

# Cook County Biomass Energy Feasibility Analysis

Public Meeting

December 9, 2010 // Cook County Courthouse

# Study Team

- CCLEP Committee
  - George Wilkes
  - Paul Nelson
  - John Bottger
  - Tim Kennedy
- Mike Garey, engineering advisor
- Patty Johnson, USFS
- Gary Atwood, Local Coordinator
- Dovetail
  - Kathryn Fernholz
  - Dr. Steve Bratkovich
  - Dr. Jim Bowyer
- UMN
  - Dr. Dennis Becker
  - Dr. Steven Taff
- Cheryl Miller, Project Manager
- Engineering firm to be hired

# Dovetail Partners

Dovetail Partners is a non-profit organization that provides authoritative information about the impacts and trade-offs of environmental decisions, including consumption choices, land use, and policy alternatives.

- [www.dovetailinc.org](http://www.dovetailinc.org)
- <http://www.dovetailinc.org/cookcounty>

# Goal of Analysis

- Provide solid information to Cook County community about feasibility and impacts of transitioning to biomass energy
- Engage community discussion of alternatives at different scales of operation
- Develop broadly supported recommendations for use of biomass energy in county
- Present as model for state policymakers to use in assessing community biomass energy systems

# Analysis objectives

- Develop understanding of existing and potential energy market in Cook County
- Evaluate alternative biomass energy systems at different scales
- Analyze long-term biomass availability and costs, feasibilities, and environmental impacts
- Engage community in options, including “do nothing” and issues (impacts, operations, ownership, etc.)

# Workplan & Results

- Fall 2010
  - Organize study team and plans
- Winter 2010-2011
  - Assess current energy budgets
  - Collect information on current biomass supplies
  - Identify optional energy systems for different scales of operation

# Workplan, II

- Spring - Summer, 2011
  - Preliminary report on feasibility of transitioning to biomass energy at different scales
  - Community discussions
  - Long-term biomass forecasting begin (LCCMR study)
- Fall - Winter 2011 - 2012
  - Long-term economic projections
  - Environmental impacts and life cycle analysis

# Workplan, III

- Spring - Summer, 2012
  - Financing options
  - Community meetings to identify preferred options
  - Reports and recommendations to Cook County Local Energy Project
- Summer - Fall, 2012
  - Finalized reports to Cook County Board of Commissioners