

Densified Biomass Fuel Report

U.S. Energy Information Administration



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Wood Biomass for Fuel

- Biomass (marketed wood) may well surpass the use of petroleum for home heating by 2020 (AEO 2015).
- Nearly 2.5 million households used wood as their primary residential space heating fuel in 2014, a 33% increase since 2005.
- The U.S. exported 4.4 million tons of wood pellets in 2014.
- New mills producing pellets for exports.
- DRAX in the UK and DRAX in the US
- 2016 U.S. wood pellet manufacturing capacity is about 10.5 million tons per year

State programs for biomass energy

- Grants, loans, rebates and tax incentives
- Residential heating, wood stove and pellet stove appliances
- Commercial applications for heating, boilers using wood pellets

Federal incentives and regulations

- EPA issued in 2015: **New Source Performance Standards for New Residential Wood Heaters**
- Pellet Fuel Institute pellet standard program
- Federal tax credits for biomass appliances

International Drivers

- Greenhouse gas mitigation in Europe
- Drax conversions of three coal units to biomass units

EIA's Biomass Data

- Electric Power Generators
- RECS, CBECS and MECS
- SEDS and MER
- AEO and STEO forecasts
- Densified Biomass Fuel Report

EIA-63C, Densified Biomass Fuel Report

- Need for biomass data identified in 2014
- Interested states – Senators wrote to Administrator
- Stakeholders meetings held
- Survey development and testing
- OMB approval – August 2015
- Survey Launched – January 2016

Overview of the data collection

- Monthly collection
- Location, annual production capacity and FTEs
- Feedstock purchases, CHP status
- Production and Inventory of wood pellets
- Sales and Revenue of pellets
- Domestic and Export markets

Respondents

- About 125 respondents ranging from a few hundred to hundreds of thousands tons per year,
- 95 report monthly
- About 15 report being under construction or planned
- About 15 small (under 10,000 tons/year) report annually
- Mills are located in 34 states, grouped into three regions
- Most exporters in the South
- Domestic sales for heating in all regions

Data Availability

- Target publication is September 2016
- Aggregated to regional levels
- Individual responses are protected from public disclosure
- Published on EIA web site: <http://www.eia.gov/>

For more information on EIA's energy programs and forecasts

- Short-Term Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/steo
- Annual Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/aeo
- International Energy Outlook | www.eia.gov/ieo
- Monthly Energy Review | www.eia.gov/mer
- Electric Power Monthly | www.eia.gov/epm
- Today in Energy | www.eia.gov/todayinenergy
- State Energy Portal | www.eia.gov/state
- RECS | www.eia.gov/consumption/residential

Questions?

For more information, or if you think of questions after this presentation, please contact me.

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THANK YOU for your attention and interest!