

Attachment 3A(1)

**Explanatory Note for USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Report
May 3, 2010**

The Agricultural Research Service, Department of Agriculture (ARS) report submitted in May 2009 did not report any projects or funds available. At the time, the ARS was waiting for the Office of Management and Budget to approve the list of critically deferred maintenance projects. The ARS received approval to proceed in late June 2009 and the NEPA reviews for 38 projects and activities were initiated. Reviews of 37 of these projects were completed in July 2009.

On December 15, 2009, the ARS completed the remaining review when a categorical exclusion was completed. The final project completed was the replacement of boilers and the electrical and steam distribution system serving campus research facilities in Beltsville, Maryland (ARS Spreadsheet, page 2, row 9).

Since the last reporting period, an additional \$27,328,009 of funds have been made available, increasing the total obligations by ARS for ARRA projects to over \$40 million, or 23% of the agency's total ARRA appropriations.

All 38 projects are critical deferred maintenance projects. The most energy-efficient equipment will be obtained to replace the old equipment that is being replaced in these projects.

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