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Energy: U.S. Energy Information Administration Notes Southern States Role in Biomass Electricity Generation

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The United States Energy Information Administration (“EIA”) issued a May 25th news release stating that the “southern states” are leading the growth in biomass electricity generation.

Biomass is generally defined to include:

... wood and wood-derived fuels, wood waste liquids, black liquor, sludge waste, agricultural byproducts and other biomass solids, liquids, and gases.

Biomass electricity generation fuels include forest wastes from clearing and thinning, sawmill residues, and urban landscape trimmings

EIA states that over the past five years United States electricity generation from biomass across all sectors grew from 56 gigawatt hours (GWh) in 2010 to 64 GWh in 2015. It notes that much of the growth has occurred in southern states citing Virginia, Florida, and Georgia.

The news release also states in part:

- In 2015 electricity generation biomass across all sectors accounted for 11.3% of renewable electricity generation and 1.6% of total electricity generation in the United States
- Nearly half the electricity generated from biomass in 2015 occurred at industrial facilities outside of the electric power sector (such as pulp and paper mills)
- Within the electric power sector biomass accounted for 6.3% of renewable electricity and 0.8% of total United States electricity generation

A link to the EIA news release can be found here <http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.cfm?id=26392>.