



Biomass Capacity Continues to Grow Despite "Significant" Drop in Government Funding

New Study Shows Biomass Capacity Has Grown 890 MW in Five Years

January 31, 2013 – Washington, DC – According to a report released today, the biomass industry's cumulative capacity shows an upward growth trend over the last five years. The study, released by Bloomberg New Energy Finance in partnership with The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE), indicates that this growth is happening despite a "significant" funding decline in the government programs designed to support and help build the industry.

"Bloomberg and BCSE's Factbook, a comprehensive overview of the sustainable energy sector, confirms what we already know to be true: that biomass is a thriving industry that has found a way to grow in the face of a decline in funding," said Bob Cleaves, President and CEO of Biomass Power Association.

The report indicates that, just last year, the biomass industry has seen the development and construction of projects that will total 890 MW when completed – enough to power more than 600,000 homes and businesses.

"The biomass industry hopes to continue this trend of steady growth by building projects in places that can support fuel needs locally, and that recognize the need to diversify energy sources by adding sustainable, domestic options," said Cleaves. "We look forward to working with the government to continue funding for the essential programs that will support our industry even more."

To view the full report, please visit BCSE's website: www.bcse.org/sustainableenergyfactbook.

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Biomass power is a \$1 billion industry with 80 facilities in 20 states and provides over 15,500 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.