

September 7, 2010

Christopher J. Anderson, PhD  
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Re: Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment (MiCCA)

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my support and cooperation for the Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment (MiCCA). I believe that the team of scientists that will be involved in the consortium is well positioned to carry out the functions and objectives of the project.

As one that is charged with assuring the long-term actuarial soundness of the U.S. crop insurance program, I am deeply interested in improving our understanding of how weather and climate affect crop yields and how possible future scenarios of climate change will impact the overall risk in U.S. agriculture. As such, I support the activities that are planned by the consortium and would be glad to collaborate with the consortium in carrying out these activities, some of which are:

- Increase RMA's understanding of how drought impacts crop yields and whether these impacts have changed over time,
- Develop methods to develop a consensus for developing climate scenarios from climate projections which can be used in conjunction with crop production and land/water management scenarios to identify long-range potential for crop failure, associated economic losses, and mitigation actions, and
- Evaluate whether it is possible for crop producers to mitigate the impacts of adverse weather conditions post-planting in response to emerging technologies for seasonal forecasts (NOAA drought outlooks; 30-km gridded seasonal forecasts).

I look forward to cooperating and collaborating with the MiCCA team as it seeks to accomplish these tasks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Worth", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas Worth  
Senior Actuary, Risk Management Agency  
U.S. Department of Agriculture