

Dr. Jeff Jacobsen  
Executive Director, North Central Regional Association  
446 West Circle, Room 408  
Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039

Dear Jeff:

I am pleased to write this letter of enthusiastic support for a new multistate committee to form the ***Collaborative for Research on Food, Energy and Water Education***. There are many dimensions to the global challenges we face to provide more than 9 billion people with sustainable supplies of food and water, but at the core of those challenges is a critical need for greater and more effective science education. There is the critical need for early education to draw more talent and diversity to the wonders and opportunities of eventual careers in the agricultural and natural sciences. More broadly, there is the critical need to facilitate greater knowledge and understanding of scientific principles, processes and technologies by citizens of all ages. Only significant, innovative efforts on these fronts will result in an adequate future workforce, and a public with a base of knowledge and understanding from which to assess and support the necessary scientific advancements to meet these great challenges.

The North Central region has institutions with a critical mass of scientists and expertise across the range of disciplines necessary to take systems approaches to the grand challenges of food and water security, integrated with several initiatives and growing capacity aimed directly at Science Literacy. It is through this important integration that the new Multi-state Team will research new approaches to food, energy and water education. The Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station is confident that the committee will bring positive impacts to these important issues and is highly supportive of their proposal.

Sincerely,



Archie C. Clutter  
Dean, Agricultural Research Division  
Director, Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station