

## January 14 Meeting Notes – Non-Governmental Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) Funding Workgroup

### AGENDA:

1. Quick reminder of relevant ideas from two full-team teleconferences - Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) model, unrestricted gifts/grants, restricted gifts/grants, endowments, Adopt-a-PSEP, special accounts, commodity check-off
2. Ideas to add; ideas to remove (and reasons)
3. Important points to capture regarding: a) sustainability, b) processing/overhead, c) possible mechanism - CropLife America (CLA), National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE), The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA), etc., d) other
4. Next steps
5. Other possible sources (organizations) for non-governmental gifts/grants/endowments
6. Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) increase for PSEP (five years out but when/how to start the industry side of this discussion)

### NOTES:

Workgroup will generate, research, and evaluate ideas.

No problem to miss teleconferences (most work by email) – we will meet every 2 weeks on Monday at 3 PM.

Commodity check-off added to item 1 above; PRIA (item 6) will also be considered by Federal Workgroup.

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation (NASDARF) is currently evaluating whether they could be an option to handle a national repository of non-government funds and be able to limit overhead on gifts/grants to universities.

Spreadsheet on PSEP gift process summarizes unrestricted gift process to PSEPs.

University “endowments” operate off interest (~4%). Endowment in non-profits might be set up differently.

One consideration regardless of method is having PSEPs apply for funds – advantages include a defined work plan, accountability, and possible university

match; one disadvantage is that the funding could become a restricted gift with overhead implications.

What amount is needed nationally? To maintain 50 university PSEPs, funds needed for a half-time coordinator position is ~\$2.7M; a full-time position would be ~\$5M (no operations funding). Fact sheet is being developed. Current PSEP financial condition varies by state depending on the variety of resources.

How many years would one commit to Adopt-a-PSEP? This would likely be a short-term, fairly simple solution to strengthen struggling PSEPs.

ACRC model – Advantage (and disadvantage) is that most (not all) manufacturers participate by formal calculation. But model of a national repository for distribution is good.

**ACTION STEP 1** – Draft spreadsheet with 1) a generic name for each option (i.e. – don't mention ACRC – instead, National Repository), 2) description, 3) pro's and con's, 4) probable length of funding, 5) direct or managed funding (or both), 6) accountability, 7) overhead (Y/N), and 8) maximum contribution to avoid overhead.

There may be a gift threshold allowing no overhead versus some percentage (varies by university). Two examples were given of avoiding overhead with a >\$5K gift by disbursement/quarter and disbursement to more than one account.

Industry can probably request a ceiling on overhead for low gifts (\$5K max?) Universities can usually find a way to limit overhead depending on funding level.

Some non-profits or other entities making the disbursement from a national repository may be able to limit overhead (if it is in their by-laws or policies); others may have no provision for this.

**ACTION STEP 2** – Determine if CLA, NASDARF, the National Agricultural Aviation Research and Educational Foundation (NAAREF), etc. can limit overhead when providing funds.

**ACTION STEP 3** – Look at Texas Pest Management Association as a possible model to support PSEP financially (as a partner to receive funds/distribute back to university, etc.)

**ACTION STEP 4** – Start now on future PRIA (review with Federal Workgroup first). Contact CropLife America (Ray McAllister and Barbara Glenn). PRIA is actually the most equitable, sustainable way and could likely limit overhead if a provision was written into PRIA. However, CLA is only one of many organizations involved in the process, and some other groups (environment,

antimicrobial, organic) will likely oppose any support of pesticide safety education (all counterintuitive and worthy of further discussion).