



**For Immediate Release:**

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## **STATEMENT FROM THE BIOMASS POWER ASSOCIATION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S TAILORING RULE REGULATING GREENHOUSE GASES**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Biomass Power Association President Bob Cleaves issued the following statement in response to the Environmental Protection Agency's tailoring rule regulating greenhouse gas emissions.

“Biomass power emissions add no new carbon to the atmosphere and should not be regulated by the EPA. Biomass power generates electricity from waste wood and debris on the forest floor already naturally emitting carbon and methane gas. The biomass electricity generating process only emits biogenic carbon – carbon that already exists in the atmospheric cycle. In many cases, biomass power actually reduces greenhouse gases by eliminating the harmful methane gas that would otherwise be emitted during decomposition.

“Emissions from fossil fuels are fundamentally different and significantly more harmful than emissions from biomass power. Fossil fuels add new carbon to the atmosphere that would otherwise remain sequestered. Equating biomass emissions with fossil fuel emissions ignores the fact that carbon from fossil fuels has been buried for thousands of years deep in the Earth, and burning those fossil fuels to generate electricity introduces massive amounts of new carbon into the atmosphere.

“BPA is encouraged; however, by the EPA's recognition of the important role that biomass power plays in reducing greenhouse gases. Acknowledging that biomass emissions are not the same as fossil fuel emissions is a significant step towards forming policies that expand the use of clean, renewable biomass power and improve the environment.

“The Biomass Power Association looks forward to working with the EPA to ensure that future policies reflect the key differences between biomass emissions and fossil fuel emissions. If biomass power facilities are forced to comply with unnecessary and burdensome regulations, hundreds of power plants would be put at serious risk and thousands of jobs could be lost. These distinctions are essential to creating new jobs in the biomass industry and moving America away from dirty sources of energy.”

## **EPA On Biogenic Carbon Emissions And Biomass Combustion**

“We are mindful of the role that biomass or biogenic fuels and feedstocks could play in reducing anthropogenic GHG emissions, and we do not dispute the commenters’ observations that many state, federal, and international rules and policies treat biogenic and fossil sources of CO2 emissions differently. ... Although we do not take a final position here, we believe that some commenters’ observations about a different treatment of biomass combustion warrant further exploration ...” (Prevention of Significant Deterioration and Title V Greenhouse Gas Tailoring Rule, EPA, P. 420)

**To Schedule an Interview, Please Contact Bill Riggs at (202) 429-4929 or  
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*The Biomass Power Association is a member-driven organization with the goal of increasing the use of biomass power and creating new jobs and opportunities in the biomass industry. As policymakers at every level explore ways to lower greenhouse gases and reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil, BPA is the leading advocate at the state and federal level for a strong commitment to clean, renewable biomass energy. Members include local owners and operators of existing biomass facilities, suppliers, plant developers and others all across the U.S. For more information please visit [www.BiomassPowerAssociation.com](http://www.BiomassPowerAssociation.com).*

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