

# 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee

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## 1. Department or Agency

Department of Energy

## 2. Fiscal Year

2024

## 3b. GSA

Committee

No.

## 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Biomass Research and Development

Technical Advisory Committee

10674

## 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

## 5. Current Charter

05/12/2019 05/12/2021

## 6. Expected Renewal Date

## 7. Expected Term Date

## 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

## 8b. Specific Termination Authority

## 8c. Actual Term Date

## 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

## 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

## 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

## 11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

## 12. Specific Establishment Authority

PL 106-224, Agriculture Risk  
Protection Act, Title III,  
Biomass Research and  
Development Act of 2000

## 13. Effective Date

06/20/2000 Continuing No

## 14. Committee Type

## 14c. Presidential?

## 15. Description of Committee

## 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for  
this Fiscal Year

## 17a. Open

0 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total0

## Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	<b>Current FY</b>	<b>Next FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Committee is chartered to provide advice on biomass research priorities to the Secretaries of Energy and Agriculture. They also review and evaluate procedures for evaluation of proposals, and perform strategic planning. Generally, these activities are accomplished via quarterly Committee meetings. In June 2002, the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture requested that the Committee develop a Vision and Roadmap document for the biomass industry.

The Committee completed the Vision in October 2002 and completed the Roadmap in November 2002. In August 2005, the Energy Policy Act required that the documents be updated. The Committee worked throughout FY 2006 and FY 2007 to achieve this. The Vision was completed in November 2006 and the Roadmap in September 2007. The Committee restructured in May 2008 and established new subcommittees in line with the Biomass R&D Board interagency working groups (Feedstocks Production and Logistics; Conversion; and Products, Markets, and Systems Groups). The previous subcommittees (Policy, Analysis, Communications and Planning) were discontinued.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Membership for the Biomass R&D Technical Advisory Committee is balanced in accordance with Public Law 106-224 which established the Committee. The Biomass R&D Act was amended by Section 9001 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 and states that in general the Advisory Committee shall consist of-- (i) an individual affiliated with the biofuels industry; (ii) an individual affiliated with the biobased industrial and commercial products industry; (iii) an individual affiliated with an institution of higher education who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (iv) 2 prominent engineers or scientists from government or academia who have expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (v) an individual affiliated with a commodity trade association; (vi) 2 individuals affiliated with environmental or conservation organizations; (vii) an individual associated with State government who has expertise in biofuels and biobased products; (viii) an individual with expertise in

energy and environmental analysis; (ix) an individual with expertise in the economics of biofuels and biobased products; (x) an individual with expertise in agricultural economics; (xi) an individual with expertise in plant biology and biomass feedstock development; (xii) an individual with expertise in agronomy, crop science, or soil science; and (xiii) at the option of the points of contact, other members. This membership balance was most recently authorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The Committee meets each quarter, approximately four times a year to develop and discuss recommendations for submission to the Biomass R&D Board co-chaired by designees of the Secretary of Energy and Secretary of Agriculture. These recommendations are also included in an Annual Report submitted to Congress each year.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 outlines a new renewable fuel standard requiring 36 billion gallons of renewable fuel by 2022. Advanced biofuels and cellulosic biofuels are specifically called out in the renewable fuel standard. Biomass is a renewable source of energy which is based on feedstocks such as commodity crops, agriculture and forest residue, and livestock waste which are all available within our shores. This renewable energy source provides the opportunity for the Nation to lessen its dependence on imported oil, improve the rural economy, and reduce the emissions caused from the combustion of fossil fuels and fossil feedstocks

for products and fuels. The area of biomass technologies is very broad. The advisory committee provides the needed focus and input from industry, academia, non-profits, and state and tribal governments that will allow the federal programs to focus on the research that is critical to the sustainability and marketability of biofuels and biobased products and power. The Committee operates under the oversight of the Biomass R&D Board, a federal-level panel which helps coordinate biomass research and development efforts government-wide. The Biomass R&D Board is co-chaired by the Departments of Agriculture and Energy.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Meetings are always open.

**21. Remarks**

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, section 941, revised the Biomass R&D Act of 2000 to remove the termination date for this Committee. The Act was further amended by the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, specifically Section 9008. It was re-authorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014. The draft Annual Reports are in the review process. No activities or meeting held in FY 23.

**Designated Federal Officer**

TBD TBD Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

**Narrative Description**

The Committee holds meetings quarterly to review current biomass research and development resulting from its joint solicitation, as well as the intentions of future joint solicitations. These projects are measured against the Committee's updated Vision and Roadmap

documents, which set goals and outline desired National progress in the areas of biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts.

Recommendations are made on an annual basis in the Biomass R&D Annual Report to Congress, to provide feedback and suggestions for the evolution of future biomass research and development, and policy in this area. No Committee activities or meetings held in FY 2023.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Outcome Comments**

The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 altered the Committee's founding legislation, the Biomass R&D Act of 2000. The Committee was reauthorized in the Agricultural Act of 2014.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Other



### **Cost Savings Comments**

NA

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

396

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year outlines all recommendations made, and Agency responses.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

82%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Plans for implementation of recommendations are provided by the Departments of Agriculture and Energy in the Annual Report for each fiscal year.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

0%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

NA

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

The Departments of Agriculture and Energy provide feedback to all recommendations in the Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year. <http://biomassboard.gov/>

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Action Comments**

Committee advice regarding biomass legislation, current research awards under the joint solicitation, and evaluation of priorities, are included in the Annual Report to Congress for each fiscal year.

### **Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

### **Grant Review Comments**

NA

### **How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Access Comments**

<http://biomassboard.gov/>