



# THE OUTLOOK FOR FOREST BIOENERGY

## Cellulosic Supply Chains for Bioenergy

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## Why is wood biomass an important component of an energy portfolio?

### Advantages of woody biomass:

- Is available
- Is renewable & sustainable
- Minimal heavy metals and sulfur
- Can reduce waste streams
- Does not increase atmospheric levels of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Locally produced
- Proven technology



Source: woodforgood.com



## Existing Examples



- Important to show that wood can be used outside the forest products industry
- In WV, other than residential use, no good examples outside forest products industry



## Warren State Hospital, Warren PA



- 200 patients, 400 faculty and staff
- Steam for heat, hot water
- 71 tons wood residue/day
- Saves \$400,000 annually over natural gas



## Eastern Correctional Institute, MD



- Houses 450 inmates
- Installed 2.5 MW generating plant to assure uninterrupted power
- 50,000 tons green wood chips per year
- Cut fuel costs by 63%



## Mt. Wachusett Community College Gardner, MA



- Closed loop, two pipe hydronic heating system
  - ~\$4 million invested
- 8MBtu combustion unit
- 03/04 heating season approx. \$275,000
- 50kw downdraft gasifier
- Syngas powers a Honda generator



## Mountain View School District, PA



- 200,000 square feet
- Uses ~1500 tons wood chips per year
- Savings average ~30k / year



## Fuels for Schools Program



- Active in Western US
- VT - started in 80s
- Over 30% of public school students attended a wood-heated school
- Burning ~ 10,000 tons annually – 32 schools

## Wood Cost

Energy Source	Heating Value	Cost/Unit	Cost/MMBTU
Green Wood	4900 BTU/lb	\$30/ton	\$3.06
Coal	12,200 BTU/lb	\$71.15/ton	\$2.92
Natural Gas	1,028,000 BTU/MCF	\$3.85/MCF	\$3.75
Fuel Oil	144,000 BTU/Gal	\$3.00/Gal	\$20.83

## Biomass Feedstock Consumption

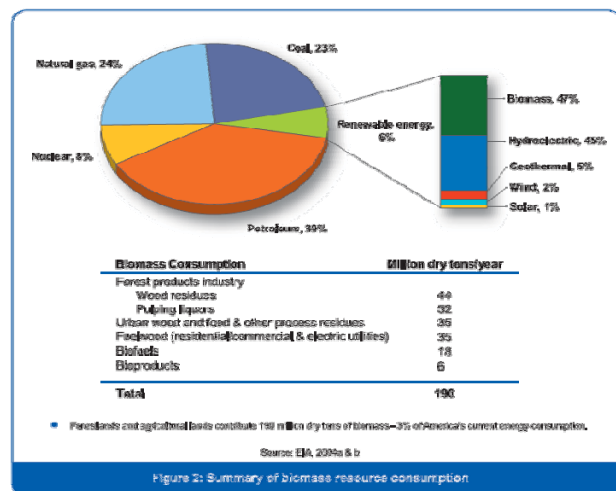
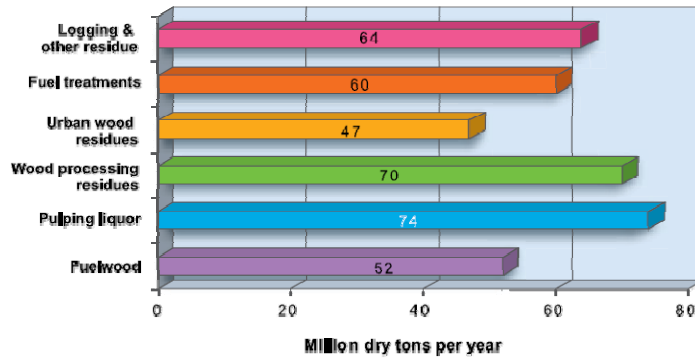


Figure 2: Summary of biomass resources consumption

Perlack et al. Biomass as a feedstock for bioenergy and bioproducts industry



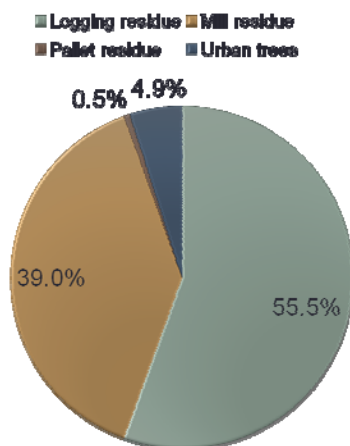
## US Forest Derived Biomass Resources



Perlack et al. Biomass as a feedstock for bioenergy and bioproducts industry



## Annual Wood Residue Production WV



Total 2.4 M DT (~5 M GT) of residue/byproducts per year.

- 1.3 M DT of logging residue, 55%.

- 950,000 DT of mill residue (39%).

- 40,000+ GT weekly
- 80% from sawmills and 20% from secondary manufacturers
- 50% chips, 30% sawdust, and 20% bark

- Urban tree & pallet residues

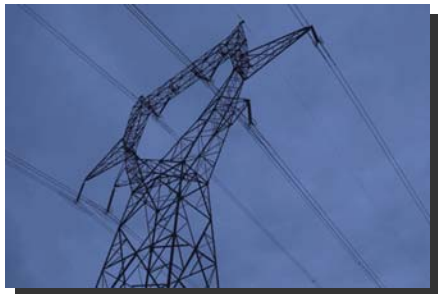


## Potential for wood biomass in WV

- ~10,000 tons to produce 1 MW
- 5 M tons of wood residues
- Potential for 500 MW from wood waste
- This would be 10% of WV power consumption from waste wood alone.
- Could substantially increase this capacity through markets for wood produced from forest improvement cuttings and reclamation work



## Why is this 10% important?



- WV produces 15,000 MW
- Consumes 5,000 MW
- Portfolio standard requires 500MW from renewable sources by 2015 (10% WV production)
- Under WV portfolio, developers of renewable energy projects get:
  - 1 Credit for project that meets standard (GenPower)
  - 2 Credits for renewable source (wind, biomass and others)
  - 3 Credits for renewable source on mine site

Could be generated with waste wood at this point!

# WHAT WILL THE FUTURE BRING?

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## First Energy Plant – Shadyside OH



- 300 MW Facility
- Switching from coal to woody biomass
- Needed >\$300 million in pollution controls
- \$200 million for conversion
- Ohio Environmental Council and Consumers Council in opposition – concerned about sustainability of biomass





## Mingo County Power Plant



- 28 MW – 400,000 Tons/yr
- \$150 Million investment
- Surface mine location

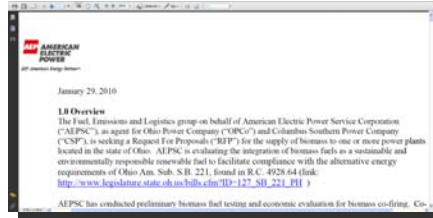


## Baard Energy - Ohio River Clean Fuels



- Coal/Biomass Gasification plant – Wellsville OH
- Starting at 600,000 green tons/year
- Producing Diesel and Jet Fuel
- Injecting CO<sub>2</sub> for oil field recovery

## Also on horizon –cofiring (again)



- RFP recently in Ohio
- Some interest beginning in WV – especially for blending biomass/wood and shipping via barge out of state

## What is cofiring?



- Direct co-firing
  - Biomass and coal are burned simultaneously
- Indirect co-firing
  - A biomass gasifier is used to convert biomass to syngas which is then burned with coal



## Why co-fire biomass and coal?

- Concerns over potential global environmental impacts of fossil fuels used for power generation
- Is more related to carbon management than renewable portfolios
- Coal-fired power plants have three general opportunities to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:
  - 1. Increase their efficiency
  - 2. CO<sub>2</sub> removal and/or sequestration
  - 3. Biomass co-firing



## Benefits and Challenges?

### Benefits

- Extensive knowledge base
- Little or no loss in total efficiency
- Can make up 15% of total energy input with only feed system and burner modifications
- 15% co-firing produces 18.2% decline in GWP emissions (Mann and Spath 2001)
- Create markets for under-utilized forest resources. Also densified fuel opportunities

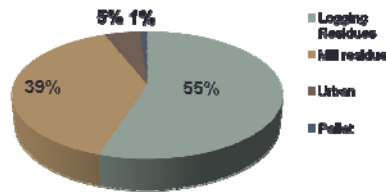
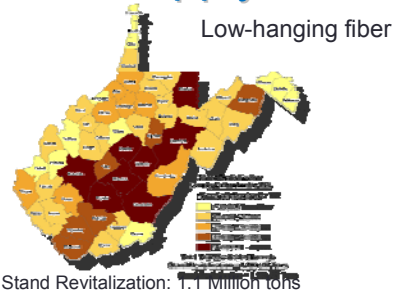
### Challenges

- Biomass fuel preparation, storage and delivery – infrastructure costs can be high
- Permitting process can be difficult
- Biomass fuel cost and availability
- Fly-ash utilization
- May increase corrosion and slag formation in boilers
- May impact SCR systems



## Main challenge – biomass supply side

- 14,000 MW from coal/year
- 15% co-fire → 2,100 MW
- 10,000 tons/MW – need 21 MM tons/year
- About 16% available
- Will compete with other sectors
- Today procurement for biomass energy is “cost” restricted



Increased Utilization: 2.4 Million tons/year



## Biomass, Cofiring and Linkage to Terrestrial CO<sub>2</sub> Offsets (another driver)



- WV has 12 million acres of forestland
- About 10.5 million acres are private
- This forest sequesters CO<sub>2</sub>
- Argument – we should be ready -“IF”



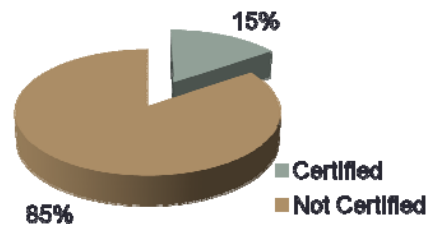
## How much are we sequestering?

- ~ 85 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> released from power plants in WV per year (US Energy Information Administration)
- During growth forests sequester about 4 Tons C/ha/year (range 3.5-10 tons/ha)
- Converting to CO<sub>2</sub> → 1 Ton C ≈ 3.7 units CO<sub>2</sub>
- Total intake ~ 20 million Tons CO<sub>2</sub>
- Represents ~23% of total electrical emissions
- Ready to “rock and roll”, right?



## Wrong...

- Typically can't count existing growth under climate programs
- Need to increase the annual carbon storage rate and increase terrestrial carbon accumulation over lifetime of “project”
- Projects include:
  - Forest Management
  - Afforestation
  - Reforestation



WV landowners with >1000 acres, 4.8 million acres total

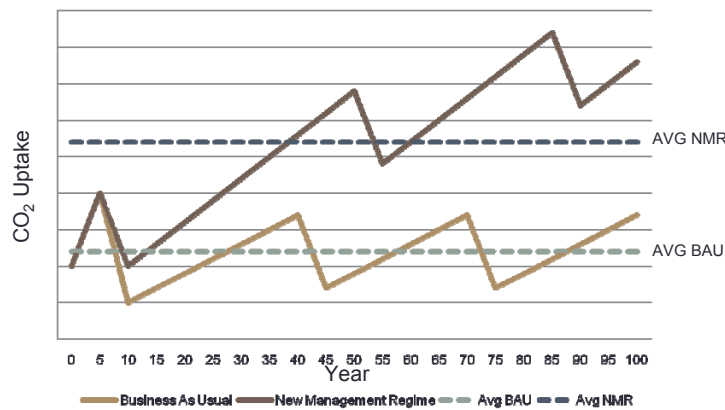


## What can we do to gain credit?

- Enter active offset project - *First option* – afforestation – establishing forest cover on mineland sites
- Potential to offset 1.5% of annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy production in WV
- Approximately \$660 million needed to offset same amount in recent geologic sequestration project
- Cost of afforestation project on all capable lands (34,000 acres) would be ~\$34 million
- 95% reduction in overall project cost for same amount of CO<sub>2</sub> offset



## Another Option – Forest Management



Additionality  $\neq$  AVG BAU – 0

Additionality = AVG NMR – AVG BAU

Must understand temporary vs. permanent storage. Define the system boundary



## Opportunities

- Encourage WPC to actively seek out potential users of wood fiber for energy – no reason that they should not be entrepreneurial
- Work to facilitate scaled co-firing as a important component of energy strategy.
  - Understand how complete lifecycle of biomass use can impact bottom line – not purely a production cost dynamic
  - Develop projects that have synergies with existing wood products industry
- Develop a better understanding of CO2 sequestration potential of forestland.
  - Become a leader in active systems management
  - Promote continued wood products development
  - Allow us to become a leader in terrestrial sequestration