

# Bioeconomy Initiative Forum Opening Presentation

September 15, 2020

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# What is the Bioeconomy?

The **bioeconomy** is a global industrial transition of sustainably utilizing renewable aquatic and terrestrial biomass resources in energy, intermediate, and final products for economic, environmental, social, and national security benefits.



# What is the Bioeconomy Initiative?

The **Bioeconomy Initiative** is a coordinated federal effort to expand the sustainable use of the nation's abundant biomass resources for biofuels, bioproducts, and biopower.

The vision of the Bioeconomy Initiative is *a vibrant U.S. bioeconomy that enhances economic growth, energy security, and environmental quality by maximizing sustainable use of the nation's domestic biomass resources for affordable biofuels, bioproducts, and biopower.*





# Biomass Research & Development Board

- The Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000 established the Interagency **Biomass R&D Board**, the **Technical Advisory Committee**, and the **Biomass R&D Initiative (BRDi)**.
- The BR&D Board facilitates coordination among federal government agencies that affect the research, development, and deployment of biofuels and bioproducts.

## Membership

Senate-confirmed sub-cabinet officials from  
8 executive branch agencies



*Co-chair*



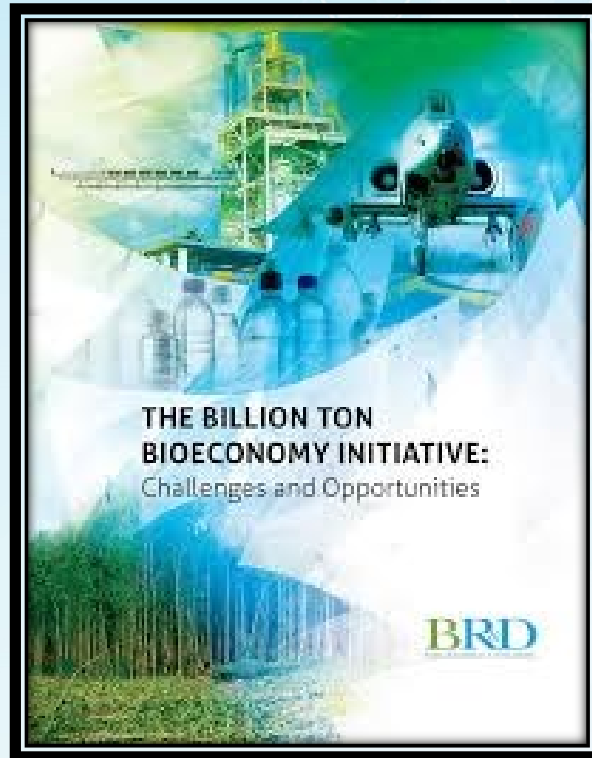
*Co-chair*



# BR&D Board, Bioeconomy Initiative Interagency Working Groups



# Strategic Reports from the Biomass Research and Development Board



<https://biomassboard.gov>



# Happy 20<sup>th</sup> birthday, BR&D Board

This title may be cited as the 'Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000'.

## **SEC. 302. FINDINGS.**

**Congress finds that--**

**(1) conversion of biomass into biobased industrial products offers outstanding potential for benefit to the national interest through--**

- (A) improved strategic security and balance of payments;**
- (B) healthier rural economies;**
- (C) improved environmental quality;**
- (D) near-zero net greenhouse gas emissions;**
- (E) technology export; and**
- (F) sustainable resource supply;**

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# Bioeconomy Initiative Forum

September 15

September 16

Opening Receptions  
Q&A with Biomass  
R&D Board  
Leadership

Bioeconomy at  
Scale

Technological  
Breakthroughs that  
Underpin the Bioeconomy

Panels on  
fundamental actions  
to implement the  
Bioeconomy Initiative

Mitigating Risks  
and Barriers

Innovation and  
Technology Development

Metrics and  
Indicators

Stakeholder Engagement  
and Technology Transfer

# Agenda – September 15

## Welcome

1 p.m.– 1:15 p.m.

Overview of the Event, Overview of the Bioeconomy Initiative

## Bioeconomy at Scale Opening Reception Board Member Q&A

1:15 p.m.– 2 p.m.

Opportunity for Board Member Representatives to describe their agency's involvement with the bioeconomy in response to audience questions.

2 p.m.– 2:15 p.m.

## Break

## Mitigating Risks and Barriers Panel

2:15 p.m.– 3 p.m.

Mitigating risks, through techno-economic and risk assessments, is a key priority of the Bioeconomy Initiative. This panel will explore how understanding and quantifying technology uncertainties and financial risks is pivotal to the success of the bioeconomy.

## Metrics and Indicators Panel

3 p.m.– 3:45 p.m.

As the bioeconomy evolves, it is critical to stay at the cutting edge of understanding and assessing potential environmental, social, and economic effects of various technologies and bioeconomy scenarios. This panel will focus on developing a catalogue of key metrics and indicators, as well as methods and guidance to support their application, to help identify best practices and maximize the benefits of the bioeconomy, while mitigating impacts.

# Agenda – September 16

## **Technological Breakthroughs that Underpin the Bioeconomy**

### **Opening Reception Board Member Q&A**

**1 p.m.– 1:45  
p.m.**

Opportunity for Board Member Representatives to describe their agency's involvement with the bioeconomy in response to audience questions.

## **Innovation and Technology Development Panel**

Performing innovative research and developing enabling platforms and applications is a critical factor to drive an innovation-based bioeconomy. This panel will highlight new advancements in basic and applied research across the bioenergy and bioproduct supply chain.

**1:45 p.m.–  
2:30 p.m.**

## **Stakeholder Engagement and Technology Transfer Panel**

Strategic, sustained stakeholder engagement is essential to growing the bioeconomy to effectively reduce technology uncertainties and improve supply chain performance. Federal agencies, in collaboration with universities, industry, stakeholders, and non-governmental organizations, will need to build strong partnerships for technology transfer to the bioeconomy industry.

**2:30 p.m.–  
3:15 p.m.**

## **Closing Remarks**

Devinn Lambert, Operations Committee Liaison for the Biomass R&D Board;  
BETO, DOE

**3:15 p.m.–  
3:20 p.m.**



# *Bioeconomy at Scale, Sept 15*

**William Goldner, Moderator**

Senior Advisor, Office of the Chief Scientist, U.S.  
Department of Agriculture (USDA)



Thank you to everyone who submitted questions at registration for the Opening Receptions.

We have consolidated questions into nine different topics.

We will now poll the audience to prioritize the session's discussion.

# Bioeconomy at Scale Opening Reception, Sept 15<sup>th</sup>



**Scott Hutchins**

Co-Chair of the Biomass R&D Board; Deputy Under Secretary for the Research, Education, and Economics, USDA

**Bill Hohenstein**



Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Policy, USDA



**Michael Berube**

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

**Mark Brodziski**



Deputy Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Service, Rural Development, USDA