

Seeing the
— FOREST —
for the Trees
FUTURE POTENTIAL FOR
BIOMASS ENERGY IN MARYLAND

BIOMASS ENERGY SYSTEMS -
ECONOMICS & FINANCE

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

WEBINAR SERIES: SESSION 5

For more information visit
MDCLEANENERGY.ORG/BIOMASS

BIOMASS WEBINAR SERIES OVERVIEW

Forest management is necessary to ensure carbon sequestration for air quality and to protect the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Management of forests produces woody biomass materials, which are also available in excess from storm debris removal and tree maintenance. This resource is marketable as a good source for thermal energy generation.

This webinar series will highlight available technologies, economic competitiveness, ease of installing and operating biomass energy systems to examine how Maryland commercial and institutional consumers can benefit from the adoption of thermal biomass energy solutions.

During the sessions covering Biomass Energy Systems, presenters will examine system types and operations, emissions, economics, financing, and incentives.

SESSION 5

Woody biomass is already made in abundance in Maryland. However, the use of this renewable fuel source for energy, as an alternative to fossil fuels, has not been widely adopted. Project design and financing technical assistance is available.

At the end of this session, participants will be better informed about the economics and potential financing strategies to design, build, own, and operate a woody biomass fed thermal energy system in Maryland.

Questions to be addressed include:

- What does it cost to build, install, and operate a woody biomass energy system?
- What is the expected return on investment from installed biomass energy systems?
- How can these systems be financed affordably and conveniently?
- Which grants, incentives, and renewable energy credits are available to assist with project financing?
- What is the qualification process for the existing Thermal Renewable Energy Credit?

PANELISTS



Garry Aime
Energy Program Manager
Maryland Energy Administration



Wyatt Shiflett
Director of Finance Programs
Maryland Clean Energy Center



Bruce Weaver
State Energy Coordinator/
Program Specialist
USDA Rural Development

Session Moderator: **I. Katherine Magruder** Executive Director, Maryland Clean Energy Center

This program is offered in association with the Spurring Fossil Free- Biomass initiative, brought to you by the [Maryland Forestry Foundation](#) and [Maryland Clean Energy Center](#) in partnership with the [Maryland Department of Natural Resources](#) and the [Sustainable Forestry Council](#), with funding from the [Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund](#).



SESSION 5 SPEAKER BIOS

I. Katherine Magruder Executive Director, Maryland Clean Energy Center

Ms. Magruder is the Executive Director of the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC), a corporate instrumentality of the state created to advance the adoption of clean energy products, services, and technologies. In addition to administrative and budget management for MCEC she is engaged in government and industry stakeholder relations, event production and innovation advancement.

Kathy has led efforts to launch programs designed to provide access to capital for energy projects including the Maryland Home Energy Loan Program, Maryland Clean Energy Capital Program, and MD- PACE: a statewide initiative enabling commercial property assessed clean energy lending to occur in Maryland.

Wyatt Shiflett Director of Finance Programs, Maryland Clean Energy Center

As the Director of Finance Programs, Mr. Shiflett is working to deliver project finance solutions that assist clients in achieving cost-effective funding. Wyatt has assisted Maryland based universities, colleges, hospitals, hotels, retirement communities, manufacturers, charter schools, and other 501(c)(3) organizations, issuing over \$3 billion in tax-exempt project financing. Mr. Shiflett has served as the Assistant Director of the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority, the Deputy Director at Maryland Industrial Finance Authority and the Assistant Director of Bond Financing at the Maryland Economic Development Corporation.

Prior to working in the public sector, Mr. Shiflett worked in an investment advisory capacity at Morgan Stanley and an investment banking capacity at JP Morgan. Wyatt's experience in the capital markets and his ability to work creatively to find innovative solutions are strengths that have served the State of Maryland. Mr. Shiflett obtained an MBA in Finance from the University of Notre Dame and Bachelor of Science degree from Towson University in 1996, with a major in Business Administration and a concentration in Finance.

Garry Aime Energy Program Manager, Maryland Energy Administration

Garry J. Aime currently serves as an Energy Program Manager for the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). Garry oversees the MEA Biomass energy program, Game Changer, Net Zero Schools and the Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) for State energy program contractors. He is also MEA's delegate for the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE) and the Minority Business Enterprise representative (MBE). Previously he served as the Combine Heat and Power (CHP) and Animal Waste to Energy Program Manager. A frequent energy speaker, Garry has presented at a variety of events in Maryland and throughout the U.S.

Bruce Weaver State Energy Coordinator/Program Specialist, USDA Rural Development

Mr. Weaver retired from banking after 25 years, in 2004, and has been with USDA ever since. He is the State Energy Coordinator for both Maryland and Delaware as well as a Program Specialist in several other grant and loan programs. Those programs entail business loan guarantees for local banks, value added grants for farms and business development grants for rural towns and non-profits.