

Biomass Program



Monthly News Blast

March 2012

Obama Administration Announces New Funding for Biomass Research and Development Initiative

On March 22, 2012, the White House announced up to \$35 million over three years to support research and development in advanced biofuels, bioenergy, and high-value biobased products. The projects funded through the [Biomass Research and Development Initiative](#) (BRDI)—a joint program through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Energy—will help develop economically and environmentally sustainable sources of renewable biomass and increase the availability of renewable fuels and biobased products that can help replace the need for conventional gasoline and diesel in vehicles and diversify our energy portfolio. Applicants seeking fiscal year 2012 BRDI funding must propose projects that integrate science and engineering research in the following three legislatively mandated technical areas: feedstock development; biofuels and biobased products development; and biofuels development analysis.

A description of the solicitation, eligibility requirements, and application instructions are available at <https://www.fedconnect.net/> and <http://www.grants.gov/> under **Reference Number DE-FOA-0000657**. Applications are due **April 23, 2012**, and must be submitted electronically.

Program to host Educational Opportunities in Bioenergy Webinar in April

Next month, the Biomass Program will host a webinar on Educational Opportunities in Bioenergy. This webinar will feature opportunities at two Department of Energy national laboratories: National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Presenters will include current leaders in bioenergy, as well as students who will provide information on their respective programs and their experiences. The webinar will conclude with a Q&A session.

Undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students, as well as the public are

welcome to attend this informational webinar highlighting opportunities in the bioenergy industry. For more information regarding the webinar, registration, and agenda, please contact Ashley Rose at Ashley.Rose@ee.doe.gov.

Register for the 34th Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemical

The 34th Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemicals, hosted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory, will be held April 30–May 3, 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana, at the Sheraton New Orleans in the French Quarter. The symposium chairs have assembled a technical program that includes 19 sessions plus a special session on international bioenergy center progress. There will be two poster sessions. Technical topics include new biomass sources and sustainability; biomass recalcitrance and pretreatment; enzyme and microbial advances; algae; new types of biofuels and infrastructure issues; bioprocessing; biorefineries; and the Bioenergy Research Center update. Reduced rate registration ends March 30, 2012, so register *today* at <http://www.simhq.org/sbfc/sbfc-registration/>.

BIO World Congress Opens April 29 in Orlando

The World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology and Bioprocessing is the world's largest industrial biotechnology event for business leaders, investors and policy makers in biofuels, biobased products, and renewable chemicals. Entering its ninth year, the event will be held in April 29–May 2 in Orlando, Florida, and will bring together more than 1,000 attendees. The Congress offers unique networking opportunities, an overview of the latest technological developments, and real world scenarios for bringing technological solutions to market. To see the program or register, click on <http://www.bio.org/events/conferences/welcome-2012-bio-world-congress>.

Biomass 2012 Registration Now Open

We invite you to [register](#) for the U.S. Department of Energy Biomass Program's fifth annual networking and informational conference, Biomass 2012: Confronting Challenges, Creating Opportunities – Sustaining a Commitment to Bioenergy. This year's conference will be held July 10–11, at the Washington D.C. Convention Center. Prominent members of the Congress and the Administration have been invited to deliver keynote speeches. The conference will also feature panel discussions with policy-makers and critical players in the bioenergy industry, as well as nine breakout sessions focused on financing strategies, state and local policy issues, breakthrough conversion technologies, aviation biofuels, and much more. For the first time, the Biomass Program has also issued a call for posters to be presented

at this year's conference.

Visit the [Biomass 2012 Web page](#) to find out more information about the conference, review the [draft agenda](#) and [sponsorship opportunities](#), and learn about this year's [poster session](#).

Past and Upcoming Events with Biomass Representation

- International Energy Agency Bioenergy Task 42 Meeting, February 27–March 3, 2012, Melissa Klembara, Copenhagen, Denmark
- ARPA-E Summit, February 27–March 2, 2012, Elliott Levine, Barbara Twigg, and Howard Marks, Washington, D.C.
- Biomass R&D Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, March 1–2, 2012, Elliott Levine, Washington, D.C.
- Seventh Annual World Biofuels Markets, March 13–15, 2012, Bryce Stokes, Rotterdam, Netherlands
- Advanced Biofuels Leadership Conference, April 2–5, 2012, Brian Duff, Washington, D.C.
- International Biomass Conference and Expo, April 16–19, 2012, Elliott Levine and Barbara Twigg, Denver, Colorado
- Social Aspects of Bioenergy Sustainability Workshop, April 24, 2012, Kristen Johnson and Ranyee Chiang, Washington, D.C.
- Bio World Congress, April 29–May 2, 2012, Valerie Reed, Orlando, Florida
- 34th Symposium on Biotechnology for Fuels and Chemicals, April 30–May 3, 2012, Brian Duff, New Orleans, Louisiana
- Bioenergy Deployment Consortium Meeting, May 7–9, 2012, Neil Rossmeissl, Knoxville, Tennessee
- Biomass 2012: Confronting Challenges, Creating Opportunities – *Sustaining a Commitment to Bioenergy*, July 10–11, 2012, Biomass Program staff, Washington, D.C.

Funding Opportunities

- [BRDI FY 2012](#): The FY 2012 solicitation was released on March 22, 2012. Subject to annual appropriations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) plan to contribute up to \$35 million over three years for this year's BRDI solicitation. A description of the solicitation, eligibility requirements, and application instructions are available at <https://www.fedconnect.net/> and <http://www.grants.gov/> under **Reference Number DE-FOA-0000657**. Applications are due **April 23, 2012**, and must be submitted electronically.
- [Biomass Advancements in Sustainable Algal Production](#): DOE is requesting

applications to support outdoor phototrophic algae research and development in two areas: (1) nutrient and water use in algal production systems and (2) the development of algal technology test bed facilities. This research will support the Biomass Program's goals to model pathways for significant (>1 billion gallons per year) volumes of cost-competitive algal biofuels by 2022.

Applications are due on **April 18, 2012**.

- [BRDI FY 2011](#): In partnership with USDA, full proposals are being reviewed, and an announcement has been targeted for the spring of 2012.

Biomass News Updates

- [Obama Administration Announces New Funding for Biomass Research and Development Initiative](#), DOE Public Affairs, March 22, 2012
- [President Obama Announces \\$14 million Funding Opportunity to Develop Transportation Fuels from Algae](#), DOE Public Affairs, February 23, 2012
- [CALL FOR PAPERS: The Sun Grant Initiative National Conference on Science for Biomass Feedstock Production and Utilization](#), University of Tennessee, February 1, 2012

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