

# STATUS OF COLLABORATIVE DIGESTER PROJECT

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# I. DIGESTER PROTOCOL POSTED

- Supplemental suggested equation and example calculations being prepared by Dr. Dave Luddington ( will be posted on ASERTTI website or blog.)
- EPA took out wording that makes the protocol look like a regulation (makes it less clear what is needed for an acceptable evaluation).

## II. DATABASE CONTENT, HOUSING AND MANAGEMENT

- What should be basic information in the database to find system characteristics of interest?
- Who will host the database, what will be the cost, and who will pay for managing it?
- Pre-evaluation review of proposed monitoring plan – offer a service (?)
- How will “completed” evaluation reports be accepted for posting – gatekeepers –cost/funding for service.

### III. FUNDING

- Testing program \$40-60K per project gets you a report
- Funding for Item II above

## **IV. FARM BILL**

- **USDA proposal on street**
  - **\$210M over 10 years to guarantee 2.17 billion in loans**
  - **\$500M over 10 years for grants**
- **RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO DO LOAN GUARANTEES**
  - **Section 4870.149 of CRF requires basic monitoring by borrower**
- **USDA/USDOE board which will include USEPA, Department of Interior, NSF, Office of Science & Technology Policy overseeing the grant program (Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000).**
  - **Section 307(g).(5) calls for tech transfer activities through administrator of CSREES and chief of NRSC.**