

SUPPORT WOODY BIOMASS INITIATIVES

WOODY BIOMASS COALITION

Forest industry stakeholders have joined together to form the Woody Biomass Coalition to promote energy production from woody biomass. Woody biomass is a renewable resource, consisting of trees, woodchips, and logging and mill residues.

The coalition's mission is to provide advocacy, education, information and outreach to public and private entities to promote research, development and funding for sustainable woody biomass utilization and markets. Utilizing woody biomass to help power the nation will reduce America's dependence on foreign oil, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and diversify the nation's fuel supply. New markets for woody biomass will improve forest health by providing markets for low quality trees and logging residues, resulting in reducing the accumulation of hazardous fuels, improved forest management and improved wildlife habitat.

To achieve these goals, the coalition supports:

- Low interest loans and other financial incentives to purchase equipment for specialized biomass production and transportation systems
- Open loop and closed loop woody biomass energy production incentives
- Tax credit rate parity for energy produced from woody biomass with that produced from agriculture products and with other renewable energy alternatives
- A Wood to Energy program in the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Incentives for the creation of demonstration projects and commercialization assistance for producers of energy from woody biomass
- Research to improve growing, harvesting, transporting and conversion of woody biomass
- A National Woody Biomass Cellulosic Ethanol Quality Assurance Board to promote quality standards for cellulosic ethanol.
- Maximum use of all available procedures to expedite the restoration of healthy forests on federal lands, removal excess forest fuels and utilization of such material for the production of renewable energy

For more information on the Woody Biomass Coalition, visit <http://www.woodybiomass.net>.

Coalition Members: Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference, American Forest Resources Council, American Loggers Council, Associated Oregon Loggers, Association of Consulting Foresters, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Blount Inc., Caterpillar Inc., Deere & Company, Fecon Incorporated, Forest Landowners Association, Hancock Forest Management, Intermountain Forestry Association, Michigan Association of Timbermen, Montana Logging Association, National Association of Conservation Districts, National Woodland Owners Association, The Price Companies, Inc., Society of American Foresters, Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association and Southeastern Wood Producers Association.