



Sustainable Energy in America Factbook Recognizes Significant Biomass Gains in 2013

Business Council on Sustainable Energy's Factbook is the latest of several recent studies indicating strong biomass growth last year

Washington, DC – February 5, 2014 – The [Business Council on Sustainable Energy's \(BCSE\) Sustainable Energy in America 2014 Factbook](#), released today, is the latest in a series of respected studies highlighting significant biomass industry growth in 2013.

"The last year's growth is a real signal that biomass is an energy technology that our nation relies on for its low carbon emissions and around-the-clock dependability," said Bob Cleaves, President and CEO of Biomass Power Association. "We are proud that facilities are being financed and built in places with an adequate feedstock, using fuels that would otherwise be destined for a landfill or wildfire kindling. The biomass industry looks forward to continued healthy growth."

The Factbook, compiled by Bloomberg New Energy Finance, notes that 2013 was the most successful capacity-building year for biomass since 2009, with 230 MW added to the nation's electricity grid. The study also acknowledges that these advances occurred with "wavering or insufficient policy support," with an unreliable Production Tax Credit and inconsistent state regulations to encourage biomass growth.

"To continue our progress in helping meet federal and state renewable energy targets and carbon emissions reductions, the biomass industry needs improved legislative and regulatory support," Cleaves continued. "Investors need to see a strengthened, permanent Production Tax Credit, for example, before they will make considerable contributions to build a new facility."

BCSE is not the only group to acknowledge the strength of the biomass sector. Last week, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Office of Energy Projects released its [Energy Infrastructure Update for December](#), observing that more biomass capacity was placed in service that month than any other renewable technology. Additionally, American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) issued "[Renewable Energy in the 50 States: Southeastern Region 2013](#)," which reported that "the Southeast increasingly uses wood chips in biomass power plants to meet state renewable energy targets." The "Biomass & Waste" category was the first or second largest renewable source in 11 of the 14 states profiled in the report.

In 2013, new biomass facilities were placed online in Gainesville and Brooksville, FL; Dorchester and Allendale, SC; Berlin, NH; Plainfield, CT; Barnesville, GA; South Boston, Altavista, Hopewell and Southampton, VA; and Rothschild, WI.

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Biomass Power Association represents the American biomass power sector. Our members use sustainably-sourced organic materials, such as residues and byproducts left over from forest

harvests and farming, to create electricity and heat in 22 states. Biomass energy converts these low value materials to power and heat—enough for nearly 1 million homes and businesses, adding almost \$1 billion to the nation's economy, and sustaining rural economies by preserving working forests and farms.