



August 20, 2014

Dr. Zongchao Zhang
Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics
Chinese Academy of Sciences
457 Zhongshan Road
Dalian, 116023
P.R. China

Dear Dr. Zhang

This letter serves as a formal invitation for you to visit USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI, on November 13 and 14, 2014. I am a scientific team leader at the USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory. My research covers a broad area of wood fiber utilization and forest biomass preprocessing and conversion to biofuel and bioproducts.

I visited your Institute and your research group in Dalian, China, in summer of 2013. Because of our research focus on converting woody biomass to biofuel, I am particularly interested in your world-class research program in the utilization of lignocelluloses and green chemistry. Your visit will develop better understanding between our research programs to further our scientific collaboration in biofuel research. The United States Department of Agriculture and Department of Energy (DOE) signed a MOU with China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) to cooperate on biomass research and development on December 12, 2007. Our discussions will be based on the spirit of this MOU.

During your short visit, you will have the opportunity to interact with team members of my research group that include visiting students from China. You will also tour our laboratory facilities. We together will conduct research seminars to discuss our future research collaborations. At the meantime, we will also arrange you to visit the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The university is the home of the US DOE Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center. The city of Madison is the capital of the State of Wisconsin and has a very diverse culture. I think you will enjoy the rich culture in Madison in addition to your scientific program.

Yours sincerely,

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