Ag Research Station - N695 Hopkins Road, Arlington WI

9:45 AM - Bioenergy Cropping systems – Gregg Sanford – Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center

11:30 AM - Leave for airport & hotel

12:00 PM – Dane Co Airport - 4000 International Ln, Madison, WI 53704

12:30 PM – Hotel / UW Campus - 2424 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53726

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Chairperson: Stephanie Lansing - [slansing@umd.edu](mailto:slansing@umd.edu) - 301-789-7241