

# The National Biomass Partnership: Update

Joint Meeting for State Biomass Representatives  
Northeast and Southeast Regions

Washington, DC

January 10-12, 2006

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# History/Evolution

- DOE RegionWork plans Energy Program established by Congress in 1983
  - Effective coordination and facilitation of state/regional biomass activities for ~20 years
- In 2002, DOE integrated all its biomass programs under Office of the Biomass Program (OBP)
- Regional Program was reincarnated in 2003 as National Biomass State and Regional Partnership

# Partnership Responsibilities

- Establish regional steering committees
- Provide technical assistance to states
- Provide grants to states
- Work to ensure sustained funding for the Partnership
- Build and nourish relationship with all organizations and federal agencies involved in biomass activities
- Provide means for the exchange of information and facilitate leverage of federal and state resources

# Why a Biomass Partnership?

- Preserve the existing network and experience developed over 20 years under the Regional Biomass Energy Program;
- Facilitate information exchange and coordination among state and federal biomass activities;
- Link biomass technology and fuels to other state goals such as greenhouse gas mitigation, energy diversity / security, and economic development.

# The “Partners”

- 50 states, DC, and 2 U.S. Territories
- Four Regional Governors Organizations
- Federal Agencies
- Biomass Interest Groups
- NGOs such as NASEO, NCSL, NRCS & Sun Grant (land grant colleges)

# Role of Regional Governors Organizations in the Partnership

- History and capability to provide technical assistance to states
- Blend technical issues with policy
- Helps to provide access to the highest levels of state government
- Provides broad access to multiple state agencies involved in biomass (PUC, state regulators)
- The most authoritative voice on the need for leverage of state and federal resources for biomass.

# The Principals Committee

- The strategic and administrative work of the Partnership is carried out by the Principals Committee.
- The Principal's Committee is comprised of the five regional managers / directors, five state representatives – one for each region, DOE Regional Offices – one representative, NASEO, and administrative support provide by CONEG.
- The Principals Committee acts as the hub with spokes extending out to the regions and the states
- The Committee meets quarterly and has monthly conference calls

# Partnership Work plan

- Technology matrix
- SEP special projects
- Policy analysis
- Outreach (Branding)
  - Exhibit at national events
  - Monthly updates to states
- Regional Coordination / Collaboration
- Partnership expansion
- Performance measurement

# Project Measurement Components

- State Policies and Incentives Favorable to Biomass
- Increased BioEnergy Awareness
- Increased BioEnergy Development Intensity
- Leveraging of State & Federal Funding

# Partnership Funding

FFY 2003: \$3.0 million

FFY 2004: \$2.0 million

FFY 2005: \$3.2 million

FFY 2006: \$0

**Total \$8.2 million**

Regional Governors Organizations seeking to restore funding in FFY 2007 budget