

Tongass Futures Roundtable - Statement on Biomass Energy

The Roundtable believes meeting Southeast energy needs is urgent and critical. Biomass energy provides both a near-term and long-term solution to many problems in Southeast, including moderating the cost of home and commercial heating, the efficient utilization of waste products, and an additional revenue source for our local mills.

The Roundtable would like to see any biomass project meet the following goals:

1. Improve regional energy self-reliance
2. Improve community viability and prosperity
3. Increase resiliency and competitiveness of regional sawmills
4. Reduce energy costs and carbon footprint
5. Create jobs and stimulate secondary manufacturing of wood products
6. Make forest restoration more economically viable
7. Reduce volume of municipal and forest waste/turn into a resource
8. Scale industry to regional energy needs
9. Scale industry to regional municipal, commercial, and forest byproduct waste streams

Adopted by consensus of the Roundtable, May 8, 2008