

Northeast

BIOMASS THERMAL WORKING GROUP

Advocacy and Action in 2011

Northeast Biomass Heating Expo

March 23, 2012

About NEBTWG

- **Informal network of biomass heating advocates across New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland.**
- **Its purpose is to identify and implement strategies to accelerate growth and adoption of biomass heating in the northeastern U.S.**
- **A volunteer steering committee**
- **NEBTWG is not a membership organization**

Please join and support **Biomass Thermal Energy Council** (www.biomassthermal.org), and your state association if you have one (e.g. **NY Biomass Energy Alliance, ME Pellet Fuel Assn, PA Biomass Energy Assn**).

2011 Activities - Advocacy and Action

- ✓ Issued a ***Biomass Thermal Call to Action*** with over 440 signatories to the governors and congressional delegations of these nine northeastern states
- ✓ Issued ***Action Alerts*** to over 1,100 biomass thermal supporters urging grassroots advocacy on policies in MA, VT and NH
- ✓ Helped analyze and develop statutory language to **amend state renewable portfolio standards to include thermal energy (focus on NH and VT)**
- ✓ Ensured strong northeastern representation at the 1st ***Washington DC Biomass Thermal Summit***

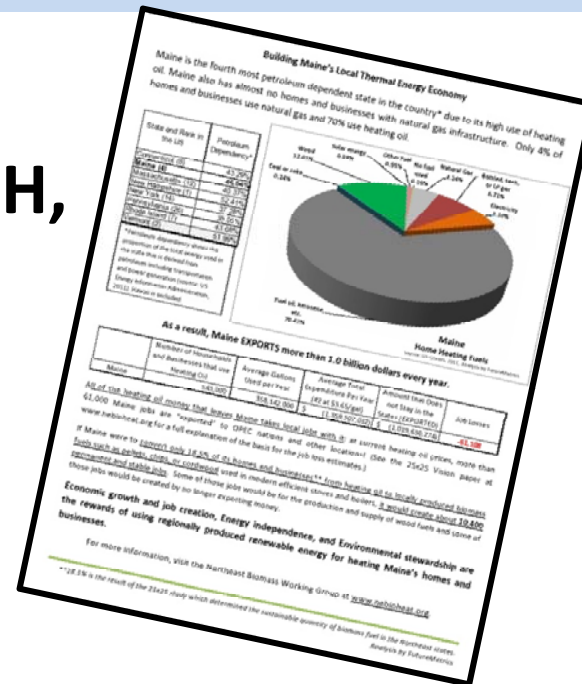
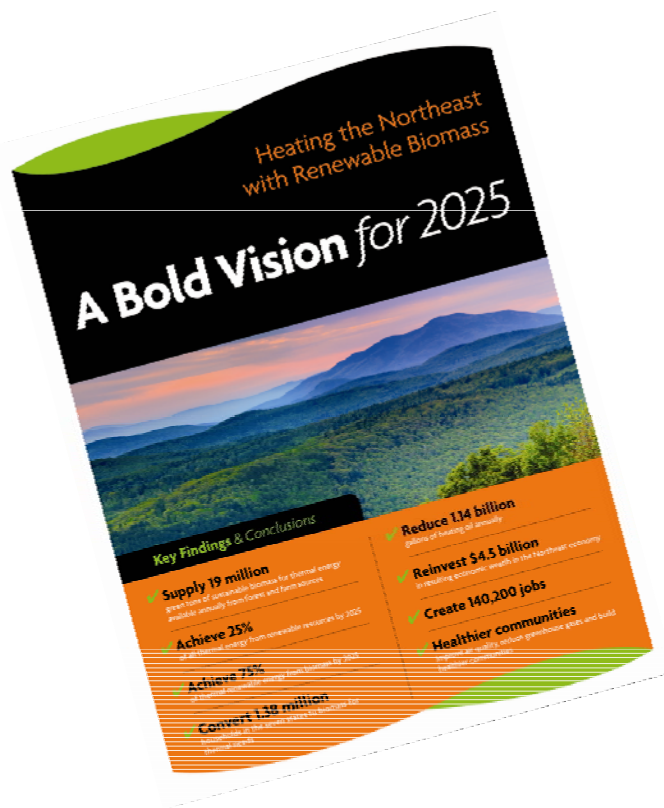
2011 Activities - Standards

- ✓ Initiated a 30-member working group to develop a bulk wood pellet delivery and storage standard, to ensure technically competent and safe operating procedures as this sector grows.



2011 Activities – Education/Outreach

- ✓ Issued state-specific biomass heating fact sheets for ME, NH, VT, MA, CT, RI, NY and PA



- ✓ Continued to promote “Heating the Northeast with Renewable Biomass: A Bold Vision for 2025”

2011 Activities – Education/Outreach

- ✓ **‘Biomass Thermal Pavilion’ at the Boston BE12 Expo**
- ✓ **Program guidance for the 4th Annual Northeast Biomass Heating Expo**
- ✓ **Supported biomass heating policy in NY and ME with \$1K grants**
- ✓ **Provided a grant to the “Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass”**
- ✓ **Expanded NEBTWG website resource library – on website**
- ✓ **Developed a regional media key contacts database**

Funding

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total 2011 funds raised | \$40,929 |
| Total 2011 expenditures | \$31,067 |
| Balance carry forward to 2012 | \$ 9,862 |

Sources of Funds:

- ✓ **2011 Heating the Northeast with Renewable Biomass Conference**
- ✓ **John Merck Fund (through BEREC)**
- ✓ **West Penn Power Sustainable Energy Fund**

Plans for 2012

- ✓ **Support biomass thermal policy initiatives at state level, e.g. RPS reforms (action alerts, grassroots advocacy)**
- ✓ **Support energy planning efforts at state level (e.g. NY Biomass Thermal Roadmap)**
- ✓ **Ensure strong and coordinated NE regional voice on state/national emissions regulations (work with BTEC)**
- ✓ **Identify regulatory barriers across region and develop strategies to overcome (task force?)**
- ✓ **Organize more effective industry presence at trade shows, public meetings and legislative hearings**
- ✓ **Complete and promote bulk pellet delivery and storage standard**
- ✓ **Plan for 5th NE Biomass Heating Expo**
- ✓ **Other?**

Contact Info

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