

# Engineered High Energy Crop Programs

## **PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Department of Energy (DOE) Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy's (ARPA-E) intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for one or more programs to provide financial assistance for development and demonstration of Engineered High Energy Crops (EHECs).

### **PROPOSED ACTION**

DOE ARPA-E proposes to develop and implement EHEC programs to catalyze the deployment for biofuels.

A main component would be to provide financial assistance to funding recipients, such as research institutions, independent contract growers or commercial entities, to conduct confined field trials.

Confined field trials are field experiments that are conducted under controls within an area that confines the experimental crop but allows researchers to test the performance of the crop under real field conditions in local environments.

### **PURPOSE AND NEED**

The purpose and need for agency action is to facilitate the deployment of EHECs through funding programs that support research, development, and demonstration of EHECs up to commercial scale.

In the absence of DOE funding and support for EHEC programs, scientific understanding and innovation in the responsible use of EHEC crops and, ultimately, commercial deployment of EHECs would develop more slowly or not at all. Accordingly, DOE needs to take action to catalyze the development and deployment of EHEC crops.



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