

THE NATIONAL BIOMASS PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES UPDATE

February 2006

Month/Year: December 2005

1. State	Alabama
2. Activity	Alabama Liquid Biofuels Plan Grant and Alabama Alternative Transportation Fuels Taskforce
3. Contact	Russell Moore
4. Affiliation	Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA)
5. Phone	334-242-5294
6. E-mail	russellm@adeca.state.al.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

A grant was executed between the Southern States Energy Board and ADECA to develop a Liquid Biofuels Plan for Alabama. This project will develop a comprehensive liquid biofuels plan that will increase biofuels awareness in the state and serve as a guide for future state investment in the development of the biofuels industry in Alabama.

ADECA also established the Alabama Alternative Transportation Fuel Taskforce to promote the production, distribution, and use of alternative fuels, especially biofuels, in Alabama.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	Delaware
2. Activity	Revise state policy
3. Contact	Suzanne Sebastian
4. Affiliation	Delaware State Energy Office
5. Phone	(302) 739-1530
6. E-mail	Suzanne.Sebastian@state.de.us

7. Activity Description

Delaware Executive Order 82 states in part: “The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control shall develop policies and programs that promote clean distributed generation technologies, coal gasification, combined heat and power applications and other steps toward reducing overall energy costs and/or enhancing energy efficiency in Delaware. The Department shall report on the development of such policies and programs to the Office of the Governor no later than March 8, 2006.” The Delaware State Energy Office is currently developing information on biomass as it relates to CHP applications in the State.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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Month/Year: February 2006

1. State	Hawaii
2. Activity	Legislation
3. Contact	Priscilla Thompson
4. Affiliation	Hawaii Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
5. Phone	(808) 586-2353
6. E-mail	PThompso@dbedt.hawaii.gov

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

Governor Linda Lingle's "Energy for Tomorrow" bill establishes a comprehensive policy and incentive framework to encourage and support market-based development of reliable, cost-effective, and self-reliant energy systems. The bill's five major components include: "Savings through Efficiency," "Fuels through Farming," "Independence through Renewable Energy," "Security through Technology," and "Empowering Hawaii's Consumers." Under "Fuels through Farming," the measure provides a significant boost for biofuels by establishing a Renewable Fuels Standard requiring 20% of highway fuel demand to be met by renewable fuels by 2020. Interim standards would be 10% in 2010 and 15% in 2015. "Renewable fuels" include ethanol, biodiesel, and renewable hydrogen.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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Month/Year: February 2006

1. State	Hawaii
2. Activity	Outreach
3. Contact	Priscilla Thompson
4. Affiliation	Hawaii Dept. of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
5. Phone	(808) 586-2353
6. E-mail	PThompso@dbedt.hawaii.gov

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

Technical training sessions, targeted to the State of Hawaii's gasoline station operators and the automotive industry, will be held in Honolulu on February 8, 2006, in advance of Hawaii's E-10 mandate, which is scheduled to start on April 2, 2006. An all-day workshop, open to the public, will be held on February 9, 2006, to report the progress of Hawaii's preparation for the mandate.

8. Web link (if applicable)

http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt/ert/new-fuel/event

Month/Year: February 2006

1. State	Illinois
2. Activity	“Ethanol and the Environment” meeting with state environmental regulators and US EPA regional offices
3. Contact	Dave Loos
4. Affiliation	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
5. Phone	217-785-3969
6. E-mail	dloos@ildceo.net

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Illinois Biomass Program was the principal organizer of a national meeting hosted by the Governors’ Ethanol Coalition and EPA Region 7. The meeting was designed to assist state environmental regulators in better understanding the issues surrounding the permitting of new ethanol production facilities. Among the topics covered were air quality rules, community involvement, water quality issues, and state permitting processes. The well-attended meeting was held February 9 and 10, in Kansas City. The meeting was supported, in part, by the Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership.

8. Web link (if applicable)

<http://www.ethanol-gec.org/>

1. State	Indiana
2. Activity	Grant programs and Biotown, USA
3. Contact	Ryan Brown
4. Affiliation	Indiana Office of Energy and Defense Development
5. Phone	317.232.8961
6. E-mail	rbrown@lg.in.gov

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Indiana Office of Energy and Defense Development and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture continue to market their successful Biofuels Grant Program. Indiana has gone from having zero public E85 fueling stations in May 2005 to our current 21. It is the State's goal to have 40 stations selling E85 by mid-summer 2006.

Also, please see the Biotown, USA website for an update on the exciting developments in Reynolds, Indiana, where the town plans to meet 100% of their energy needs through bioenergy resources.

8. Web link (if applicable)

www.biotownusa.com

1. State	Iowa
2. Activity	Iowa biomass activities
3. Contact	Jim Bodensteiner
4. Affiliation	Great Lakes Partnership Steering Council Member for Iowa
5. Phone	515.281.8416
6. E-mail	jim.bodensteiner@dnr.state.ia.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Iowa Clean Cities Coalition is compiling new information to correct problems with retail station coding for renewable fuels (i.e., ethanol, biodiesel). The Coalition is investigating funding possibilities to assist stations in upgrading point-of-sale equipment to make the codes consistent throughout the State.

Iowa legislation has been introduced to provide an income tax credit under the individual and corporate income taxes equal to 25 percent of the cost to a livestock producer of the acquisition and installation of methane gas conversion property.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	Missouri
2. Activity	Biomass Procurement Strategy Study
3. Contact	Sam Orr
4. Affiliation	Missouri Department of Natural Resources Energy Center
5. Phone	573-751-8386
6. E-mail	sam.orr@dnr.mo.gov

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

A study titled Bio-processing Input Procurement Strategies: A Non-Technical Barrier to Industry Development is getting underway this month. Unlike the fossil fuel industries, biomass fuel procurement will in many instances require fuel from multiple producers to supply a single processing facility. Funded through the DOE –OBP State Regional Partnership, the study will seek to answer questions as to how best to structure investment and ownership in necessary production, storage, transportation, harvest and processing equipment. Also, the appropriateness of exchange mechanisms such as spot markets, contracting or vertical integration may vary given different processing technologies and feedstocks. No matter how technically feasible new bio-based product production technologies prove to be, the future of these bio-industries will depend upon development of fair and dependable marketing arrangements between raw material suppliers and processing facilities. This study is a first step in developing these arrangements.

8. Web link (if applicable)

<http://governor.mt.gov/news/pr.asp?ID=288>

Month/Year: February 2006

1. State	Montana
2. Activity	Outreach
3. Contact	Howard Haines
4. Affiliation	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
5. Phone	(406) 841-5252
6. E-mail	hhaines@mt.gov

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

Governor Brian Schweitzer announced, on 2/1/06, that the State of Montana has been awarded a \$15 million grant from the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) Initiative. The grant is set up to spur the evolution of Montana's workforce through the creation of innovative biolubricant and bioproduct industry in central and eastern Montana.

8. Web link (if applicable)

<http://governor.mt.gov/news/pr.asp?ID=288>

1. State	Nebraska
2. Activity	Nebraska State Agency Ethanol Summit
3. Contact	Steve Stevenson
4. Affiliation	NE Dept. of Environmental Quality
5. Phone	402-471-2186
6. E-mail	Steve.Stevenson@ndeq.state.ne.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Summit offers a forum for ethanol plant owners/operators and state agencies to effectively communicate and thus support the growth of Nebraska's ethanol industry. The Summit provides participants with the opportunity to better understand the State's requirements for ethanol facilities.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	New Hampshire
2. Activity	Biodiesel production at the University of New Hampshire
3. Contact	Mark Toussaint
4. Affiliation	Waste Cap New Hampshire
5. Phone	(603) 224-1517
6. E-mail	mtoussaint@wastecapnh.org

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

MBP Bioenergy recently installed its first waste grease-to-biodiesel processor at the University of New Hampshire (UNH). UNH produces over 100,000 lbs of waste grease annually. MBP Bioenergy is a New Hampshire firm that manufactures micro-biodiesel production equipment. The equipment produces biodiesel in 100-gallon batches. The University plans to produce up to 15,000 gallons of biodiesel for use in farm equipment on campus. The company expects to be able to produce ASTM spec biodiesel from its micro-batch processors.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	New York
2. Activity	Renewable Project Funding Announced
3. Contact	Jeff Peterson
4. Affiliation	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
5. Phone	(518) 862-1090 ext. 3288
6. E-mail	jmp@nyserda.org

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

NYSERDA has announced the availability of \$8,000,000 for three renewable energy funding programs:

- Renewable Energy Business Development Program – Program Opportunity Notice 949
- The Renewable Energy Technology Options Program - Program Opportunity Notice 945
- The Renewable Energy Technology Manufacturing Incentive Program - Program Opportunity Notice 959

For detailed information on the programs visit NYSERDA's website www.nyserda.org

8. Web link (if applicable)

www.nyserda.org

Month/Year: February 2006

1. State	Ohio
2. Activity	Distributed Generation and EPC Act 2005
3. Contact	Anne Goodge
4. Affiliation	Ohio Biomass Energy Program, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO)
5. Phone	(614) 644-7857
6. E-mail	Anne.goodge@puc.state.oh.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The PUC of Ohio is reviewing provisions of the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 with regard to net metering, smart metering and demand response, cogeneration and power production purchase and sale requirements, and interconnection issues. The schedule, for four technical conferences to be held in February-April, is posted on the website.

8. Web link (if applicable)

http://www.puco.ohio.gov/puco/docketing/DocketingInformation.cfm?doc_id=1683

1. State	Pennsylvania
2. Activity	Outreach and Education - Clean Energy Expo
3. Contact	Dave Bingaman
4. Affiliation	Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
5. Phone	(717) 772-5208
6. E-mail	dbingaman@state.pa.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Pennsylvania Clean Energy Expo will be held March 31 – April 1 at the Bryce Jordon Center, on the Campus of Penn State University, in State College, Pennsylvania. The state biomass working group has been working with the Expo organizers to invite bioenergy and biobased product companies to exhibit at the Expo. The Clean Energy Expo is a biannual event. In 2004, over 10,000 people attended the two-day event.

8. Web link (if applicable)

www.wppsef.org/paexpo.

1. State	Vermont
2. Activity	Testing biodiesel blends with # 6 oil for heating
3. Contact	Paul Frederick
4. Affiliation	Division Forest Parks and Recreation
5. Phone	(802) 241-3698
6. E-mail	Paul.Frederick@state.vt.us

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

Vermont State Building Department is conducting a study of biodiesel blends in # 6 heating oil. The study is being performed at the State's Waterbury State Office Campus. The State is monitoring 5%, 10% and 20% blends of biodiesel with # 6. The purpose of the study is to see what the emissions will be with the different blends. The State is measuring SOx, NOx, CO, and CO2, and tracking soot deposits, with the various blend levels.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	Washington
2. Activity	Legislation
3. Contact	Dave Sjoding
4. Affiliation	Washington State University Energy Program
5. Phone	(360) 956-2001
6. E-mail	sjodingd@wsu.edu

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The House Technology, Energy and Communications Committee recently approved three bills relating to biofuels. The first bill (HB 2738) would require 2% biodiesel in the State's diesel supply and 2% ethanol in gasoline by Dec. 1, 2008. The due date could be moved up if in-state crops are available as feedstocks. When in-state biodiesel crop and production capacity can meet the 2% level, the biodiesel requirement would increase to 5%. The Committee also approved a bill (HB 2939) establishing a \$100 million account for low-interest loans and grants for biofuels R&D and infrastructure, as well as a bill (HB 2775) establishing a loan program for projects that convert farm products or waste into electricity or liquid or gaseous fuels. The full House approved bill 2393, which would provide \$9 million in low-interest loans to develop oil-seed crushing and related infrastructure.

8. Web link (if applicable)

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=2393>

1. State	West Virginia
2. Activity	“Economic Feasibility Study of Biodiesel Production in West Virginia Using Chemical Industry Infrastructure” and “Conceptual Review of West Virginia Biorefinery Options and Preliminary Economic Feasibility”
3. Contact	Bill Willis
4. Affiliation	Energy Efficiency Program, West Virginia Development Office
5. Phone	(304) 558-0350
6. E-mail	bwillis@wvdo.org

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

Two SERBEP-funded activities are currently underway. The first project is a study of the utilization of West Virginia’s chemical industry infrastructure to support biofuels. The contract process between the West Virginia Development Office and the West Virginia Chemical Alliance Zone (WVCAZ) has been initiated. The WVCAZ will examine the economic feasibility of establishing a biodiesel refinery and the production of biodiesel fuel in the state.

The second project funded will allow West Virginia University (WVU) to conduct additional research on an innovative process to produce high-value liquid fuel products from animal and other biomass materials. WVU has provided an EF-1 form on environmental aspects of the reactor process to U.S. DOE as part of the contracting process.

8. Web link (if applicable)

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1. State	Western Region
2. Activity	Western Governors' Association's (WGA) Biomass Task Force releases final report
3. Contact	Gayle Gordon
4. Affiliation	WGA
5. Phone	303-623-9378
6. E-mail	ggordon@westgov.org

7. Activity Description (Be brief – few sentences.)

The Biomass Task Force, chartered under WGA's Clean and Diversified Energy Initiative, has released its final report. The report recommendations will be considered by the Governors at their Annual Meeting in June.

The Task Force conducted an extensive analysis of supply and concluded that 10,000 MW of electricity could be produced by 2015 at 8 cents/kWh. Half of that total potentially could come from forest resources, with the rest divided between urban and agricultural sources of biomass.

The Task Force analyzed the barriers to using biomass for electricity generation and developed 10 recommendations in overcoming barriers to expanded biomass energy production.

8. Web link (if applicable)

<http://www.westgov.org/wga/initiatives/cdeac/biomass.ht>