



Placer County Biomass Program Environmental and Air Quality Opportunities

Presented to:

The Cleaner Air Partnership

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Placer County Biomass Program Foundations

Why embark on this Program ?

- ✓ Need to protect the Forest/Communities from Catastrophic Fire
- ✓ Provide cleaner air

How did we proceed?

- ✓ Develop a Strategic Plan
- ✓ Work with Public Agencies & Private Business

What will we accomplish?

- ✓ Programs & Projects



Core Issue: Agency Decisions

Open Pile Burn



***Large amounts
of Air Emissions***

VS.



Grind & Haul Waste

Lower Emissions



Controlled Energy Creation



On-Going Programs & Projects



Community biomass collection



Chipping



Regional biomass collection



Before

***Contracts in place
Material being
reclaimed
Air Pollution saved
Forest Health
increased***

USFS NF biomass removal



After



Biomass Project Results Environmental & Other

Environmental Analyses, Multiple on-the-ground biomass to energy projects and technology studies being performed to understand:

- ***Air Emissions reductions***
- ***Water deposition reductions***
- ***Enhanced forest health operations***
- ***Watershed improvements***
- ***Lowering Catastrophic Wildfire risks to community and soil***
- ***Potential to lower health care costs***

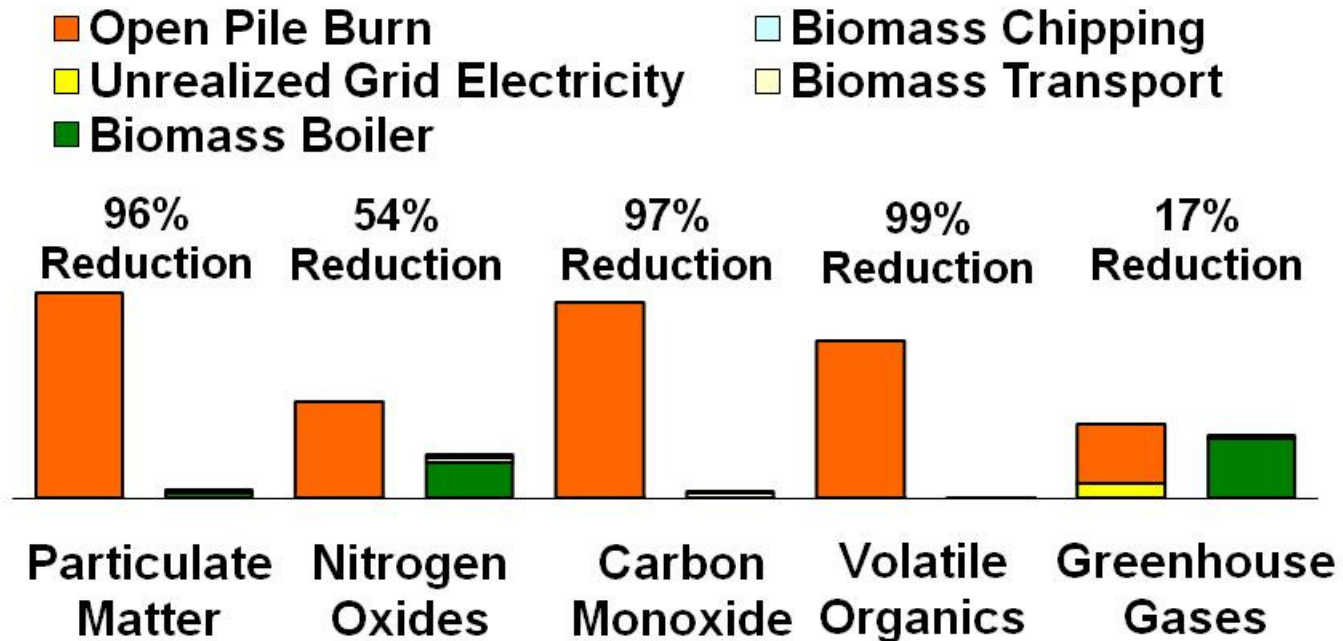
Other opportunities to pursue:

- ***Business opportunities***
- ***Job growth***
- ***Green renewable non-fossil fuel power***
- ***Lower government costs for fire***
- ***Insurance costs reductions***



Biomass Project Results Air Quality

***Multiple on-the-ground biomass to energy throughout County
Community retrieval of waste
Regional locations
Specific In-forest high fire danger locations***





Environmental Protection Agency Recognition



EPA Award

- US Environmental Protection Agency Recognizes Outstanding & Innovative Efforts to Achieve Cleaner Air
 - 2010 Clean Air Excellence Award for

Forest Resource Sustainability in Placer County

15k biomass waste removed and not burned; Reductions of 90 tons PM, 23 tons nitrogen oxides, 70 tons VOC's, 900 tons carbon monoxide and 6,000 tons of GHG's

This Project was chosen "for its impact, innovation and replicability"





Future Operations

Biomass Facility in Lake Tahoe Region

- Current Department Of Energy \$3 Mil grant being accomplished
- Technical design and permitting
- Fuel supply documented
- Environmental Review
- Land Use process



Biomass Facility in Foresthill Region

- Recent grant award by the California Energy Commission to study Bio-methane fuel for CNG vehicles



Biomass Protocols – *Value Green House Gas benefits*

- Biomass for energy – Support form BOF, SMUD, USFS, CAL Fire CAPCOA and ARB reviewing for implementation
- Forest Fuel Treatment – Wildfire reduction & Enhance growth

Carbon Market – *Monetize GHG reduction as offsets*

Preliminary stages of design



Achieving Goals

Lowering Air Emissions – Utilize Biomass Waste

- Real reductions in Placer County
- Spread throughout Sierra and Valleys

Protect against Catastrophic Wildfire

- Healthier Forests in Placer County
- More progress throughout the USFS lands



Questions/Comments

<http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/Planning/Biomass.aspx>

