



TEAM: ENERGY & INNOVATION

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SUBJECT: BIOMASS ENERGY 2.0 – STRENGTHENING AMERICAN FARMERS WHILE BUILDING PROFITABLE ENERGY MARKETS

REQUESTED ACTION:

- Support legislation, policies and financial assistance for agricultural biomass utilization that promote modern, non-combustion biomass-to-bioenergy conversion, “Biomass Energy 2.0”.
- Promote Biomass Energy 2.0 at scale as a new tool for American energy security, strong workforce development, and economic resilience while meeting growing energy demands.
- Make farmers and farm communities a part of America’s energy comeback by supporting on-farm energy generation and new revenue streams for greater economic independence.

HOW THIS SUPPORTS BUSINESSES:

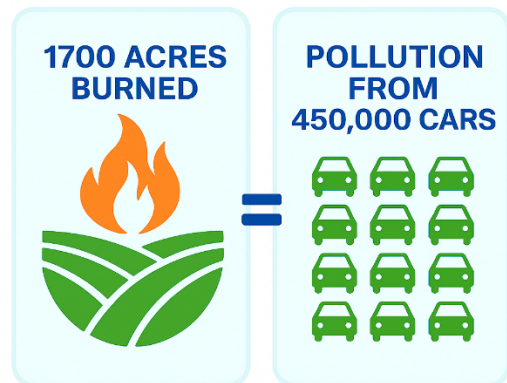
California’s agricultural industry is a major contributor to the state and national economies. Annually, millions of tons of agricultural biomass, including tree trimmings and crop residue, are generated in the Capital Region. The material is typically considered “waste” and disposed of through managed open burning, chipping, shredding or mulching. A new era of biomass energy is possible today. Rather than treating agricultural biomass as waste, new ultra-clean technologies like gasification and pyrolysis can transform materials into various value-added products such as blend fuels for vehicles, on-farm soil amendments like biochar (excellent for increasing crop yields), other bioproducts, and direct energy production.



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CAP TO CAP

- 1. Biomass as an Energy Feedstock:** Biomass Energy 2.0 will help to ensure American energy dominance for growing energy needs like *data centers* and the *artificial intelligence* boom. With energy demand in California expected to rise by 40-60% in the next 20 years, energy diversification and new energy sources need to be fully utilized. In addition, biomass can help farmers diversify operations, expand markets and increase profits.
- 2. Biomass Creates Skilled Jobs & Lowers Risk:** The biomass industry promotes skilled job creation and a sustained workforce in rural portions of Northern California. While our focus is on agricultural biomass, the technology and benefits of biomass utilization also apply to forested lands, which can significantly lower the risk of destructive wildfires.



HOW THIS SUPPORTS RESIDENTS OF OUR REGION:

Annually in just Sacramento County, the smoke from minimal agricultural burning emits particle pollution equivalent to roughly 450,000 cars driving on County roadways. The Capital Region is located in a valley that traps this pollution, such as fine particles (smoke) and ozone precursors, which can trigger asthma and other lung and heart impacts. Thus, reductions in any burning directly correlate to reducing exposure and protecting public health, benefiting farmers, their workers, and the residents in our rural communities.

BOTTOM LINE:

Biomass 2.0 is a winning proposition – economic benefits for the agricultural industry, new Made-in-America energy to meet rapidly growing demands, jobs and economic development in rural communities, and reductions in harmful pollution. Biomass 2.0 strengthens American energy security, independence, farmers, and rural communities.