Trump executive order streamlines biotech regulations. Here's what that means for agriculture

[In June], President Trump signed an Executive Order to streamline the complex maze of rules and policies that regulate agricultural biotech products.

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This most recent move was hailed by farmers, agtech companies and the financial world as an important step in the right direction, but what, really, will this new order accomplish? First, it is important to consider that the executive order establishes an internal process among the federal agencies within the Executive Branch. Unfortunately, or fortunately, depending on one's point of view, it does not come with congressionally appropriated funding to put new processes in place.

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What this Executive Order does provide is a much-needed coordinating framework for the three key agencies involved in regulating biotechnology to review their own regulations, as well as a way to work on crosscutting issues with each other. Those agencies are the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration. This action is a nudge to break down some of the bureaucratic silos that can build up around regulatory jurisdictions, as well as reconcile the fact that the fast-paced evolution of the industry itself has in many ways outstripped its regulatory oversight.

Read full, original article: Regulatory Landscape Brightens For Ag Biotechs