

To: Multistate Review Committee
From: Erin Cortus, Writing Committee Chair
Date: May 25, 2018
Re: Response to Review Comments for S_temp1074

The writing committee for the S_temp1074 project, titled “Future Challenges in Animal Production Systems: Seeking Solutions through Focused Facilitation”, appreciates the time and review comments provided by the Reviewers, and the Multistate Review Committee and staff.

Our specific responses to Reviewer comments are provided.

- Reviewer 1 – “This project should be of value to a wide variety of stakeholders. “
 - Response – We agree and look forward to engaging these stakeholders as we proceed to tackle the core issues. No edits were made in response to this comment.
- Reviewer 1 – Regarding the core issues presented in the Objectives session, “...under "Next generation livestock housing", need to include animal welfare if it is not already covered under animal health and performance.”
 - Response – We agree. To add clarity, we edited “animal health and performance” to read “animal welfare, health and performance”.
- Reviewer 1 – Regarding the core issues presented in the Objectives session, “...under "Nutrient imbalance", should include extraction/capture of nutrients from manure streams, it is hard to tell if this is covered in this section.”
 - Response - We agree. To add clarity, we edited “...needs for macro and micronutrient recovery...” to “...needs for macro and micronutrient extraction and/or capture from manure streams...”
- Reviewer 2 – “Very comprehensive & forward-thinking project!”
 - Response – We appreciate the comment as we were trying to convey a forward-thinking approach. No edits were made in response to this comment.

Some additional edits that were made:

- Prior to receiving a temporary project number, we used NG-S1032 to refer to this next generation project by members of the terminating S1032 project. We replaced NG-S1032 with S1074 throughout the proposal text.
- The USDA (2018) definition of sustainability in the first paragraph of Related, Current and Previous Work was incomplete in our initial draft. Our presentation of this definition was edited.
- For Objective 1, the description of connections was edited to show that connections are “...expected to ebb and flow over time, adapting to needs, interest and availability of individuals”. This edit is meant to clarify the term “adaptive networks”.
- We proposed an annual survey for collecting metrics related to all objectives. We removed the “annual” frequency because discussions during recent planning sessions have led us to consider a greater frequency of survey data collection, with the specific frequency depending on the metric.

If additional comments arise, please let us know.