

Biomass Program Links

For more information on the Ohio Biomass Energy Program or other biomass initiatives, please visit the following Web sites:

Ohio Biomass Energy Program
www.PUCO.ohio.gov
(follow link under electricity section)

U.S. Department of Energy,
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy,
Biomass Program
www.eere.energy.gov/biomass

Council of Great Lakes Governors Biomass State
and Regional Partnership
www.cglg.org/biomass

Interested in other utility issues? The PUCO
can provide information or assist you with
utility questions regarding:

Electric
Natural Gas
Telephone
Water
Moving Companies
Railroad Crossings
Hazardous Materials Transportation



The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

www.PUCO.ohio.gov

180 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity
Employer and Service Provider

Ohio Biomass Energy Program
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793



Ohio Biomass Energy Program



Promoting the development of
renewable energy resources in
Ohio, including:

wood and agricultural residues;
ethanol and biodiesel biofuels;
landfill gas to energy; and
energy crops.

the
PUCO
working for you

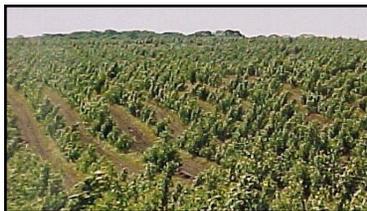
What is Biomass?

Biomass is a substantial renewable resource that can be used as a fuel for producing electricity and other forms of energy. Biomass feedstock, or energy sources, are any organic matter available on a renewable basis for conversion to energy. Agricultural crops and residues, industrial wood and logging residues, farm animal wastes, and the organic portion of municipal solid waste are all biomass feedstock.

Biomass fuels, also known as biofuels, may be solid, liquid, or gas and are derived from biomass feedstock. Biofuel technologies can efficiently transform the energy in biomass into fuels for transporting, heating, and generating electricity.

Biomass is a proven option for electricity generation. Biomass used in today's power plants includes wood residues, agricultural/farm residues, food processing residues (such as nut shells), and methane gas from landfills. In the future, farms cultivating energy crops such as trees and grasses could significantly expand the supply of biomass feedstock. Currently, there are over 7,000 megawatts of biomass power capacity installed at more than 350 plants in the United States (DOE, NREL, 1998). These plants are owned by a diverse range of producers including the pulp and paper industry, wood manufacturing industry, electric utilities, and independent power producers.

The environmental benefits of renewable biomass resources include reduction of greenhouse gasses, air pollutants, and landfill wastes, as well as efficient use of municipal, industrial, and farm wastes. Development of biomass resources may stimulate the economic growth in rural areas and provide "green power" options in the competitive electric industry.



Energy Crop: Hybrid Poplar

Ohio Biomass Energy Program

Ohio is one of seven states participating in the Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership. The Partnership is administered by the Council of Great Lakes Governors and receives grant funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin are the other states in the Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership.

The Regional Partnership State Grant Program provides annual funding to support state biomass energy programs. The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) matches the Regional Partnership funds to administer the Ohio Biomass Energy Program.

Our Mission and Objectives

The mission of the Ohio Biomass Energy Program (OBEP) is to increase the development and utilization of biomass energy resources in Ohio in order to promote energy sustainability and a cleaner environment. To achieve this mission, our objectives are to:

- Acquire, develop, and promote information about biomass energy resources;
- Increase the production and use of biomass energy resources;
- Encourage Ohio investments in biomass energy technologies;
- Facilitate cooperative approaches among Ohio state agencies, industry, and organizations on biomass development;
- Promote the environmental benefits of renewable biomass energy resources; and
- Manage projects of the Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership.

Biomass Grants and Assistance

The Ohio Biomass Energy Program provides information, resource referrals, business connections, and periodic grant funding to support the development and use of biomass energy resources in Ohio. For additional information, please contact us or visit our Web site. Information on the Ohio Biomass Energy Program is located in the electricity section of the PUCO Web site.

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(614) 466-2871
www.PUCO.ohio.gov



**Ohio vehicles using biofuels:
biodiesel and ethanol**

