Maximizing Bioenergy Resources in the Midwest
Kirkwood Regional Center at the University of Iowa
2301 Oakdale Boulevard | Coralville, Iowa 52241
October 11-12, 2017
DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday, October 11 – Day 1

8:30 am  Tour of Sievers Family Farms (Optional)
           Depart by bus meeting at [location TBD]

1:00 pm  Welcome and Introductions
           Jeff Ewart, Deputy Director, Midwestern Governors Association

1:30 pm  Keynote Address: Biofuels: Answering America’s Looming Agriculture Crisis
           Jeff Broin, Chief Executive Officer, POET

2:15 pm  Panel Discussion: Agricultural benefits of a strong bioeconomy
           Expanding the bioeconomy and creating new markets for biomass is stimulating changes to the
           agricultural industry. This panel will explore the impacts of crop diversification, increasing market
           options, and other issues facing agricultural producers.
           Martin Adkins, Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships at USDA Natural Resources
           Conservation Service (NRCS)
           Dr. Emily Heaton, Associate Professor of Agronomy, Iowa State University
           M. Cristina Negri, Director, Environmental Science Division, Argonne National Laboratory

3:30 pm  Break

3:45 pm  Panel Discussion: Biogas applications for Biomass
           Bioenergy has the potential for application in a variety of forms. This panel will discuss use of
           renewable natural gas, or biogas, directly as an energy resource and provide an overview of the
           infrastructure needed to support a strong biogas industry.
           Dave Broihahn, Vice President/Owner, Unison Solutions, Inc.
           Stephanie Weisenbach, Program Manager, Clean Cities, Iowa Economic Development Authority

5:00 pm  Recap of Day One/Preview of Day 2

5:30 pm  Evening Reception
           Location: TBD

Thursday, October 12, 2017 – Day 2

7:45 am  Continental Breakfast Available

8:00 am  Day Two Preview

8:15 am  Guest Speaker: Economic Development Case Study of Smithfield Foods

8:45 am  Guest Speaker: Economic Development Case Study on Pyrolysis Demonstration Project
           Robert Brown, Distinguished Professor, Iowa State University & Director, Bioeconomy Institute
9:15 am  Panel Discussion: The Biomass Supply Chain
Critical to the success of the developing biomass industry is a strong supply chain to ensure an adequate supply of feedstock and optimize the harvest, transport and processing of biomass supplies. Hear from a panel of experts in the supply chain and supply chain management in this session.
Erin Hazen, Renewable Energy Business Development Manager, University of Iowa

10:30 am  Break

10:45 am  Panel Discussion: Electrical generation from biomass
Biomass conversion can generate electricity for use by industry, the transportation sector, and other consumers. This panel will discuss the technology, benefits, and applications for converting biomass feedstocks into electricity.
Cliffe Haefke, Director, Energy Resources Center (ERC), University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)
Royce Hammitt, former Director, Des Moines Wastewater Reclamation Authority
Jeff Hove, President, Iowa Electric Car Association

12:00 pm  Discussion on Next Steps

12:15 pm  Adjourn Meeting