



Wisconsin Statewide Wood Energy Team

Refueling Wisconsin with Wood Energy Series

Brought to you in partnership with these organizations





Wisconsin
Statewide Wood
Energy Team

Economic Analysis of Wood Energy Projects



Scott Sanford
U of Wisconsin-Madison
Rural Energy Program

Outline

- ❖ Feasibility assessment process
- ❖ Cost Check list
- ❖ Logs, chips or pellets?
- ❖ Tools
- ❖ Example
- ❖ Grants and Loans
 - ❖ REAP - Lisa Noty – USDA Rural Development

Rapid Assessment Process

❖ Estimate Heating needs

- ❖ Fuel bills – quantity

- ❖ Heating appliance efficiency

 - ❖ Specification or testing

❖ Calculate Usable Heat

- ❖ Fuel quantity x Btu/unit x efficiency

- ❖ Example – 2500 gallon LP gas/yr; boiler 75% eff

- ❖ $2500 \text{ gal} \times 91600 \text{ Btu/gal} \times 0.75 = 171.75 \text{ Mbtu/yr}$

Heat of Combustion (Btu/unit)
Heating Oil – 138,000 Btu/gal
Propane – 91,600 Btu/ gal
Nat. Gas – 100,000 Btu/Therm
Electricity – 3413 Btu / kWh

Rapid Assessment Process

❖ Choose fuel type and appliance

❖ Need fuel energy content & heating sys efficiency

❖ Estimate fuel quantity =

$$\frac{\text{Usable Fuel}}{\text{Btu/ fuel unit} \times \text{heating system eff}}$$

❖ Example: Wood pellets @ 8400 Btu/lb

❖ 80% eff. Boiler

$$\frac{171,750,000}{8400 \text{ Btu/lb} \times 0.80} = 25558 \text{ lb} \rightarrow 12.8 \text{ tons}$$

Heat of Combustion (Btu/unit)
Wood Pellets – ~8,000 Btu/lb
Wood Chips(50%) – ~4500 Btu/lb
Cord Wood(20%) – ~22 MBtu/cord

Rapid Assessment Process

- ❖ Obtain wood fuel quote
- ❖ Calculate savings
- ❖ Example:
 - ❖ 2500 gal LP gas - \$ 4875/yr
 - ❖ Wood pellet cost - \$200 / ton
 - ❖ $12.8 \times 200 = \$2560 / \text{yr}$
 - ❖ Savings $\rightarrow \$4875 - \$2560 = \$2315$



Rapid Assessment Process

- ❖ Obtain installed cost for Combustion Appliance
 - ❖ Appliance cost
 - ❖ Chimney / vent
 - ❖ Electrical connections
 - ❖ Plumbing
 - ❖ Fuel storage
 - ❖ Accessory equipment
 - ❖ Cleaning tools, forklift, loader, conveyors, auger, ash disposal
 - ❖ Engineering (larger projects)
 - ❖ Permits

Rapid Assessment Process

- ❖ Are Fuel Savings Positive?
- ❖ Is simple payback < equipment life?
 - ❖ Simple Payback
 - = Investment / annual savings
 - ❖ Doesn't account for annual costs, repairs, inflation, fuel cost escalation
- ❖ Do cash flow analysis or other financial analysis based on your business / finances

Equivalent Annual Cost

- ❖ Use discount / interest rate & life or payback period to calculate annual cost of ownership
 - ❖ $EAC = NPV \times CR_{t,r} + \text{annual maintenance cost}$
 - ❖ NPV – net present value
 - ❖ $CR_{t,r}$ – Capital Recovery factor
 - ❖ where t = years of life, r = discount rate
 - ❖ Lookup in table (Economic Decision Analysis-2ed.)
 - ❖ Example: Capital cost of \$100,000 with 20 year life @ 7% interest; \$2000/yr maintenance cost; \$0 salvage
 - ❖ $EAC = \$100,000 \times 0.0944 + \$ 2000 = \$ 11440/\text{yr}$
- ❖ Add Fuel cost
- ❖ Sum to determine annual cost

Cost for biomass system

- ❖ Feasibility study
- ❖ Engineering Analysis
- ❖ Permits
- ❖ Equipment Cost
- ❖ Freight cost
- ❖ Installation cost
- ❖ Commissioning
- ❖ Annual maintenance / cleaning / repairs

Chips, pellets or logs??

- ❖ Capacity
 - ❖ Availability
 - ❖ Labor
 - ❖ Storage
 - ❖ Capital Cost
 - ❖ Emission requirements
 - ❖ Fuel cost
 - ❖ Truck access
- ❖ Propane < 35,000 gal
 - ❖ Fuel oil < 22,500 gal
 - ❖ Pellets or firewood
 - ❖ Propane \geq 35,000 gal
 - ❖ Fuel oil \geq 22,500 gal
 - ❖ Pellets / Chips / Firewood

Based on USFS experience

Analysis Tools

- ❖ Michigan Wood Energy calculator
 - ❖ Developed by SE MI RC&D
- ❖ Wood Energy Financial App
 - ❖ Developed by University of Minnesota
- ❖ RETScreen International
 - ❖ Developed by Natural Resource Canada

Michigan Calculator

❖ Michiganwoodenergy.org

❖ Inputs

❖ Contact info – email & location

❖ Type of facility

❖ Boiler size

❖ Current Fuel Type

❖ Current Fuel price

❖ Annual fuel use

❖ Cost of wood fuel (pellet or wood chips)

❖ Financing interest rate (%)

Michigan Calculator

❖ Assumptions

- ❖ No grants
- ❖ Financing – 10 years
- ❖ Wood chips > 3 Mbtu/hr
- ❖ Wood Pellets <= 3 Mbtu/hr
- ❖ Portion of fuel wood: 95%
- ❖ Portion of fuel current fuel: 5%
- ❖ Wood boilers sized $\frac{1}{2}$ existing boilers

Michigan Calculator

- ❖ Sample output
- ❖ Emails results

www.wisconsinwoodenergy.org

Michigan Wood Energy Report

Estimated Total Project Cost: **\$59,100.00**

Simple Payback: **8.1 years**

Project Financing Information	
Percent Financed	100%
Amount Financed	\$59,100.00
Amount of Grants	\$0.00
Interest Rate	5%
Term	10 Years
Annual Finance Cost - Principal and Interest	\$7,654.00

Annual Project Costs					
Cash Flow Descriptions	Unit Costs	Fuel Source Proportion	Annual Fuel Quantities	Fuel Units	Year 1 Costs
Estimated Existing Annual Costs					
Existing Fuel (propane)	\$2.00		10,000.00	gallon	\$20,000.00
Estimated Proposed Wood-Fired System Annual Costs					
Wood Fuel (pellets)	\$200.00	95%	56	ton	\$11,200.00
Existing Fuel	\$2.00	5%	500.00	gallon	\$1,000.00
Additional Operation and Maintenance Costs					\$500.00
Total Proposed Annual Costs					\$12,700.00
Annual Cost Savings					\$7,300.00
Annual Finance Cost - Principal and Interest					\$7,654.00
Net Annual Cash Flow					(\$354.00)

Your Current Information

This is the information you submitted via the calculator:

- E-mail: sasanford@wisc.edu
- County: outstate
- Facility type: Industry
- Combined boiler size: 300,000.00 btu

MN Wood Energy Financial App

- ❖ woodenergy.umn.edu/BiomassCalculator/
- ❖ More detailed inputs
- ❖ Model estimated Capital costs
 - ❖ Overestimates capital costs for smaller systems
 - ❖ Indicates projects not feasible that may be.
- ❖ New version - 2015
 - ❖ Revised cost estimations
 - ❖ More accurate for small systems

Energy Cost Inputs

Wood Energy Financial App

Annual Fuel Cost Savings
\$8,300

Welcome Energy Costs Capital Costs Cash Flow Report

Existing Heating System

Fuel

Fuel Type

Cost per Gallon ⓘ

Cost per MMBtu

MMBtu per Gallon

Annual Fuel Usage

MMBtu per Year ⓘ

Gallons per Year

Annual Propane Cost

Existing Boiler

Boiler Type ⓘ

Efficiency (%)

Annual Heat Demand

Delivered Heat (MMBtu) ⓘ

Substitution Percentage ⓘ

Biomass Heating System

Biomass System

Biomass Type

Efficiency (%) ⓘ

Biomass Fuel

Moisture Content (wet) ⓘ

Cost per MMBtu

Cost per Green Ton ⓘ

Cost per Dry Ton ⓘ

Biomass Annual Fuel Usage

Green Tons

Dry Tons

Truck Loads (25-ton loads)

Biomass Fuel Cost

Remaining Annual Fuel

Remaining Propane Cost ⓘ

Moisture Content (wet) ⓘ

Energy Cost Inputs

Wood Energy Financial App

Annual Fuel Cost Savings
\$8,300

Welcome | Energy Costs | Capital Costs | Cash Flow | Report

Existing Heating System

Fuel

Fuel Type: Propane

Cost per Gallon: \$2.00

Cost per MMBtu: \$21.91

MMBtu per Gallon: 0.09130

Annual Fuel Usage

MMBtu per Year: 913

Gallons per Year: 10,000

Annual Propane Cost: \$20,000

Existing Boiler

Boiler Type: Conventional

Efficiency (%): 80%

Annual Heat Demand

Delivered Heat (MMBtu): 700

Substitution Percentage: 95%

Biomass Heating System

Biomass System

Biomass Type: Pellets

Efficiency (%): 82%

Biomass Fuel

Moisture Content (wet): 8%

Cost per MMBtu: \$13.86

Cost per Green Ton: \$200

Cost per Dry Ton: \$217

Biomass Annual Fuel Usage

Green Tons: 53

Dry Tons: 49

Truck Loads (25-ton loads): 3

Biomass Fuel Cost: \$11,000

Remaining Annual Fuel

Remaining Propane Cost: \$1,000

Moisture Content (wet) slider: 8%

Capital Costs

Wood Energy Financial App

Total Capital Cost
\$208,000

Welcome Energy Costs **Capital Costs** Cash Flow Report

Biomass System Cost and Size Estimates

Biomass Boiler Size Estimate

MMBtu per Year (biomass)	771
Utilization (Months/Year) ⓘ	5.0
Utilization (percent)	42%
System Size (MMBtu/hr) ⓘ	0.2

Use Model-Driven Estimate

Biomass Boiler Cost

Boiler System Costs ⓘ	\$208,000
Building & Site Costs ⓘ	\$0
Total Boiler & Building Cost	\$208,000

Distribution Costs

Hookups

Building Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Buildings	0
Home Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Homes	0

Piping

Pipe Cost per Linear Foot ⓘ	\$0
Pipe Distance ⓘ	0

Total Distribution Costs

Total Distribution Costs	\$0
--------------------------	-----

Moisture Content (wet) ⓘ

Capital Costs

Wood Energy Financial App

Total Capital Cost
\$208,000

Welcome Energy Costs **Capital Costs** Cash Flow Report

Biomass System Cost and Size Estimates

Biomass Boiler Size Estimate

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Use Model-Driven Estimate

Biomass Boiler Cost

Boiler System Costs ⓘ	\$208,000
Building & Site Costs ⓘ	\$0
Total Boiler & Building Cost	\$208,000

Distribution Costs

Hookups

Building Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Buildings	0
Home Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Homes	0

Piping

Pipe Cost per Linear Foot ⓘ	\$0
Pipe Distance ⓘ	0

Total Distribution Costs

Total Distribution Costs	\$0
--------------------------	-----

Moisture Content (wet) ⓘ

Capital Costs

Wood Energy Financial App

Welcome Energy Costs **Capital Costs** Cash Flow Reports

Total Capital Cost
\$208,000

Biomass System Cost and Size Estimates

Biomass Boiler Size Estimate

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Biomass Boiler Cost

Boiler System Costs ⓘ	\$208,000
Building & Site Costs ⓘ	\$0
Total Boiler & Building Cost	\$208,000

Distribution Costs

Hookups

Building Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Buildings	0
Home Hookup Costs ⓘ	\$0
Number of Homes	0

Piping

Pipe Cost per Linear Foot ⓘ	\$0
Pipe Distance ⓘ	0

Total Distribution Costs

Total Distribution Costs	\$0
--------------------------	-----

Moisture Content (wet) 8% ⓘ

Cash Flow Analysis

Wood Energy Financial App

Welcome | Energy Costs | Capital Costs | **Cash Flow** | Report

Payback Period (years)
25.1 Years

Financial Inputs

Financial Parameters

Total System Costs	\$208,000
Interest Rate ⓘ	5.0%
Project Lifespan ⓘ	20
Outside Grants ⓘ	\$0

Operations & Maintenance Cost

O&M Costs ⓘ	\$0
O&M % of System Cost	0%

Cost Scenarios

Biomass Cost (Green Ton) ⓘ	\$200.00
Propane Cost per Gallon ⓘ	\$2.00

Financial Results

Financial Results

Financed System Cost ⓘ	\$208,000
------------------------	-----------

Biomass System Annual Expenses

Biomass Fuel Cost	\$11,000
Remaining Fuel Cost ⓘ	\$1,000
O&M Cost	\$0
Debt Payment ⓘ	\$16,700
Total Expenses	\$28,000

Existing System Annual Expenses

Annual Propane Cost ⓘ	\$20,000
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Value of Adding Biomass System

Annual Net Cash Flow ⓘ	\$-8,000
Present Value of Cash Flow ⓘ	\$-105,000
System Cost per MMBtu ⓘ	\$38.89

Project Lifespan: 20

RET Screen

- ❖ <http://www.retscreen.net/>
- ❖ Developed by Natural Resource Canada
- ❖ Downloaded Excel spreadsheet
- ❖ Climate data driven model
- ❖ Capable of handling complex projects
 - ❖ District heating
 - ❖ Case studies / templates
- ❖ Few default values

RET Screen – Method 1

Microsoft Excel window: RETScreen4-1 - Microsoft Excel

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Developer Acrobat RETScreen

Help Product database Climate database Hydrology database Project database Benchmark database RETScreen Plus RETScreen on the Web Zoom in Zoom out Goal seek Calculator

Address bar: D4

Form Title: *Clean Energy Project Analysis Software*

Project information [See project database](#)

Project name:

Project location:

Prepared for:

Prepared by:

Project type:

Technology:

Analysis type:

Heating value reference:

Show settings:

Site reference conditions [Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location:

Navigation: Start Energy Model Tools

Status: Ready

Taskbar: 85%

RET Screen Input page

RETScreen Energy Model - Heating project

Heating project

		Base case	Proposed case		Incremental initial costs
Heated floor area for building	ft ²	5,974			
Energy efficiency measures					
Heating load for building	(Btu/h)/ft ²	65	65		
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	0%	0%		
Total heating	MWh	218	218		
Base load heating system					
Technology			Biomass system		
Capacity	million Btu/h	0.4	0.3	77.3%	\$ 60,000
Heating delivered	MWh	217.9	214.2	98.3%	
Fuel type		Propane - gal	Biomass		
Seasonal efficiency	%	78%	82%		
Fuel consumption - annual	gal	10,001	48	t	
Fuel rate	\$/gal	2.000	200.000	\$/t	
Fuel cost	\$	20,002	9,521		
Peak load heating system					
Technology					
Suggested capacity	million Btu/h		0.1		
Capacity	million Btu/h		0.6	154.5%	
Fuel type			Propane - gal		
Seasonal efficiency	%		78%		
Fuel consumption - annual	gal		170		
Heating delivered	MWh		3.7	1.7%	
Fuel rate	\$/gal		2.000		
Fuel cost	\$		340		

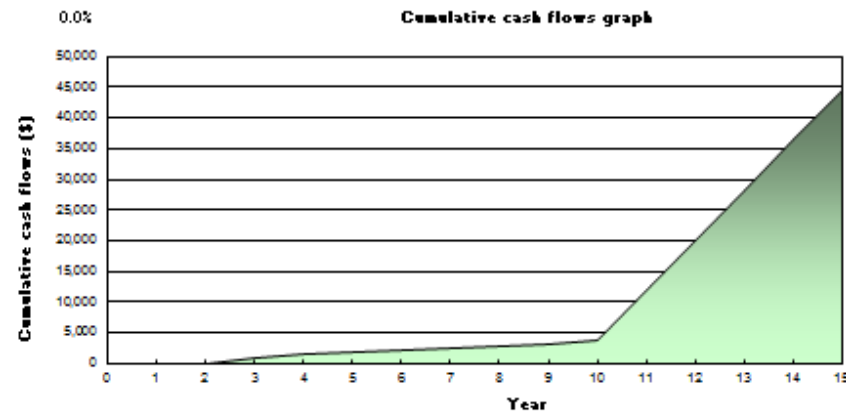
Emission Analysis

Ready Filter Mode

RET Screen Financial Analysis

Emission Analysis			
GHG emission			
Base case	tCO2	58.1	
Proposed case	tCO2	2.7	
Gross annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	55.4	
GHG credits transaction fee	%		
Net annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	55.4	is equivalent to 10.1 Cars & light trucks not used
GHG reduction income			
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2		

Financial Analysis			
Financial parameters			
Inflation rate	%	0.0%	
Project life	yr	15	
Debt ratio	%	100%	
Debt interest rate	%	5.00%	
Debt term	yr	10	
Initial costs			
Heating system	\$	60,000	100.0%
Other	\$		0.0%
Total initial costs	\$	60,000	100.0%
Incentives and grants	\$		0.0%
Annual costs and debt payments			
O&M (savings) costs	\$	2,000	
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	3,860	
Debt payments - 10 yrs	\$	7,770	
Other	\$		
Total annual costs	\$	13,630	
Annual savings and income			
Fuel cost - base case	\$	20,002	
Other	\$		
Total annual savings and income	\$	20,002	
Financial viability			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%	positive	
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	-2.4%	
Simple payback	yr	7.4	
Equity payback	yr	immediate	



Start Energy Model Tools

Ready Filter Mode

RET Screen – Method 2

- ❖ Load Analysis
 - ❖ Heating loads by month
 - ❖ Multiple buildings
- ❖ Energy Model
 - ❖ Multiple fuels
- ❖ Emissions Analysis
- ❖ Financial Analysis
- ❖ Sensitivity / Risk Assessment

Energy Model – Method 2

RETScreen Energy Model - Heating project

Show alternative units

Proposed case heating system

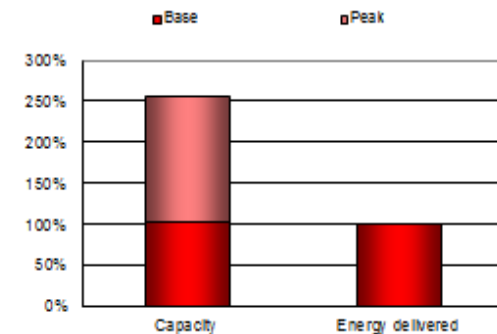
System selection	Base load system		
Base load heating system			
Technology	Biomass system		
Fuel selection method	Single fuel		
Fuel type	Biomass		
Fuel rate	\$/t	200.000	
Biomass system			
Capacity	million Btu/h	0.4	102.6%
Heating delivered	MWh	219	100.0%
Manufacturer			
Model			
Seasonal efficiency	%	82%	
Boiler type	Hot water		
Fuel required	GJ/h	0.5	

[See product database](#)

Proposed case system characteristics

	Unit	Estimate	%
Heating			
Base load heating system			
Technology		Biomass system	
Capacity	kW	117.2	102.6%
Heating delivered	MWh	219	100.0%
Peak load heating system			
Technology		Boiler	
Fuel type		Propane - gal	
Fuel rate	\$/gal	2.000	
Suggested capacity	kW	0.0	
Capacity	million Btu/h	1	153.8%
Heating delivered	MWh	0.0	0.0%
Manufacturer			See EOP
Model			
Seasonal efficiency	%	80%	
Back-up heating system (optional)			
Technology		Peak system not required	
Capacity	kW		

System design graph



Proposed case system summary

	Fuel type	Fuel consumption - unit	Fuel consumption	Capacity (kW)	Energy delivered (MWh)
Heating					
Base load	Biomass	t	49	117	219
Peak load	Propane	gal	0	176	0
Total				293	219

Ready

Cost Analysis – Method 2

Settings					
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Method 1	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Notes/Range	Notes/Range			
<input type="radio"/> Method 2	<input type="radio"/> Second currency	None			
	<input type="radio"/> Cost allocation				
Initial costs (credits)					
	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount	Relative costs
Feasibility study					
Feasibility study	cost	1	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
Subtotal:				\$ 1,000	1.6%
Development					
Development	cost	1	\$ 500	\$ 500	
Subtotal:				\$ 500	0.8%
Engineering					
Engineering	cost			\$ -	
Subtotal:				\$ -	0.0%
Heating system					
Base load - Biomass system	million Btu/h	0.4	\$ 150,000	\$ 60,000	
Peak load - Boiler	kW	175.8		\$ -	
Energy efficiency measures	project			\$ -	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Subtotal:				\$ 60,000	97.6%
Balance of system & miscellaneous					
Spare parts	%			\$ -	
Transportation	project			\$ -	
Training & commissioning	p-d			\$ -	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Contingencies	%		\$ 61,500	\$ -	
Interest during construction			\$ 61,500	\$ -	
Subtotal:		Enter number of months		\$ -	0.0%
Total initial costs				\$ 61,500	100.0%
Annual costs (credits)					
	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount	
O&M					
Parts & labour	project	20	\$ 100	\$ 2,000	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Contingencies	%	3.0%	\$ 2,000	\$ 60	
Subtotal:				\$ 2,060	
Fuel cost - proposed case					
Biomass	t	49	\$ 200,000	\$ 9,727	
Subtotal:				\$ 9,727	
Annual savings					
	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount	
Fuel cost - base case					
Propane	gal	10,044	\$ 2,000	\$ 20,089	
Subtotal:				\$ 20,089	

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Start
Load & Network
Energy Model
Cost Analysis
Emission Analysis
Financial Anal

Financial Analysis – Method 2

RETScreen Financial Analysis - Heating project							
Financial parameters		Project costs and savings/income summary		Yearly cash flows			
General		Initial costs		Year	Pre-tax	After-tax	Cumulative
Fuel cost escalation rate	%		Feasibility study	#	\$	\$	\$
Inflation rate	%		Development	0	0	0	0
Discount rate	%	5.0%		1	337	337	337
Project life	yr	15	Heating system	2	337	337	674
				3	337	337	1,012
				4	337	337	1,349
				5	337	337	1,686
				6	337	337	2,023
				7	337	337	2,360
				8	337	337	2,698
				9	337	337	3,035
				10	337	337	3,372
				11	8,302	8,302	11,674
				12	8,302	8,302	19,976
				13	8,302	8,302	28,277
				14	8,302	8,302	36,579
				15	8,302	8,302	44,881
Finance			Balance of system & misc.				
Incentives and grants	\$		0.0%	\$			0
Debt ratio	%	100.0%	Total initial costs	100.0%	\$	\$	61,500
Debt	\$	61,500					
Equity	\$	0	Annual costs and debt payments				
Debt interest rate	%	5.00%	O&M	\$			2,060
Debt term	yr	10	Fuel cost - proposed case	\$			9,727
Debt payments	\$/yr	7,965	Debt payments - 10 yrs	\$			7,965
			Total annual costs	\$			19,752
			Periodic costs (credits)				
			Annual savings and income				
			Fuel cost - base case	\$			20,089
Income tax analysis		<input type="checkbox"/>					
Annual income							
Electricity export income							

Sensitivity Analysis – Method 2

Perform analysis on	After-tax IRR - equity				
Sensitivity range	10%				
Threshold	20	%			

		Initial costs				\$
Fuel cost - base case		55,350	58,425	61,500	64,575	67,650
		-10%	-5%	0%	5%	10%
\$						
27,815	-10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
29,361	-5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
30,906	0%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
32,451	5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
33,997	10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive

		Initial costs				\$
Fuel cost - proposed case		55,350	58,425	61,500	64,575	67,650
		-10%	-5%	0%	5%	10%
\$						
13,133	-10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
13,863	-5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
14,592	0%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
15,322	5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
16,052	10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive

		Initial costs				\$
Debt interest rate		55,350	58,425	61,500	64,575	67,650
		-10%	-5%	0%	5%	10%
%						
4.50%	-10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
4.75%	-5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
5.00%	0%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
5.25%	5%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive
5.50%	10%	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive

Comparison of tools

❖ Propane heating system

- ❖ \$2.00 per gallon
- ❖ 10,000 gallons per year
- ❖ 80% efficient
- ❖ Capacity: 300,000 Btu / hr

❖ Biomass

- ❖ Pellet boiler @ 82% eff
- ❖ \$200 per ton
- ❖ 5% interest rate
- ❖ 95% biomass / 5% propane
- ❖ 10 year financing term

MI vs MN Analysis tools

	Energy Cost Savings	Capital Cost	Principle and interest (1)	Payback (yrs)
MI	\$ 7300	\$ 59,100	\$ 7654	8.1
MN	\$ 8300	\$ 208,000	\$ 16700	25.1
RET Screen	\$10,479	\$ 60,000 (2)	\$ 7770	7.4

- 1) MI repayment – 10 yrs; MN – 20 yrs; RET Screen – 10 yrs
- 2) User input

Resource Guides

❖ Community Biomass Handbook

❖ <http://woodenergy.umn.edu/CommunityBiomassHandbook.pdf>

COMMUNITY BIOMASS HANDBOOK VOLUME I: THERMAL WOOD ENERGY



Chapter 1: Introduction

Why Biomass Matters



Chapter 2: Heating With Wood

Is Biomass Heating Right for You?



Chapter 3: Technology That Works

Cordwood, Chips, and Pellets



Chapter 4: Biomass Supplies That Work

Access, Economics, and Energy Principles



Chapter 5: Roadmap to Success

The Project Development Lifecycle



Chapter 6: Wood Energy Financial App

Using the App in Your Assessment Process



Chapter 7: Engage Your Community

Checklist of Good Project Components



Chapter 8: Finalize Project Candidate

Checklist of Good Project Components



Chapter 9: Launch Your Project

What Happens Next



Chapter 10: Park County Schools RE-2

Case Study



Chapter 11: Colorado State University

Case Study



Chapter 12: Acknowledgments

Resources

- ❖ Wood Pellet Heating: A Reference of Wood Pellet Fuels & Technology for Small Commercial & Institutional Systems – 2007
- ❖ Wood-Chip Heating Systems: A Guide for Institutional and Commercial Biomass Installations-2004
- ❖ Heating with Biomass: A Feasibility Study of Wisconsin Schools Heated with Wood - 2008
- ❖ Other references available at:

www.biomasscenter.org/resource-library/publications

Grants and Incentives

- ❖ Wisconsin Focus on Energy
 - ❖ Must be using Natural gas
 - ❖ Very few projects funded
- ❖ Grant from USDA Rural Development
 - ❖ Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
 - ❖ Grants and Loans
 - ❖ Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant
 - ❖ Community Facilities Loan Guarantees
 - ❖ Business & industry Loan Guarantee

Grants and Incentives

- ❖ Forest Service Wood Innovation Grants –
 - ❖ up to \$250,000 for final engineering on projects
 - ❖ <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/werc/wip/2015-rfp.shtm>
- ❖ USFS Wood Education and Resource Center Wood Energy Technical Assistance program
 - ❖ Wood energy feasibility studies at no cost to facility owner.
 - ❖ Email – sasanford@wisc.edu for application



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Rural Business-Cooperative Service
Energy Programs



Rural Energy for America Program

REAP

**Lisa Noty
Energy Division
Regional Energy
Coordinator -
Midwest**





REAP - Assistance

- Types of Assistance
 - ✓ Guaranteed Loans
 - ✓ Grants
 - Set aside \$20,000 or less
 - Unrestricted
 - ✓ Guaranteed Loan Grant Combinations



REAP Funding - 2015

- Farm Bill \$50 million per year
- ✓ 2014 and 2015 funds available in 2015
- ✓ Guaranteed Loan funds ~\$200 million
- ✓ Set aside \$20,000 or less \$10 million
- ✓ Unrestricted Grants \$68 million

- Annually appropriated funds

REAP – Eligible Applicants

- Rural Small Business
Private entity (Sole proprietorship,
Partnership, and Corporation)
- Agricultural Producers

REAP – Eligible Applicants (cont.)

- Must –
 - Own or control site
 - Sufficient Revenue
 - Project
 - Operation & maintenance
 - Legal Authority and Responsibility
 - Registration number (SAM)

REAP – Eligible projects (cont.)

- Technical Merit
 - Project description (commercially available)
 - Qualifications of installer/contractors,
 - Energy audit or resource assessment,
 - Equipment availability,
 - Timeline
- Pass Fail

REAP – Eligible Projects (cont.)

- Bioenergy
 - Pellet mills, biomass boilers, ethanol, and biodiesel facilities
- Anaerobic Digesters
 - Facilities that use animal or food waste to produce methane and then convert the methane to electricity
- Geothermal

REAP – Eligible Projects (cont.)

- Hydrogen
 - Derived from a renewable resource
- Solar
- Wind
- Hydroelectric
- Hybrids
- Energy Efficiency improvements

REAP – Application Process

- Three application levels
 - RES and EEI Projects with Total Project Costs of \$80,000 or Less
 - RES and EEI Projects with Total Project Costs of Less Than \$200,000, but More Than \$80,000
 - RES and EEI Projects with Total Project Costs \$200,000 and Greater

REAP – Application Process (cont.)

- Fiscal Year 2015
Application deadline dates
 - April 30
 - June 30

- Fiscal Year 2016
Application deadline dates
 - October 30
 - April 30

REAP – Application Process (cont.)

- Maximum grant assistance (FY) \$750,000
- Grant
 - 25% of total eligible project costs
- Renewable Energy System Grant
 - minimum grant \$2500,
 - maximum \$500,000
- Energy Efficiency Improvement Grant
 - Minimum grant \$1500,
 - Maximum \$250,000

REAP – Application Process (cont.)

- Guaranteed Loan and combo's
 - 75% of total eligible project costs
- Guaranteed Loan
 - Minimum \$5,000
 - Maximum \$25 million

REAP – Application Process (cont.)

Helpful to know

- Only **Post**-application expenses are eligible
- Reimbursement Grant
- Grant Agreement
- Reporting requirements



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Guaranteed Loans



✓ LOAN SIZE

- Minimum Loan Amount: \$5,000
- Maximum Loan Amount: \$25,000,000

✓ GUARANTEE

- 85% for loans \$600,000 or less.
- 80% for loans over \$600,000 up to \$5 Million
- 70% for loans over \$5 Million up to \$10 Million
- 60% for loans over \$10 Million



✓ MAXIMUM TERM LIMITS

- Working Capital – 7 Years
- Machinery & Equipment – 15 Years (*or useful life, which every is less*)
- Real Estate – 30 Years



✓ INTEREST RATE

- Fixed or Variable; if variable cannot adjust more than quarterly
- Negotiated between lender and borrower



WHAT IT CAN DO FOR BORROWERS

Assists in providing stability and growth through energy efficient improvements and renewable energy utilization.



- Provides the ability to receive:
- ✓ Higher Loan Amounts
 - ✓ Competitive Interest Rates
 - ✓ Longer Repayment Terms



REAP

Scoring

Maximum of 100 points

REAP Scoring

(1) Energy Generated, Replaced, or Saved

- Maximum of 25 points for criterion

Quantity of Energy Generated or Saved per REAP Dollar Requested

- Maximum of 10 points in sub-criterion

Quantity of Energy Replaced, Saved, or Generated

- Maximum of 15 points in sub-criterion

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(2) Environmental Benefits

-Maximum of 5 points for criterion

Applicant must document in application the project's positive effect on any of the three impact areas:

- 1. Resource Conservation (e.g., water, soil, forest)**
- 2. Public Health (e.g., potable water, air quality)**
- 3. Environment (e.g., compliance with EPA's renewable fuel standard(s), greenhouse gases emissions, particulate matter)**

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(3) Commitment of Funds

- **Maximum of 20 points for criterion**

Based on percentage of written commitment an Applicant has from its Funding Sources that are documented with complete application

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(4) Size of Agricultural Producer or Rural Small Business

- Maximum of 10 points for this criterion

Based on the size of the Applicant's agricultural operation or business concern, as applicable, compared to the SBA Small Business size standards categorized by the NAICS code

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(5) Previous Grantees and Borrowers

- A maximum of 15 points for this criterion

Points based on whether the Applicant has received a grant or guaranteed loan under the REAP RES/EEI program

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(6) Simple Payback:

- **A maximum of 15 points for this criterion**

Payback: EEI Reduce or RES Replace
Onsite Use

Eligible Project Costs/Dollar value of energy
reduced or replaced

REAP Scoring (cont.)

(7) State Director and Administrator **Priority Points**

- A maximum of 10 points for this criterion.



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Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

www.rd.usda.gov/reap

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What will I learn?

- ❖ **Webinar Schedule** (All webinars will run from 1:00 PM to 2:15 PM CST)

Presentation slides and videos of presentation will be available at wisconsinwoodenergy.org/learning.html

- ❖ Feb 18 The Wisconsin Energy Picture
- ❖ Feb 25 Types of Wood Fuels & Appliances
- ❖ March 4 Pre-Feasibility Assessment Tools & Grant Funding
- ❖ March 11 Residential/Commercial Project Examples & Economics
- ❖ March 18 Overview of Industrial Wood Heating & Power Systems
- ❖ March 25 Case Study of Large Scale Wood Energy Projects
- ❖ April 1 Wood Fuel Supply and Distribution Business
- ❖ April 8 Wood Energy Cluster Development /District Heating



Questions

This presentation was developed by:
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www.wisconsinwoodenergy.org

