



2009 National Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Program

Request for Proposal

The USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Technology Marketing Unit, located at the Forest Products Laboratory, will again be requesting proposals for forest products projects that increase the use of woody biomass from or near national forest lands.

The National Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Program is intended to help improve forest restoration activities by using and creating markets for small-diameter material and low-valued trees removed from hazardous fuel reduction activities. These funds are targeted to help communities, entrepreneurs, and others turn residues from hazardous fuel reduction projects into marketable forest products and/or energy products.

In fiscal year 2008, \$4 million was available for the Program. The Request for Proposal (RFP) will be similar to the program offered in 2007 and 2008.

Individual grants will not be less than \$50,000 or more than \$250,000. The maximum length of the award is 3 years from the date of award. Written, quarterly financial and semi-annual performance reports will be required.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) will be announced in the fall of 2008 in the Federal Register and on www.grants.gov. Check our website <http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/tmu> (under Woody Biomass Grants) for updates.

Eligibility—Eligible applicants are State, local, and Tribal governments, school districts, communities, non-profit organizations, businesses, companies, corporations, or special purpose districts, e.g., public utilities districts, fire districts, conservation districts, or ports. Only one application per business or organization will be accepted. Construction projects involving a permanent building or infrastructure item, such as roads, are not allowed.

Cost Share—Applicants must demonstrate at least a 20% match from non-Federal sources, which can include cash or in-kind contributions.

Background

To meet the shared goals of Public Law 109-190 the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and Public Law 109-54 Appropriation



Act of 2008, the Forest Service will be requesting proposals to address the nationwide challenge in dealing with low-valued material removed from hazardous fuel reduction activities.

The National Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Program has a pre-application submission process, and upon notification, selected pre-applicants will be asked to submit a full application.

Goals of the grant program are the following:

- Help reduce management costs by increasing value of biomass and other forest products generated by hazardous fuel treatments.
- Create incentives and/or reduce business risk for increased use of biomass from or near national forestlands (must include National Forest System lands, however, may also include other lands such as, Bureau of Land Management, Tribal, State, local, and private).
- Institute projects that target and help remove economic and market barriers to using small-diameter trees and woody biomass.
- Require a Forest Service letter of support for the woody biomass grant project on or near National Forest System lands.



2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 National Woody Biomass Utilization Grant Examples

- Produce residential and industrial pellets from hazardous fuel treatment residues for a local greenhouse.
- Purchase scragg mill and dry kiln to produce flooring and paneling for use in homes in area.
- Purchase a track-mounted mechanized harvester, feller-buncher for cut-to-length merchandizing of hazardous fuel reduction treatments; material used for shavings, energy, and timbers.
- Purchase truck for loading and transporting pole material collected from hazardous fuel treatments around town to post & pole operator.
- Purchase whole tree chipper for onsite hazardous fuel treatments; material used for biomass energy.
- Use hazardous fuel treatment to test co-firing of Southern Utility coal boiler with biomass and determine economics; material used for biomass energy.
- Purchase and install a dry kiln and resaw to improve recovery and use of hazardous fuel treatment material to produce molding and paneling.
- Replace existing boiler system in high school with a biomass heating system.
- Purchase horizontal grinder and band resaw to utilize material from hazardous fuel reduction treatments; material will be used for lumber.
- Purchase and install a new biomass boiler for producing 1.5 MW power to grid from hazardous fuel reduction treatments.
- Install recovery system to use slabs and other material that currently goes to waste; material is derived from small-diameter forest thinning material.
- Purchase horizontal grinder; material processed will be shipped to biomass power plant for energy.
- Purchase and install shaving processor to produce high-quality animal bedding from material too small to process into logs; material removed from hazardous fuel treatments.
- Purchase a horizontal feed tub grinder to use material currently left in woods after hazardous fuel treatment; material will be transported to utility for biomass energy.
- Purchase feller-buncher, tanglehead processor, and skidder in order to process hazardous fuel treatments and transport material to mill.
- Construct a 1,000 kW co-generation facility utilizing woody biomass as the primary fuel.
- Install a pressure treatment cylinder at post-and-pole facility to add value to material.
- Purchase log chipper to complete business plan and efficiently merchandise low value logs into highest value products.



Contact Information

USDA Forest Service
State & Private Forestry
Technology Marketing Unit
Madison, Wisconsin
608-231-9504
<http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/tmu>

