

2011 Bioenergy Tour St. Louis, Missouri



May 3-5, 2011

Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy

Energy and Environment Cabinet

Whether you are motivated by improving our environment, creating economic growth for your community, establishing an affordable, dependable supply of energy for your business, or reducing our dependence on foreign crude from hostile nations, your seat on this bus shows your concern.

- Governor Steve Beshear

Bioenergy Tour Itinerary

May 3, 2011

International Biomass Expo

May 4, 2011

Show Me Energy Cooperative Tour
and Presentations

Dinner Program Presentations

made by:

(right: photo of presenters)

Rick Tolman, CEO of the National
Corn Growers Association

Mike Erker, Bio Products
Development Director for United
Soybean Board

Geoff Cooper, VP of Research and
Analysis with the Renewable
Fuels Association

May 5, 2011

Monsanto Research Facility Tour
Abengoa Bioenergy Tour



These types of trips are really beneficial to the state because they bring people together who otherwise may not have ever met and are now forming working and personal relationships, which creates a "Think Tank" of sorts.

- Jon Cambron, Kentucky State University

2011 Biomass Conference & Expo St. Louis, MO

The 4th annual **International Biomass Conference & Expo** took place May 2-5, 2011 at the America's Center in St. Louis, Missouri. This dynamic event – widely known as **BIOMASS** – unites industry professionals from all sectors of the world's interconnected biomass utilization industries—biobased power, thermal energy, fuels and chemicals. It is the largest, fastest-growing event of its kind and was expected to draw nearly 2,500 attendees for 2011.



Sessions were divided among six broad categories: Crop Residues, Dedicated Energy Crops, Forest & Wood Processing Residues, Food Processing Residues, Livestock and Poultry Wastes, and Municipal Solid Waste, Urban Wastes & Landfill Gas.

I feel that we have a great opportunity in the bio energy area and have just scratched the surface as far as new opportunities. The entire state has many opportunities; we must make sure that each region makes the right choices as where to allocate resources.

- Dan Ellison, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts



Show Me Energy Cooperative *Johnson County, MO*

Show Me Energy Cooperative has as its guiding vision a commitment to establish an innovative, profitable, leading model for production of biomass-based fuels. This model may be replicated across the country by small producer-owned cooperatives that will provide a positive economic impact on the regions in which they are located.

Show Me Energy Cooperative is a non-profit, producer owned cooperative founded to support the development of renewable biomass energy sources in West Central Missouri .



One of the things we learned on this trip was that most projects rely on waste or residue as the feedstock for most biomass projects. We needed to know if we can compete in this industry and the fellows from Show Me Energy explained how the new incentive programs for dedicated crop establishment would help producers through the first difficult years until the crop matures and yields increase.

-David Appelman, Bracken Co. Extension Office



I believe we have some resources available for biomass in eastern Kentucky. They are: 1) plentiful rolling land for biomass production, 2) farmers looking for alternative crops, 3) highway and river transportation and 4) coal fired electric generating plants.

-Joel Oney, Farm Credit Services of Mid-America & KAFC Board Member

Monsanto Research Center *Chesterfield, MO*

In support of the farmers and growers responsible for producing food, feed, fuel and fiber for the world, the Chesterfield Village Research Center serves as Monsanto's major hub for research and development. The site houses approximately 1,200 of the world's leading scientists and researchers.

These 1,200 employees will work alongside researchers involved in some of Monsanto's partnerships with public and private Missouri universities, including the University of Missouri, Saint Louis University, Lincoln University and Washington University.

The Chesterfield site currently has 26 greenhouses, 108 climate-controlled growth chambers and 250 laboratories. Over the next few years, Monsanto plans to add up to 15 greenhouses and 50 growth chambers.



Abengoa Bioenergy *Mt. Vernon, IN*

Abengoa's Indiana Ethanol Plant has a production capacity of 90 million gallons of ethanol annually, as well as 300,000 tons per year of high protein distillers grain feed products, which will be shipped throughout the country via rail, truck, and water. As part of the production process, this facility will purchase 32 million bushels of grain each year, primarily from local sources.



Kentucky's resource base and existing assets give us a tremendous advantage in the area of bioenergy. Our transportation infrastructure (road, rail, & water) is another advantage we have over many other states. The federal government has set out some ambitious requirements for the use of bioenergy.

—Jeff Hall, The Capstone Group

Participant Comments

Information was very informative and outstanding. This was a very successful trip.—David Campbell, KY Farm Bureau State Board

The diversity of facilities and potential impact for farmers and their communities was tremendous. I also commend the organizer for the mix of expertise on the tour which will help for years to come as we will all be more comfortable calling on one another for help or advice.—Mac Stone, KY Department of Agriculture



There was one thing that bothered me about the tour. It was primarily based on agricultural products and the grasses to make biofuel. Although this is very important part of the Bioenergy concept in America and especially in Kentucky, it is not the only one available. We also have the Kentucky wood industry that can and will be a major player given the chance.—Bobby Martin, Turner & Conyer Lumber Co.

USDA, Rural Development employees are very receptive to expanding our partnerships with all parties involved with the energy and local food initiatives as well as the many programs geared toward assisting rural areas.—John Johnson, USDA Rural Development

There was a good cross section of necessary individuals on the biomass tour. The skills, gifts, talents, interest, energy, and occupations of these folks are all necessary in a group who make a biomass industry for KY. It would be interesting to see a graphic of their affiliations and measure that against what the constitution of a viable biomass industry in other places consists of.—Susan Carson Lambert, EarthWorks, LLC

The networking with others attending was probably the best part of the tour. The speakers at the hotel were very informative. Excellent choices for speakers and timely topics.—Mick Henderson, Commonwealth Agri-Energy, LLC

While there were as many questions raised as answered, at least the 45 participants share a common understanding of Kentucky's energy challenges and possible renewable energy solutions. Finally, the individual perspectives of those participants further enriched the meaning of the entire trip for I have made many acquaintances I wish to pursue professionally and perhaps personally.—Stephen Taylor, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation

On behalf of myself and my company, South Point Biomass, I would like to thank the Governor's staff for an excellent trip and the Governor for promoting such a potentially beneficial program. I realized early in our trip that from my conversations with people on the bus that there is a huge gap between the agriculture industry and the wood and timber and power generation industry in understanding the supplies of biomass.—Larry Camp, South Point Biomass Generation

A couple of key points that I took away from the tour is that we have a number of individuals around the state looking to break into the biofuel industry and they are looking at a wide range of sources and technologies. I think the key now is to continue to work together to help secure the energy future of Kentucky and the United States. Additionally, I found the state officials to be very excited and willing to help alternative energy companies to succeed.—Tyler Mark, Morehead State University

The major take-away for me from this trip is that the production of energy from bio-mass is an infant industry. While the production of cellulosic ethanol apparently captures the greatest efficiencies, the development of this industry might be phased in through numerous steps. Secretary Peters and his staff have been essential in developing an understanding of a biomass overview.—Don Halcomb, Walnut Grove Farm

2011 Participants

Ms. Kristina Anderson, Division of Biofuels—EEC
Mr. David Appelman, Bracken County Extension Service
Ms. Angela Blank, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy
Mr. Danny Blevins, Glen Blevins Farm
Mr. David Brame, Commonwealth AgriEnergy
Mr. Jeff Brandt, East Kentucky Power Corporation
Dr. Tony Brannon, Murray State University
Ms. Lona Brewer, DEDI—EEC
Mrs. Sharon Burton, The Farmer's Pride
Mr. Jon Cambron, Kentucky State University - Organic and Biofuel Prod.
Mr. Larry Camp, South Point Biomass Generation LLC
Mr. David Campbell, Kentucky Farm Bureau State Board
Mr. Steve Coleman, Division of Conservation
Mrs. Karen Curtis, Kentucky Agricultural Development Board
Mr. Curtis Dame, Farmer—Hopkins County
Dr. Subodh Das, PHINIX, LLC
Mr. Dan Ellison, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts
Rep. C.B. Embry, Kentucky House of Representatives
Mr. Don Goodin, Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development
Mr. Don Halcomb, Walnut Grove Farm
Mr. Jeff Hall, The Capstone Group
Mr. Lyndall Harned, Boyd County Cooperative Extension
Mr. Mick Henderson, Commonwealth AgriEnergy , LLC
Mr. Pat Henderson, Kentucky Agricultural Development Board
Mr. Tim Hughes, Div. of Biofuels—EEC
Mr. Wayne Hunt, Kentucky Agricultural Development Board
Mr. John Johnson, USDA Rural Development
Mr. Tom Keene, University of Kentucky
Ms. Susan Lambert, EarthWorks LLC
Mr. John Lhotka, UK Dept. of Forestry
Mr. Tom Malone, Bracken County Ag. Advancement Council
Dr. Tyler Mark, Morehead State University
Mr. Bobby Martin, Turner & Conyer Lumber Co. Inc.
Mr. Jay McCants, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation
Mr. Bill McCloskey, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy
Dr. Mike Montross, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering - UK
Mr. Joel Oney, Farm Credit Services of Mid-America
Ms. Ruthi Pike, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Ms. Wanda Quiggins , Farmer—Hart County
Mr. Bill Renner, Highland Biofuels LLC
Mr. Jeff Rice, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts
Ms. Dawn Riley, Kentucky Agricultural Council
Mr. David Rowlett, Kentucky Utilities Co. / KACD
Dr. Ray Smith, Kentucky Forage & Grasslands Council
Mr. Mac Stone, Kentucky Department of Agriculture
Rep. Wilson Stone, Kentucky House of Representatives
Mr. Stephen Taylor, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corp.
Mr. Roger Thomas, Governor' Office of Agricultural Policy
Mr. Danny Townsend, Farmer—Montgomery County
Mr. Brooks Underwood, West Kentucky Ag BioWorks
Ms. Karen Woodrich, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

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