



# **California's Bioenergy Action Plan**



## ***Solutions to Market Barriers and Regulatory Hurdles to Sustainable Use of Biomass from Forestry Resource Stream***

### ***California Energy Commission***

*Brett Storey, Placer County Biomass Program Manager  
(530) 886-4651 [bstorey@placer.ca.gov](mailto:bstorey@placer.ca.gov)*





# ***Woody Biomass Utilization Challenges for biopower/gas in CA***



- ***Regulatory***
  - New Source Review: Tough standards, projects will lower pollution
  - Emission/Offset Credits: All emissions must be offset
- ***Initial subsidy/tax credit***
  - Wood is the west's crop, not corn..... Lets promote Wood!
  - Biomass is not on same level as other alternative energy
- ***Symbiotic economic base***
  - Business needs reason to develop with a larger profit
  - Larger size facility a must for economic reasons
- ***Long term material supply***
  - Harvest it ..... and they will come! (only if long term availability)
  - Keep it out of landfills .....it's a resource not a waste



# ***Woody Biomass Utilization Opportunities for biopower/gas in CA***



- ***Small public/private partnerships***

- **Collaboration is the key:** All parties to the table
- **Government is here to help:** Make economics viable
- **The check is in the mail:** Grant money is only way today
- **Combined Heat & Power:** Make sense for local government
- **Transportation fuels:** Higher potential for economics
- **Small log ventures:** New markets emerging

- ***Technology is catching up***

- Not your fathers CoGen anymore – wide variety of designs
- Cellulose to fuels – showing promise, but not here yet

- **Multi purpose biomass facility is future due to economics**



# ***Woody Biomass Utilization Near Term Actions for biopower/gas in CA***



- **Continue progress on Action Plan**
- **Streamline permitting process**
- **Promote existing organizations with needs**
- **Focus some funding on smaller public/private demonstration partnerships (we are not all for profit)**
- **Build process guide for interested parties – “*Biomass for Dummies*”**
- **Continued dollar and agency support of viable projects**



# ***Woody Biomass Utilization Specific recommendations “If I were King”***



If we are to meet the Nations and States goals for increased alternative energy, we need to back it! For forest biomass to thrive,

- **Provide Production Tax Credit parity with wind, solar and other alternative energy and it needs to be extended indefinitely**
- **Permitting process should include multi-faceted criteria for project determination, *Total Societal Benefit* should be overriding factor**
- **EPA Regulations should allow the avoided emissions to count**
- **Use of smaller size wood material should be rewarded with higher credit, but allow some percentage of cash logs to help pay for business**
- **Provide continued dollars and agency support of viable projects**
- **Allow forest pruning after a fire to remove dead wood**