



## **Biomass Power Association Applauds Rep. Poliquin for H.R. 8 Amendment to Clarify Eligibility of Biomass for PURPA Contracts**

**December 4, 2015, Washington, DC** – Biomass Power Association today issued a statement thanking Rep. Bruce Poliquin (R-ME) for an amendment to the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015 that benefits biomass.

“We profoundly thank Congressman Poliquin and his staff for their hard work to help level the playing field for biomass power producers,” said Bob Cleaves, president and CEO of Biomass Power Association. “This amendment will ensure that biomass is eligible for certain contracts. It will help keep workers employed at biomass facilities across the country, and provide additional benefits like forest health and the reduction of fossil-powered electricity.”

The [amendment](#) defines the length of contracts granted through the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act of 1978 (PURPA), making clear that contracts as short as one year will qualify. This benefits biomass power providers, who must plan for their fuel use in shorter increments than other fuel-based power providers like coal facilities.

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*Biomass power is a \$1 billion industry with 80 facilities in 20 states and provides over 15,500 jobs nationwide. Power plants are predominantly 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.*