

California's Bioenergy Action Plan



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

California Energy Commission

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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 landfillsit'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