May 13, 2015

Subject: You Are Invited to Join a Discussion on “Greening” Federal Grants on Friday, May 29, at the DOE Better Buildings Summit

Having responsibility for or influence over policy development, guidance, and/or administration of federal research grants, we want to invite you and your colleagues to attend a meeting to explore and discuss ways to “green” federal research grants at the upcoming Department of Energy’s (DOE) Better Buildings Summit being held on Friday, May 29 at the Washington D.C. Marriott Wardman Park Hotel from 8:30AM–12:30PM. The meeting is co-organized by the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I²SL) and DOE’s Better Buildings Alliance Laboratories Technology Solutions Team.

The I²SL University Alliance Group believes that greening federal grants is consistent with federal goals to reduce greenhouse gases, increase energy efficiency, and ensure improved environmental performance in university research facilities. The group is aware that there is growing competition among academic researchers for federal research funding, and believes that improved efficiency could allow current federal research budgets to fund more research with the same dollars.

This meeting will bring together federal agency and university representatives to share initial actions that have already taken place and discuss opportunities to further connect sustainability to federal grants. The I²SL University Alliance Group hopes that your office will be well represented and participate in this meeting. Please let us know if you and/or your colleagues are able to attend.

Sincerely,

Aubrey Batchelor, University of Washington; Chuck Frost, University of California-Berkeley; Amorette Getty, University of California- Santa Barbara; Quentin Gilly, Harvard; Gail Lee, University of California-San Francisco; Brenda Petrella, Dartmouth College; Kathryn Ramirez-Aguilar, University of Colorado-Boulder (Chair); Sudhakar Reddy, University of Michigan; Susan Vargas, Stanford University; Kelly Weisinger, Emory University; Phil Wirdzek, I²SL Founding President and Executive Director