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HJR 1 Biomass Study

Poll ranking: #2
Pg. 4 in Draft Work Plan

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Background



- EQC Climate Change Study
- Bureau of Business and Economic Research at UM Study
- Department of Commerce Study

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Study Requirements

- Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Program for biomass;
- Montana biomass feedstock tax incentives;
- Potential use of pilot projects;
- Funding alternatives for research and development for the collection, processing, transportation, storage, and distribution of forestry and agriculture residues;
- Document biomass research that characterizes emissions and mitigates emission impacts;
- Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program for biomass;
- Availability of the forest biomass resource in Montana from a biological, administrative, and economic standpoint; and
- Forest biomass balance.

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UM Study

- In-state consumption of woody biomass is approximately 2-3 million dry tons annually for manufacturing pellets, particle board, fiberboard, linerboard and for generating heat and electricity.
- Total amount of woody biomass on Montana's 20 million acres of non-reserved timberlands exceeds 850 million dry tons; of that, an estimated 40 million dry tons is physically accessible and suitable for utilization.
- 70% of this potentially available biomass is located on national forests.

Commerce Study

- House Bill No. 645 provides \$475,000 to the Department of Commerce for a "Biomass Energy Study"
- Funding used to:
 - Fund feasibility studies
 - Install biomass energy boilers
 - Fund biomass program staff within the DNRC to increase biomass utilization



Questions for staff?

Draft Work Plan Options

Option A	Option B	Option C
<p>.15 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Option B. ○Analysis of biomass use and incentives. ○Existing projects, funding, emissions. 	<p>.05 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Option C. ○Other state policies. 	<p>.03 FTE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○Summary of existing incentives and programs. ○Panel. ○Reports on studies.

- Option C track existing studies.
- Option B includes a review of biomass in other states.
- Option A adds element of use and incentives.