

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

---

*Southern Research and Outreach Center*

*College of Food, Agricultural, and  
Natural Resources Sciences*

*35838- 120<sup>th</sup> Street  
Waseca, MN 56093*

*507-835-3620  
Fax: 507-835-3622  
<http://sroc.cfans.umn.edu>*

Ms. Susan Thornton, Director  
Mr. Michael C. McDonough, Research and Planning Manager  
Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Room 65  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1201

November 25, 2013

**RE: Request for Changing Project Manager for ID#: 125-E (Clean Water/Renewable Energy from Beet Waste/Manure)**

Dear Susan, Michael, and Commission Members:

I am writing this letter to request a change in Project Manager for the above proposal due to the departure of the original PM, Dr. Jun Zhu, from the University of Minnesota. This is a very interesting project and will have a significant impact on Minnesota's agriculture, economy, and environment. I am requesting your approval to change the Project Manager for this proposal to Dr. Xiao Wu who will take full responsibility for the completion of the project. Dr. Zhu has also agreed to continue to provide assistance as an external co-PM to ensure that the project will be carried out as planned and on time.

Dr. Xiao Wu is the principal writer of this proposal and is familiar with everything from setting up the experimental apparatus to working with producers, conducting research and reporting. Dr. Wu currently is a Research Associate (non-tenure track, Professional and Academic faculty) stationed at the University of Minnesota Southern Research & Outreach Center at Waseca, MN, the site for the originally proposed project. According to University of Minnesota policy, a P&A faculty member is qualified to serve as an independent Principal Investigator on all grant applications. Dr. Wu received a PhD from the Bioproducts & Biosystems Engineering Department at the University of Minnesota in 2009 and has been working in the renewable energy and environmental protection area for 7 years. I have no reservations in recommending her for your consideration to lead this project. Her research record makes her unequivocally qualified to take on the PM role. Dr. Wu has already conducted some preliminary work for this project to lay the ground for launching the full-fledged research. At this point in time, Waseca has the infrastructure ready and committed to this project. We are also conveniently located close to the sugar beet processing facility in Renville County for easy access to the necessary sugar processing wastewater. In collaboration with Dr. Zhu over the project period, I truly believe that the project can and will be executed without any issues.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions about this request, or need more information, please feel free to contact me. Your support for this important project for the State of Minnesota is very much appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Forrest Izuno', with a stylized, flowing script.

Forrest T. Izuno, PhD  
Professor and Head  
Southern Research and Outreach Center  
University of Minnesota  
35838 120th Street  
Waseca, MN 56093  
Ph: 507-837-5615; Fax: 507-835-3622