

PEER REVIEW PLAN

Title:

Biofuels and the Environment: Third Triennial Report to Congress
(External Peer Review Draft)

Purpose/Objective:

Section 204 of the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) calls for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in consultation with U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Energy (DOE), to report to Congress on the environmental and resource conservation impacts of the Renewable Fuel Standards (RFS) Program, specifically air and water quality, water quantity, ecosystem health and biodiversity, soil quality, invasive species, and international impacts. This report is the third of EPA's reports to Congress (RtC3) required under the EISA, and builds on the previous two reports (RtC1, published in 2011, and RtC2, published in 2018) and provides an update on the impacts to date of the RFS Program on the environment. The RtC3 also includes new analyses not previously included in the RtC1 and RtC2.

Product Completion Date
(Projected):

04/01/2023

OMB Category:

Highly Influential

Peer Review Leader:

Christopher Clark
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External Peer Review Mechanism:

Ad Hoc Panel of Independent Experts

Peer Review Expected to Begin:

4th Quarter, Fiscal Year 2022

EPA's Fiscal Years run from October to September.
Quarters for Fiscal Year 2022:
1st: October - December, 2021
2nd: January - March, 2022
3rd: April - June, 2022
4th: July - September, 2022

Was a deferral to peer review invoked?

No

Will an alternative peer review process be employed?

No

Number of Peer Reviewers

4 to 10

Primary Disciplines needed in the review:		Chemistry-Atmospheric , atmospheric sciences (criteria air pollutants), human health, biogeochemistry, hydrology, soil science, agronomy, economics, biofuel process engineering, conservation biology, geography, statistics, land use and land use change, remote sensing
Who will select the reviewers?		a Contractor
Will the public, including scientific or professional societies be asked to nominate peer reviewers?		Yes
Will public nominations be allowed through the Peer Review Agenda?		Yes
Will there be opportunity for public comment on the product?		Yes
Describe How and When	A Federal Register Notice will publish instructions.	
Will the Agency provide significant and relevant public comments to the peer reviewers before they conduct their review?		Yes
Will the review be a panel, conducted in public?		Yes
Will public comments be allowed at the panel review?		Yes