Advocacy and Action in 2011

Northeast Biomass Heating Expo
March 23, 2012
About NEBTWG


• 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*
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 BERC)
✓ 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

Northeast BIOMASS THERMAL WORKING GROUP

www.nebioheate.org

info@nebioheate.org