



Biomass Program

Kentucky Rural Energy Supply Program

The Kentucky Rural Energy Supply Program was established to benefit the citizens of the Commonwealth by creating a unified statewide consortium to promote renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) in Kentucky. As part of the Rural Energy Supply Program, the Kentucky Rural Energy Consortium (KREC) was formed to advance comprehensive research on biomass and bioenergy and coordinate deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies, practices and outreach to Kentucky agriculture, rural communities and related industries. The KREC is composed of representatives from the University of Louisville (UL), University of Kentucky (UK), and Kentucky Office of Energy Policy.

KREC's goals include creating an economically viable bioenergy industry; serving as a clearinghouse and networking group to exchange knowledge, programs, and activities; and building public-private partnerships throughout the Commonwealth. To reach its goals, KREC's objectives will work to: increase funding for biobased R&D; increase use of renewable fuels and biobased products; create new businesses and jobs; help local businesses and

industries stay local; and build EE/RE capacity in Kentucky.

R&D Pathway

In February 2006, over \$1.1 million in federal funding, along with matching state funds of \$295,000, was awarded to seven research projects proposed by UK and UL faculty. These projects address renewable energy and energy efficiency issues that are important to Kentucky, such as developing a better understanding of the effects of corn stover collection, storage, and pretreatment methods on the corn stover conversion to ethanol and developing novel catalytic approaches for the upgrading of bio-oils to high-value products.



Lab fermentor for ethanol production research

Congressionally Directed Integrated Biorefineries R&D

Benefits

- Reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil through growth of Kentucky's bioenergy industry.
- Increase investment in agriculture, rural communities and related industries.

Applications

Expanded research, communication and use of renewable fuels and bio-based products will foster Kentucky's economic development, energy independence and environmental sustainability.

Project Participants

Kentucky Office of Energy Policy
University of Louisville
University of Kentucky Research
Foundation

Project Period

FY 2005 – FY 2007

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Visit the Web site for the Office of the
Biomass Program (OBP)
www.eere.energy.gov/biomass

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