

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Future Role of Biofuels: A Global Perspective
 Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA

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Subject of Review: Rapid expansion of global biofuel production raises questions of its sustainability. The outlook for biofuels to secure a more significant role as a global transportation fuel will depend on a number of interrelated factors, including the future price of oil, the availability of plentiful low-cost biomass, supportive policy, the commercialization of second generation biofuels, and competition from unconventional fossil fuel alternatives. This report is based on a broad review of literature covering global analyses of biofuel developments as well as developments in the most important producing and consuming countries in the world. This report is based on the 2006 PECC report, The Future Role of Biofuels. Since that report focused only on the Asia-Pacific region and primarily on ethanol the most important biofuel in that region, additional analyses were undertaken to add biodiesel and other parts of the world, most importantly the EU, the world's leading producer of biodiesel. Special attention was given to providing perspective to the intersection of agricultural and energy markets, important to assessing the extent to which biofuels are meeting energy security goals.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 06/20/07 End: 08/13/07 Completed: 08/13/07

Number of Reviewers: [] 3 or fewer [X] 4 to 10 [] More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [] Designated Outside Organization
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [] Yes [X] No
If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:
How:
When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [] Yes [X] No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [] Yes [X] No

