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CDFA Update on Progress to Plan
Bioenergy Action Plan
Public Workshop
June 11, 2007

The Governor's foresight and leadership must be recognized as he established the Interagency Workgroup, when on April 25, 2006 he issued Executive Order S-06-06, establishing targets for the use and production of biofuels and biopower and directing state agencies to work together to advance biomass programs in California while providing environmental protection and mitigation. CDFA is an active member of the team.

It's now been a little over a year since the Plan, prepared by the Workgroup, with public input was submitted to the Governor. It is appropriate that through this public workshop we review progress against plan and take additional input as we move forward with implementation.

It is important that we keep the targets set by the governor in mind. They are: Regarding biofuels, the state shall produce a minimum of 20 percent of its biofuels within California by 2010, 40 percent by 2020, and 75 percent by 2050. Regarding the use of biomass for electricity, the state shall meet a 20 percent target within the established state goals for renewable generation for 2010 and 2020.

CDFA actions – Progress to Plan:

1. Pertaining to the five multi-agency actions – CDFA is assisting several entities including UC researchers by providing previously developed information on bioenergy crops. Of particular interest is demonstration results from sweet sorghum trials conducted from 1990 – 1992.
2. Secretary Kawamura is a member of the 25x25 national steering committee. Last week he hosted a meeting between the committee and the San Joaquin Valley Partnership.
3. CDFA is a member of the California Biomass Collaborative, and serves on its Board of Directors.
4. CDFA participated in and provided comments to the CEC – lead drafting of the State Alternative Fuels Plan as mandated by SB 1007.
5. Continues to work in cooperation with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Boards and the Department of Forestry to ensure that adequate criteria for water protection and water quality are put in place on agricultural and forest lands in California.
6. Facilitated initial meeting and participated in development of the dairy digester protocol developed by the CCAR.

7. Report on the existing market potential for the sustainable production and use of agricultural crops and residues as a source of electricity, fuel, chemicals, and other valuable co-products by June 30, 2007. The Biomass Collaborative (2007 Road map) and CalPoly SLO (October, 2004) have conducted biomass assessments. CDFA is currently evaluating sugar cane as a potential energy crop.
8. Develop a plan to determine how to gain better access to agricultural and forestry biomass resources, including regulatory and technology development needs, in cooperation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection by December 31, 2006. There is no funding to conduct this work at present.
9. Identify "biomass management zones" in key agricultural areas of California, in coordination with the Department of Forestry and the California Biomass Collaborative by June 30, 2007. There is no funding to conduct this work, but San Joaquin Valley is exploring this work through the SJV Partnership, its new Energy Work Group and the new Coordinated Energy Organization.
10. Evaluate the potential for regional manure management centers as potential sites for dairy bio-digesters in the San Joaquin Valley and at other suitable locations, in cooperation with the Energy Commission by June 30, 2007. A report was prepared by CalPoly SLO and its release is pending upon review by CDFA.
11. Evaluate the potential for biomass technologies to address animal disposal and animal health concerns associated with emerging animal diseases by June 30, 2007. Discussions are taking place as to how to fund this work. Collaboration with the Biomass Collaborative, WIFSS, IWMB and CDFA (and perhaps CEC) are underway. An initial assessment was conducted
12. Work with the Public Utilities Commission to facilitate the sales and distribution of on-farm produced power. CDFA has been tracking progress, especially between PG&E and the dairy industry. No formal action has been taken.
13. Develop and implement a strategy by December 31, 2006, to support bioenergy production and use under provisions of the existing federal Farm Bill and to improve those opportunities as the Farm Bill is rewritten for 2007. This work is on-going. CDFA held listening sessions across the state on the Farm Bill and working with other agencies, prepared a position paper approved by the Governor. The Secretary coordinates closely with Secretary Chrisman and continues to brief members of congress and works through the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture to assure that Energy, Research and Conservation titles have provisions that work for California to meet multiple objectives management of our agricultural resources.