Yukon Energy Biomass Workshop December 1, 2011

Bob Kuiper Senior Planner, Renewable Resources Energy, Mines & Resources Government of Yukon

Presentation Overview

- Yukon Energy Strategy
- Yukon Bioenergy Strategy (Wood to Heat)
- Examples of Northern Bioenergy Projects

Energy Strategy for Yukon (2009)

- Guides energy production, conservation & use in Yukon.
- 4 pillars:
 - Improve energy conservation & efficiency
 - Increase supply and use of renewable energy
 - Meet current and future electricity needs
 - Manage responsible oil & gas development

Energy Strategy: Renewable Energy Priorities

- Increase renewable energy by 20% by 2020.
- Promote renewable energy for heat & power
- Develop wood based bioenergy industry
- Provide leadership in research, development & demonstration projects
- Build partnerships

Yukon Bioenergy Strategy Progress to Date:

- Establish Bioenergy Development Committee
- Compile energy use baseline data
- Research on modern combustion technologies
- Economic studies
- Air emissions research
- Timber supply analysis
- Review of successful northern bioenergy projects
- Project implementation (Dawson & Whitehorse)

Yukon Energy Consumption (2005)



Heat Energy Cost in Yukon (2009)

- Heating Oil:
- Propane:
- Electricity:
- Cordwood:
- Pellets:
- Chips: TOTAL:

	\$ 56.5 M	100%
60 tons	\$ 0.008 M	0.01%
825 tons	\$ 0.3 M	0.5%
22,000 tons	\$ 5.0 M	9%
190 GWh	\$ 5.4 M	10%
8 M litres	\$ 7.4 M	13%
40 M litres	\$38.3 M	68%

Heat Energy Used in Yukon



Relative Cost of Heating Options Net cost, including maintenance (\$/GJ)



• Key Goal:

- Reduce our use of fossil fuels for heat.
- Increase our use of wood for heat, using modern, efficient, safe and clean technologies.

Benefits: Switching from Fossil Fuels to Wood for Heat:

- Energy costs:
 - Wood is 30 50% cheaper than using heating oil
- Renewable & local energy source:
 - Increases energy self sufficiency
- Local employment:
 - Increases forest industry opportunities
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
 - Wood is considered carbon neutral
- Safety:
 - Wood fuel is safer to handle than heating oil.

Challenges: Switching from Fossil Fuels to Wood for Heat

- Higher capital costs:
 - Wood furnaces cost more than oil furnaces
- Air emissions:
 - Public health concerns must be addressed.
- Fuel supply:
 - Secure high quality fuel supply is needed.
 - Local timber supply is important
- Lack of local expertise & infrastructure:
 - Yukon has only limited successful experience in modern wood heat systems.

Goal

- Optimize use of bioenergy for heat and power
 - initial focus is on using wood for heat.

Principles:

- Government Leadership
- Partnerships
- Proven & Reliable Technology
- Clean Air Emissions
- Secure and High Quality Fuel Supply
- Sustainable Forest Resource Use
- Support for Yukon Jobs

Strategic Approach:

- 1. Build a strong technical foundation.
 - Use proven technology and expertise
- 2. Establish supportive policies and regulations.
- 3. Build strategic partnerships
- 4. Implement bioenergy projects
 - In the public sector, and with partners and the private sector
- 5. Require clean air emissions
 - Develop policies and regulations as needed

Strategic Approach (con't):

- 6. Ensure a secure & high quality fuel supply chain.
 - Establish standards for fuel quality and fuel security
- 7. Sustainable forest management and timber supply
 - Complete forest management plans & timber tenures
- 8. Encourage Yukon forest industry development
 - Build demand for wood fuels. Provide support as needed.
- 9. Ongoing research and development
 - To stay informed on evolving opportunities.

Examples of Successful Modern Northern Bioenergy Projects

- Northwest Territories
- Alaska
- Yukon

Arctic Green Energy Ltd. Correctional Center: 1st Project in NWT (2005)



Arctic Green Energy Ltd. Pellet Storage Silos & Delivery Truck







City of Yellowknife: Rec. Complex Pool, Arena & Curling Rink



City of Yellowknife: Rec. Complex Binder 746 kw pellet boiler





St Joseph's School: Storage silo and pellet augers



St Joseph's School KOB 300 kw pellet boiler & original oil boilers





City of Yellowknife: Energy Cabin 25 Kw pellet boiler (Arctic Green Energy)





Energy Cabin Bosch 25 kw pellet boiler





Northern Properties: Private Sector 57 tonne silo, 756 Kw boiler, 100 suites, 4 buildings



Northern Properties Binder 746 kw Pellet Boiler





Northern Properties Computer monitor & Cyclone emission control





Superior Pellet Mill (Fairbanks) Capacity: 30 - 40,000 tons / year



Superior Pellet Mill Finished Product



Delta Junction Sawmill: Alaska Building logs, lumber, cordwood, chips, pellets



Delta Junction Sawmill: Alaska Pellet Plant Capacity: 800 - 1,000 tons /year



Delta Junction Sawmill: Alaska Pellet Plant: Finished Retail Product





Delta Junction Sawmill: Alaska Wood Chips: Chipper & Transport Van



Tok Wood Chip Boiler Community School



Tok Wood Chip Boiler Feedstock



Tok Wood Chip Boiler Boiler Building: Chip Storage





Tok Wood Chip Boiler Chip Type & Feeding System





Tok Wood Chip Boiler Chip Boiler & ESP Air Emission Control





Burwash Landing: District Heat System Boiler Building & Feedstock Supply



Burwash Landing: District Heat System Wood Chip Type & Feed System





Burwash Landing: District Heat System Wood Chip Boiler: 30 cords / year





Burwash Landing: District Heat System Four buildings now connected. Plans for more



- There are many different technologies and systems available.
 - Pellets
 - Chips
 - Cordwood
 - Recycled waste
- Important to pick the technology and system that fits best for <u>your</u> community.

- Heating with wood saves money!
- NWT: 50% savings on fuel costs @ 2010 prices.
 - 5 -7 yr payback on capital cost of infrastructure.
- Tok: School saves \$500 k per year.
 - redirects energy savings to school programs.
- Burwash Landing
 - Fuel cost for 4 community buildings (including laundromat): 30 cords @ \$125/ cord

- Modern wood combustion systems are clean.
- Many have strict European emission standards.
- Additional air emission controls can be used.
- No air emission issues were experienced for any of the projects visited.
- Good fuel quality and proper system maintenance are essential.

- Modern wood combustion systems are reliable.
- 3 Essential Ingredients:
 - Consistent fuel supply
 - Consistent fuel quality
 - Consistent system maintenance

Summary

• YG supports bioenergy development

- Focus on modern wood heat systems first
- Learn from other successful bioenergy projects.
- Support new systems as they become feasible

• Key Principles:

- Use high quality, proven & reliable technology
- Controlled air emissions
- Sustainable forest resource use
- Yukon benefits

Next Steps:

- Continue research on:
 - suitable technologies
 - air emission controls
 - business case analysis
- Continue building partnerships & local expertise
- Support pilot and demonstration projects
- Prepare draft bioenergy policy documents for review
- Finalize bioenergy policy and strategic approach
- Implementation