
THE CONSORTIUM FOR PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH, INC.

Dorin Schumacher, Ph.D.
Chairman and President

April 1, 2010

The Honorable Richard G. Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research

Dear Senator Lugar,

The Consortium for Plant Biotechnology Research (“CPBR”) is a not-for-profit membership corporation that funds university research and technology transfer which have applications to energy security and the reduction of greenhouse gases. It does this by developing new and improved technologies that range from renewable energy, biofuels, “green” chemicals and industrial manufacturing processes to environmental remediation. CPBR-funded innovation is laying the groundwork for building the industries of the future that will reduce US dependence on foreign oil, reduce GHG, and create new, good-paying jobs.

CPBR supports higher-risk, longer-term university research that is essential to innovation but companies cannot afford to do on their own. Through CPBR, with the federal funds Congress appropriates to it, the seed, agrochemical, forestry, food, energy, and other important US industries join in partnership with the federal funding to provide 50 percent (in cash) of the 130 percent non-federal match that CPBR attracts. For every federal dollar Congress appropriates to CPBR, the government gets \$2.30 worth of research. This clearly creates a “Win-Win” situation for all involved.

CPBR’s track record of commercialization is 210 percent higher than the average rate of the top US universities and is considered higher than what companies achieve with the research projects they initiate in house.

These results are testimony to this lean, efficient, cost-effective organization. CPBR is a model for how public research should be managed in the US.

CPBR's Indiana partners include Dow AgroSciences, Purdue University and Indiana University. The universities’ CPBR-funded research and the commercialization of that research will strengthen the economy of Indiana and create new high paying jobs.

CPBR's request for FY2010 are:

- \$7 million in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill in the Department of Energy--
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Account.

-\$ 4 million in the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill--EPA
Science and Technology Fund Account.

We thank you and your fellow members of Congress who have recognized the contribution CPBR has made to innovation by your past support of this program. We ask you to continue to support CPBR by funding its appropriations requests for FY2010.

Sincerely,

Dorin Schumacher