## Mary C Hill Professor University of Kansas

#### FEWtures: How do we make this actionable?

- Meet stakeholders In their own situations
- Assess ag, energy and water tech to identify feasible on-going technical, operational and economic choices
- Choices are possible **Adaptations** needed to address challenges such as water depletion and climate change
- Technology adoption??
- Engage partners via Advisory Groups, a survey, structured interviews, decision-support tools
- Support the broader objective of securing the Heartland's future and feeding the world

These are farmers of various incomes.

EngageINFEWS Research Coordination Network NSF award # 1856059

The Vision



Resilient, sustainable agriculture – water reused, nitrogen & salts managed, carbon reduced

What local opportunities exist to enable such a vision?

- Differs from place to place. Characteristics of the CARB
  - Abundant renewable energy
  - Struggling communities
  - Arid-lands agriculture
- Potential opportunities
  - Renewable local power production
  - Water treatment
  - Local green ammonia

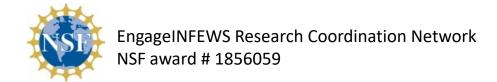
# My most important lesson or question in stakeholder engagement

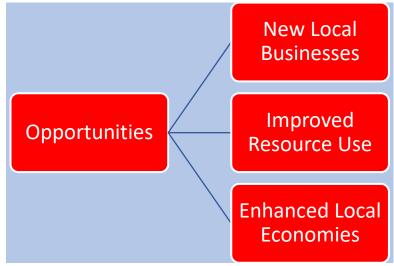
Survey (done, being analyzed)

- 4,961 names; 215 responded
- Results addressed 3 questions
  - Familiar with new methods?
  - Who trusted and helpful?
  - Level of social capital? [measure of potential of individuals to solve problems through membership and participation in social networks]

### **Structured interviews** (informal done)

- Work with a trusted economist
- Considerable interest





### **Selected Survey results**

- Did not know fertilizer generally is made using natural gas, and that it could be made with renewable energy
- Trust ag extension and other farmers
- Pretty good social capital. There are positive relationships that can be drawn on to accomplish communal goals