



# **Biomass Power Association Applauds President Obama's Plan to End Tax Breaks for Oil Companies**

*Proposal Would Help Biomass, Other Renewable Energy  
Sources Gain Energy Market Share*

**Washington, DC – May 2, 2011** – Biomass Power Association today commended President Obama's pledge to work with Congress to end taxpayer subsidies to oil companies and instead promote American-made renewable energy. In his weekly Internet address, which took place Saturday, April 30, the President announced that "tax giveaways [to oil companies] aren't right," following quarterly earnings statements from ExxonMobil that showed a \$10.7 billion profit, up 69% from the same period last year.

"If the United States is truly serious about reducing our national dependence on foreign oil – and curbing the harmful emissions that result from burning fossil fuels for electricity – then we must level the playing field to create fair competition in the energy sector," said Bob Cleaves, President and CEO of the Biomass Power Association. "President Obama's proposal to eliminate tax breaks for oil companies would be a momentous step in this direction, allowing for alternative, clean energy sources like biomass to expand our share of the energy market."

Biomass is a form of renewable energy that utilizes wood waste material like tree trimmings and industrial byproducts to produce electricity. The use of these materials to generate power reduces landfill waste and helps protect America's forests by removing highly flammable forest floor debris.

*Biomass power is a \$1 billion industry with 80 facilities in 20 states and provides over 14,000 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.*