

**Heating the Northeast with Renewable Biomass:
*A Bold Vision to Make It Happen***

**2nd Annual Conference
April 27-28, 2010
Manchester NH**

**Hosted by:
Biomass Thermal Energy Council
Biomass Energy Resource Center, Alliance for Green Heat, Clean Air – Cool Planet
New York Biomass Energy Alliance, Maine Pellet Fuels Association, Pellet Fuels Institute**

Preliminary Meeting Program

(all speakers confirmed unless otherwise indicated)

Tuesday April 27

- 8:00 AM Vendor Fair Opens, Armory**
- 8:00 AM Registration Opens, Assembly Area**
- 10:00 AM Opening Plenary Session, Salon A**

Master of Ceremonies **Charlie Levesque**, President, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, Antrim, NH

Welcome, Conference Chair **Charlie Niebling**, General Manager, New England Wood Pellet, Jaffrey, NH

Opening Conference Remarks, **The Honorable Ian Bowles**, Secretary for Energy and Environment, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Boston, MA

Keynote Address, **Christiane Egger**, Deputy Director, O.Ö. Energiesparverband, State of Upper Austria

- 11:30 AM Box Lunch, Vendor Fair/Armory**
- 1:00 PM Breakout Session I/Workshops**

Track 1: Retail

Retail Best Practices

For retailers the challenges of marketing, selling and supporting pellet burning appliances have been ongoing. This panel of experts will share insight, strategies, successes and failures in the areas of marketing, sales, technical service and customer service. You will learn how these retailers are finding ways to prosper even in a down economy.

Moderator: Ken Rajesky, Hearth and Home Technologies

- John Tarquinio, Fireside Supply, Hebron, CT
- Bob Borella, Friends of the Sun, Manchester, VT
- Wayne Stritsman, Best-Fire, Albany, NY
- Chip Brown, Northeast Distribution, Exeter, NH
- Center Merrill, Stove Depot of Rutland, North Clarendon, VT
- Mike Tavalone, Franklin Fireplace, Goshen, MA

Track 2: Policy

Who's on first, What's on second. Understanding European certification values and what they mean for a changing New Source Performance Standard

Moderator: Ellen Burkhard, Ph.D., Clean Energy Research and Market Development, NYSERDA, Albany, NY

- DI Dr. Birgit Musil-Schl affer/ Walter Haslinger, BIOENERGY 2020+, Wieselburg, Austria
- Brian Gullett, Ph.D., National Risk Management Laboratory, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, NC
- Gil Wood, EPA Staff Lead for Revision of Residential Wood Heater NSPS, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, NC
- Louis Fontaine, Bureau of Air Quality, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Augusta, ME
- Daniel S. Henry, Vice President of Advanced Technology and Chief Technical Officer for Hearth & Home Technologies, Colville, WA
- Scott W. Nichols, President, BioHeat USA, Lyme, NH

Track 3: Technology

Sourcing, Distribution and Storage Options for Biomass Fuels

Biomass fuels are more challenging to acquire, store and transport than fossil fuels. This session will offer four presentations by people who have developed creative ways to lower the cost and increase the dependability of storing, transporting and distributing biomass fuels. The audience will learn what is working and lessons learned when it comes to Sourcing, Distribution and Storing biomass fuels.

Moderator: Adam Sherman, Biomass Energy Resource Center, Montpelier, VT

- Dutch Dresser, Maine Energy Systems, Bethel, ME
- Jon Strimling, President, American Biomass Distribution and Woodpellets.com, Goffstown, NH
- Randy Cousineau, Cousineau Forest Products, Wilton, ME

2:30 PM Refreshment Break, Vendor Fair/Armory

3:00 PM Breakout Session II/Workshops

Track 1: Retail

Central Heat/Venting Presentation

Residential and light commercial Biomass Central Heating boilers are expected to become a significant segment of the market over the next 5 to 10 years. This session will cover some of the important installation and design considerations for integrating biomass boilers with existing oil & gas fired systems. This will include a review of controls, plumbing & venting configurations, appliance sizing, and servicing and repair best practices.

Moderator: Charlie Page, Jumpstart Marketing, Randolph, VT

- Pat McGovern, McCuin Fuels, Highgate Center, VT
- Rene Ferland, BioHeat USA, Lyme, NH
- Andy Boutin, Pellergy LLC, Montpelier, VT

Track 2: Policy

Big changes are coming with the Area Source Boiler Rule. What will it mean for new and existing biomass heating systems?

Moderator: Ellen Burkhard, Ph.D., Clean Energy Research and Market Development, NYSERDA, Albany, NY

- Lisa Rector, Senior Policy Analyst, Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management, Boston, MA
- Steven Snook, Environmental Engineer, VT Air Pollution Control Div., Waterbury, VT
- James Laing, Center for Air Resources Engineering and Science, Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY
- James Eddinger, Energy Strategies Group, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, NC

Track 3: Technology

Commercial/Industrial Biomass Thermal: How do we accelerate market adoption?

Moderator: Lew McCreery, Director, US Forest Service, Wood Education Resource Center, Morgan, WV

- John Karakesh, Principal, Resource Professionals Group, Lewisburg, PA
- Joe Kohler, Kohler and Lewis Engineers, Keene, NH
- David Dungate, ACT Bioenergy, Saratoga Springs, NY
- Jake Goodyear, Propell Energy, Jaffrey, NH

5:00 PM Reception/Cocktail Hour, Vendor Fair/Armory

Special opportunity to meet and mingle with energy staff of northeastern Members of Congress and US Senators

7:00 PM Dinner, Salon A

Post-dinner remarks by The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, United States Senator (D-NH) via video teleconference from Washington DC

Senator Shaheen is a member of the US Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and has played a leading role in advancing energy policies that recognize the significant role that biomass thermal can play in meeting America's energy and environmental challenges.

Wednesday April 28

7:30 AM Vendor Fair Opens/Breakfast, Armory

9:00 AM Day Two Plenary Session, Salon A

A Vision for Biomass Thermal in the Northeast: The conference's host organizations will convene a press conference to present a vision and plan to achieve significant growth in biomass thermal in the northeastern US by the year 2025. Press conference with Q&A.

9:30 AM Breakout Session III/Workshops

Track 1: Retail

Dealing with Supply and Demand Volatility

Volatility in the biomass market is one of the most difficult challenges facing pellet manufacturers, appliance manufacturers and retailers. This panel consists of experienced representatives from each segment of the industry. If your company is trying to find ways to deal with the ups and downs of the market this session will provide valuable insights into what others are thinking and doing about this fundamental problem.

Moderator: Jon Strimling, President, American Biomass Distribution and Woodpellets.com, Goffstown NH

Pellet Fuel Manufacturers/Distributors:

- Doug Middleton, Viridis Energy
- Steve Walker, New England Wood Pellet, Jaffrey, NH
- George Soffron, Corinth Wood Pellets, Corinth, ME

Retailer:

- Chris Haley, Squier Lumber, Monson, MA

Appliance & Accessory Distributor:

- Dale Charamut, Northeast Distribution, Exeter, NH

Appliance Manufacturer:

- Kevin Long , Harman Stove Company, Halifax, PA

Track 2: Policy

State Incentives in the Northeast: Ideas that are Working to Grow Demand

An overview of state and other incentives in place now or coming on line in support of biomass thermal, in order to help achieve the goal laid out in morning plenary

Moderator: Lisa Rockefeller, Director of Public Affairs, Woodpellets.com, Goffstown NH

- Phil Guidice, Commissioner, MA Department of Energy Resources, Boston, MA
- Sarah Osgood, NY Assistant Secretary for Renewable Energy, Executive Chamber (Governor's office), Albany, NY (invited)
- Andy Perchlik, Director of the Clean Energy Development Fund, Dept of Public Service, Montpelier VT (invited)
- Jack Ruderman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Division, NH Public Utilities Commission, Concord, NH

Track 3: Technology

Community Scale: District Heating, Industrial and Institutional Biomass Thermal Real Projects

Moderator: Tom Bourgeois, Deputy Director, PACE University Energy and Climate Center, and Northeast Combined Heat and Power Alliance, New York, NY

- Julie Iffland, Randolph Area Community Development Corp, Randolph, VT
- Laura Sawall, International Woodfuels, Portland, ME
- Tom Corbin, Director of Business Services, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT
- Charlie Cary, Principal, Biomass Combustion Systems, Worcester, MA

11:00 AM Closing Plenary, Salon A

Biomass Thermal: Opportunities and Challenges in Responding to the Vision: A panel conversation with opinion leaders from different perspectives, who will be asked to respond to the vision presented at the morning plenary

Facilitator: Master of Ceremonies Charlie Levesque, President, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, Antrim, NH

- Alan Trusler, Sr. VP/Sales, Hearth and Home Technologies, Lakeville, MN
- Jim Therriault, VP/Marketing and Materials Handling, Sprague Energy, Portsmouth, NH
- Wilson Rickerson, Rickerson Energy Strategies, Boston, MA
- Christiane Egger, Deputy Director, O.Ö. Energiesparverband, State of Upper Austria
- Bob Perschel, Northeast Region Director, Forest Guild, Holden, MA
- Craig Issod, Founder and Publisher, Hearth.com, Southampton, MA

12:30 **Thanks and Adjourn, Conference Chair Charlie Niebling**

12:30 **Vendor Fair will remain open until 2 PM**