BCAP Project Area 10: New York Willow

Presentation to:
Environmental & Energy Study Institute &
Ag Energy Coalition
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ReEnergy Holdings and SUNY-ESF

ReEnergy:
• Largest pure-play biomass power company in U.S. HQ Latham, NY
• ~300 employees; 4 states
• 245 MWs of renewable energy generation

College of Environmental Science & Forestry:
• 30+ years experience with willow
• Part of State University of NY
• Environmental college with 1,700 undergrads & 500 grad students
USDA designated a BCAP project area in central and northern NY in 2013 to support expansion of shrub willow biomass crops on marginal land.

ReEnergy committed to purchase all of the willow over an 11-year period.

Currently 1,188 acres in three counties are enrolled and more than 8,500 tons of willow delivered to ReEnergy from 2013 through Feb. 2018.

Willow found to be suitable fuel in terms of moisture and ash content, now incorporated directly with other feedstocks upon delivery.
Project Benefits

• Overcomes barriers of high upfront costs and delayed cash for growers
• Creates stable, long-term end markets
• Advances research and deployment
• Provides fuel diversity benefits for ReEnergy
• Supports jobs and rural development
  • 45 – 59 jobs for every 10,000 acres
• Creates environmental benefits
  o Carbon-neutral; wildlife habitat
• Revitalizes idle or marginal lands
• Provides extension services
• Creates opportunities for companies to engage (e.g. New Holland Agriculture)
BCAP in Western U.S.

- BCAP also funds the collection and transportation of biomass material to biomass power plants
- Forests in the Western U.S. are facing crises – drought, beetle blight, overgrowth. 100+ million dead and dying trees in California forests alone
- BCAP enables a public/private partnership to remove the dead and dying trees (also known as hazardous fuels) and put them to use as fuel to generate power
- Fully funding BCAP can help reduce catastrophic wildfires and save $ spent fighting them
Thank You!

ReEnergy Holdings
Sarah Boggess
sboggess@reenergyholdings.com
(518) 810-0200

SUNY-ESF
Timothy Volk
tavolk@esf.edu
(315) 470-6775