



Biomass Power Association Applauds President Obama on Clean Energy Commitment, Urges Prompt Enactment of Clean Energy Standard

Biomass is a “Backyard,” Reliable Source of Clean Energy

Washington, DC – Wednesday, March 30, 2011 – Bob Cleaves, President and CEO of the Biomass Power Association, issued the following statement today following President Obama’s clean energy address:

“In his speech this morning, President Obama outlined a plan for securing a clean energy future for our nation. The President specifically cited the need for reliable, ‘backyard’ sources of clean energy; the biomass industry is exactly this, and must be factored into any policies designed to stimulate clean energy production.

“The Biomass Power Association urges the Administration to work closely with Congress to develop an ambitious Clean Energy Standard that will promote and protect biomass, the nation’s most reliable clean energy source, and other forms of renewable energy.

“A Clean Energy Standard will help sustain the biomass industry, which employs more than 14,000 Americans to produce clean energy utilizing wood waste material like tree trimmings and forest floor debris that would otherwise rot in landfills or provide fuel for forest fires. Biomass is a crucial part of America’s clean energy sector and future.”

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Biomass power is a \$1 billion industry with 80 facilities in 20 states and provides over 18,000 jobs nationwide. Power plants are predominately located in rural communities, creating thousands of jobs and producing millions in revenue for small towns. Biomass power is a clean and abundant source of electricity that will allow states to pursue even more aggressive goals for increasing their use of renewable energy in the future.