



**Richard Hess**  
Idaho National Laboratory, Idaho Falls, ID

J. Richard Hess is the biomass program technology manager for the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). The INL supports the Department of Energy Biomass Program in developing technology for feedstock supply and conversion of biomass to valuable fuels, chemicals, materials and power. The INL Biomass Program includes an emphasis on lignocellulosic feedstock supply systems, which includes feedstock characterization / development, harvesting, collection, storage, preprocessing, handling and transportation issues associated with biorefining biomass into fuels and chemicals.

Hess graduated in 1992 with a PhD in Agricultural Plant Sciences from Utah State University. Following graduation, Hess served as an Agriculture Congressional Science Fellow in the U.S. Senate working extensively on biomass and agricultural R&D policy issues. At INL, Hess's personal research interests are centered on biomass feedstock production and supply systems from the perspective of the crop plant and plant material properties' impact on feedstock supply and biorefining. Hess has been at INL for 14 years and during his tenure, has led the formation of several public / private sector partnerships for biomass feedstock R&D.