



THE CENTRAL PLANT BOARD

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CENTRAL PLANT BOARD 2007 Annual Meeting Resolution No. 7 Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation

The Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) program has been a collaborative effort that unites ten states, the USDA Forest Service (FS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in a highly effective pest management strategy. Since its creation in FY 2000, STS has significantly reduced the spread and impact of gypsy moth, which is one of the single most destructive forest pests ever introduced into the United States. Working cooperatively with the Forest Service, the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, have developed a novel approach to managing and slowing the advance of Gypsy moth in a band covering nearly 51 million acres. It has been calculated that STS has slowed the spread of gypsy moth by 70% and prevented the impacts that would have occurred on more than 40 million newly infested acres.

STS has achieved unprecedented success in its unique partnership of multiple states working with two Federal agencies to form a foundation that makes management decisions based on biological need rather than matching state funds. This success is highly dependent on maintaining adequate funding.

In order for states to continue to work effectively and cooperatively with FS and APHIS in managing gypsy moth to protect natural and urban forests, funding from FS and APHIS should, at a minimum, be maintained at current levels of \$10 million for FY07. Any reduction in STS funding by FS has the potential to significantly accelerate the spread and destruction of gypsy moth into states that have prime habitat and environment for this insect such that these states would likely suffer devastating losses.

Resolved: By the Central Plant Board at its 84th annual meeting in Columbus, Ohio, on February 7, 2007, request that USDA Forest Service and APHIS maintain full funding in the amount of at least \$10 million annually for the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread program to ensure its continued full implementation.

Be it Further Resolved, that USDA APHIS assign a permanent position as a liaison to the STS Foundation and that USDA ARS and USDA APHIS fully fund scientific research that addresses the serious threat posed by Gypsy moth.

Distribution:

Michael Johanns, Secretary, USDA
Mark E. Rey, Under Secretary, USDA, Natural Resources and Environment
Dr. Robert Mangold, Director USDA-FS Forest Health Protection
Dr. Ron DeHaven, Administrator, USDA-APHIS
Dr. Richard Dunkle, Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
Dr. Edward Knipping, Administrator USDA-ARS
Gus Douglass, NASDA Animal and Plant Industries Committee
Ken Rauscher, National Plant Board President
E. Austin Short III, President, National Association of State Foresters