



**Biomass Power Association Applauds the House of Representatives for Approving H.R. 2250, Legislation to Grant the E.P.A. More Time to Study Its “Boiler MACT” Rule**

*B.P.A. Urges Senate to Pass Similar Legislation; Boiler MACT Delay Will Spare Biomass Facilities from Costly, Unnecessary Emissions Controls*

**Washington, D.C. – October 14, 2011** – The Biomass Power Association (BPA) today commended the House of Representatives for its approval last night of H.R. 2250, bipartisan legislation to grant the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) more time to study its “Boiler MACT” regulations before final implementation. BPA also urged the Senate to pass its companion bill, S. 1392.

“The biomass industry is extremely grateful to Rep. Morgan Griffith and the dozens of bipartisan co-sponsors from all over the country who have fought for this legislation,” said Bob Cleaves, President and CEO of the Biomass Power Association. “This bill is a critical step toward getting the Boiler MACT rules right the first time, saving the biomass industry millions of dollars in unnecessary costs, and sparing thousands of American jobs. We encourage the Senate to pass its version of the bill as soon as possible, and we look forward to working with the EPA to determine the maximum achievable emissions standards that will both protect the environment and preserve the biomass industry.”

The “Boiler MACT” regulations – which aim to tighten emissions standards for industrial and commercial boilers to a maximum achievable level – have been the subject of controversy over the past year. Despite the EPA’s own assertion that the rules were not yet fully researched, legal action from environmental advocacy groups forced the Agency to move forward with implementation. The legislation approved last night, if adopted by the Senate, will reverse this ruling, allowing the EPA limited additional time for study.

As the rules are currently drafted, they require standards far beyond what is achievable by biomass and other industries. Enactment of “Boiler MACT” before it is fully developed could have dire unintended consequences – rendering many of the biomass industry’s boilers, for instance, unusable. This would endanger the production of half of the nation’s renewable energy and thousands of rural American jobs.

*Biomass power is a \$1 billion industry with 80 facilities in 20 states and provides over 14,000 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. For more information, please visit [www.biomasspowerassociation.com](http://www.biomasspowerassociation.com).*