

Agricultural Residues **(Focus Questions for Day 1 - 2012 Goal)**

Scope: Determine how the Agricultural Residues Pathway can produce cost-competitive ethanol by 2012.

Deliverables: Identify within the pathway, the most likely scenario for production of cost-competitive ethanol by 2012. Define cost-competitive for these fuels and outline a strategy (R&D, policy, infrastructure, etc) for achieving the cost target within the 2012 timeframe.

Questions:

Pathway Strategy:

- Does the Agricultural Residues Pathway diagram accurately portray the process?
 - Are there other routes which need to be included?
 - Are there additional feedstocks which need to be evaluated as potential feeds for this pathway?
 - Which of the routes identified are the most likely scenarios for the production of cost-competitive ethanol in the 2012 timeframe?

- Is OBP's understanding of the current state of technology correct?

- Are the performance metric targets and the overall cost-competitive target (\$1.07/gallon cellulosic ethanol) based on corn stover realistic?
 - When do you believe cellulosic ethanol will enter the market?
 - When will it be competitive with petroleum?

Pathway Development:

- What barriers need to be overcome for the pathway to reach its potential (e.g., financial, feedstocks, environmental, conversion, market and infrastructure)?
 - What should the federal and industry role be in overcoming these barriers?

- What R&D activities are needed for the pathway to reach its potential?
 - Which of the identified R&D activities are the most critical?
 - Which of the following potential DOE funding opportunities would best help the pathway meet its R&D targets/needs:
 - RD&D grants;
 - Loan guarantee program;
 - Commercialization demonstrations;
 - 10 percent commercial validation funding;
 - Other suggestions?

- Identify potential and existing policies that would enable this pathway to meet the targets and overcome the barriers identified.