

25 August 2009

Eugene S. Takle
Professor, Agronomy
Director, ISU Climate Science Initiative

RE: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Regional Integrated Science and Assessments Program Application for the Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment

Dear Dr. Takle:

As the CSREES Regional Research Committee NC-1179, we wish to partner with the NOAA/RISA proposal for a Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment to climate projections provided by MiCCA. We will work with MiCCA on approaches for generating climate projections suitable for our crop production models and risk assessments. Results of work will be distributed via journals, research reports, and extension and other meetings.

The North Central Regional Association (NCRA) of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors is one of four regional associations with responsibility for facilitating cooperation of regional and national research. The newly renewed group, technical committee NC-1179, has as its roots nearly 60 years of working on research activities related to the role of weather and climate on agriculture in the North Central Region and other member states nationally. The committee in previous plans of work created a singularly unique database of climate, crops and soils, comprising the data necessary to assess crop production at the county level across all of the North Central states over the last 35 years. Other activities have involved crop modeling, risk analysis, and irrigation relationships. The NC-1179 intends to use these previous activities to apply to projected climate change scenarios to determine impacts on agriculture as part of our next five year plan of work.

The results of this work will be made available to our peers, crop producers, bioenergy producers, and policy makers through appropriate communication channels. This will include publishing peer reviewed research articles, extension publications, and web based publications and applications. The intended audience would be extension staff, policy makers, crop consultants, state and regional climatologists, and crop production researchers. Some members of NC-1179 have extension responsibilities. Results of the work will be distributed via these extension appointments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Scott A. Staggenborg
Chair, NCR Technical Committee 1179