



**AGENDA**

**Agriculture Sector Working Group**

Monday, July 18, 2005, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. PST

Call-in Details:

1-866-299-3188, passcode 415-947-4143#

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*This call will provide an update on the Collaborative, including federal budget news, highlight current resources and conferences, a report from the Northwest on the status of recent biodiesel legislation in Oregon and Washington, and an overview of future plans for Tier 3 Ag engines and the use of biodiesel in Ag equipment.*  
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**10:00 Welcome and Agenda Review (5 minutes)**

**10:05 Sector relevant grants and upcoming conferences (10 minutes)**

The West Coast Collaborative continues to track resources and conferences on the website ([www.westcoastcollaborative/resources.org](http://www.westcoastcollaborative/resources.org)). We will highlight several of the most relevant current opportunities.

**(1) Resource conservation Challenge Grant**

The **EPA** has proposed a **Resource Conservation Challenge Grant Program** with total funding estimated at \$100,000 to be distributed in 12 expected awards with a ceiling of \$20,000 each. **Applications are due July 20, 2005.** The New England Office of Pollution Prevention is offering the grant to 1) provide education and outreach, 2) to stimulate market development for materials difficult to recycle or reuse, 3) to incorporate source reduction, recycling, and waste reduction into EPA initiatives, and 4) to integrate source reduction, pollution prevention, and waste reduction concepts in environmental programs. More information is available at:

<http://fedgrants.gov/Applicants/EPA/OGD/GAD/EPA-R1-RCC-05/Grant.html>.

**(2) USDA’s Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grants**

**The Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Office of Extramural Programs** is offering the Small Business Innovation Grants. The purpose of the SBIR program is to provide an opportunity for US-owned, for-profit small business firms to submit innovative, applied, research and development projects that address important problems facing American agriculture and have the potential to lead to significant public benefit if the research is successful. Research proposals are accepted in any of the following topic areas: 1) Forests and Related Resources; 2) Plant Production and Protection; 3) Animal Production and Protection; 4) Air, Water and Soils; 5) Food Science and Nutrition; 6) Rural and Community Development; 7) Aquaculture; 8) Industrial Applications; 9) Marketing and Trade; 10) Wildlife; 11) Animal Waste Management; and 12) Small and Mid-Size Farms. The SBIR program exists in three phases. The purpose of Phase I is to prove the scientific or technical feasibility of the proposed research and development effort. Phase I projects typically are for 8 months. Phase II is the principal research and development

effort and often involves moving the project from the laboratory to the field or the development of prototypes. Phase II projects typically are for 24 months. Phase III is the commercialization phase and there is no SBIR support provided for this phase. The maximum award amount is \$300,000, and the minimum award amount is \$80,000. There is no requirement to cost share or provide matching funds.

The RFA for FY 2006 was released on June 2, 2005 and **Phase I applications are due on September 1, 2005. Phase II Applications are due by February 2, 2006.**

For more information, go to: [http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/sbir\\_rfa.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/sbir_rfa.html)

**(3) National Biodiesel Conference and Expo**

Scheduled for February 5 – 8, 2006, in San Diego, California, the National Biodiesel Conference and Expo 2006 is sure to attract a record number of biodiesel marketers, consumers, feedstock growers, fuel distributors, government leaders and biodiesel users. The national Biodiesel Board is planning a rich educational program featuring presentations and discussions from the industries most influential and knowledgeable leaders. For more information, go to: <http://www.biodiesel.org/expo2006/>.

**10:15 Update on recent biodiesel legislation in Oregon and Washington (20 minutes)**

Brent Searle from the Oregon Department of Agriculture will provide a brief overview of the status of the recent biodiesel legislation in OR and WA, and will be available to answer questions.

**10:25 Cleaner Agriculture Equipment (10 minutes)**

A representative from John Deere Power Systems will share information on what approaches they are considering with respect to aftertreatment product availability. Also a brief overview will be given regarding their Tier 3 engine strategy and their position/plans for using biodiesel in a variety of farm equipment.

**10:45 General update on the Collaborative (15 minutes)**

Michelle Roos, U.S. EPA, will provide a short update on Collaborative activities and ongoing federal budget news, including an update on the Senator Voinovich's proposed 2005 Diesel Emissions Reduction Act which would authorize \$1 billion over the next five years to reduce diesel emissions.

**11:00 Adjourn**