

# North Country Woody Biomass Alternative Energy Feasibility Project Conference Speaker Bios

The Wild Center, Tupper Lake, New York

<b>Ray</b>	<b>Albrecht</b>	Mr. Albrecht is Manager of residential and commercial heating research at the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) in Albany, New York. The heating research program at NYSERDA includes the development of advanced burners, boilers and controls with heating system manufacturers as well as testing of new fuels including biodiesel and biomass. NYSERDA supports the development of new, biomass combustion equipment and grass-based pellet fuels in cooperation with several manufacturing companies and universities in New York State. Ray is a graduate of Cornell University with a B.S. and M.S. degrees in engineering, a member of the board of directors of the National Oil heat Research Alliance and secretary of the National Oil heat Research Institute board of directors.
<b>Peter</b>	<b>Babich</b>	Mr. Babich is Associate Director of Facilities and Manager of Engineering Services at Colgate University, where he has worked for 28 years. He has directed activities of the wood plant program for four years, and been active in energy and conservation issues throughout his career.
<b>Barry</b>	<b>Bernstein</b>	Barry Bernstein & Carl Bielenberg are partners in Better World Energy (BWE) LLC, representing Messersmith Manufacturing, a leader in automated wood chip systems for schools, commercial and industrial users. They started BWE in 1989, providing engineering, sales and service for Messersmith automated wood chip systems with over 50 installations by 2009. Barry & Carl have been working on biomass and energy for over 30 years.
<b>Averill</b>	<b>Cook</b>	Mr. Cook is a graduate of the University of Vermont School of Natural Resources. He operates a 6,000 tap maple syrup operation at Wendling Farm, and provides forestry and agricultural consulting services throughout the region. He launched, ran and sold Catamount Pellet Fuel Corporation in the 1990s, served as president of the national Pellet Fuels Institute, and researched bioenergy issues for various national and international conferences. Mr. Cook pioneered the development of a new pelleting technology in 2000 and runs Biomass Commodities Corporation, a vertically integrated renewable energy provider, active in establishing a pellet distribution network through New England.
<b>Sloane</b>	<b>Crawford</b>	Sloane Crawford has over 20 years of experience working in the fields of forestry, forestland appraisal, and forest utilization in New York State. He holds degrees from SUNY-ESF both in Forest Resource Management and Natural Resources Economics. He is Program Leader of the Forest Utilization Program at New York State DEC, Division of Lands and Forests. In this capacity he works on a wide variety of activities associated with, and promoting New York's forest and forest products industry. These activities include providing industry data, statistics and analysis, policy and legislative input and general technical assistance and support to the forest products industry.
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Cronin</b>	Mr. Cronin is a Senior Environmental Engineer in the Bureau of Stationary Sources within the Division of Air Resources of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, where he has worked since 1991. He currently works on permitting, regulatory compliance, and technology issues related to stationary sources of air pollution, including distributed generation/demand response, power production, and biomass energy. Mr. Cronin holds a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University at Buffalo, and he is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of New York.
<b>Mike</b>	<b>DeWein</b>	Michael DeWein has served as Technical Director for the Building Codes Assistance Project of the Alliance to Save Energy since 1995, working in over 35 states and hundreds of jurisdictions nationwide. Supporting policy makers, environmental groups, state energy offices, codes bureaus, and other stakeholders, he has promoted the adoption of building energy codes and energy efficiency. Current projects include the development of Advanced Energy Codes outreach programs for states and municipalities. Previously, DeWein was Technical Specialist at the New York State Energy Office, working in areas including Codes and Standards development, project management for State Facilities, Renewables and Commissioning initiatives aimed at integration of these activities. Mike also helped to develop the NYSTAR program. Mike is a member of the Energy Smart Park Initiative (ESPI), which aims to develop a plan to reduce the Carbon footprint in the Adirondack region based on energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.

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<b>David</b>	<b>Dungate</b>	Mr. Dungate founded Advanced Climate Technologies last year to introduce European wood boiler heating technology to the U.S. His previous work included senior positions for a European renewable energy company, an American bioenergy equipment manufacturer and an International Sustainable Development Foundation. David has a Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering, and worked and studied for 5 years in Japan and has a black belt in the martial art Aikido.
<b>Jeff</b>	<b>Forward</b>	Jeff Forward is a wood energy specialist and the principal of Richmond Energy Associates, a firm specializing in renewable energy and energy efficiency program design and implementation. Richmond Energy works with institutional clients like schools, hospitals, colleges and local governments to help them assess the potential for using alternative technologies for their facilities and infrastructure. They are currently working with school districts from Oregon to Maine to help them evaluate biomass opportunities, refine system designs and find financing for their projects. They also work with state agencies from several states to help them design and implement biomass initiatives. Mr. Forward is a frequent speaker at regional and national conferences on the topic of biomass energy applications.
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Gundrum</b>	Mark Gundrum is a Project Manager for NYSERDA's Energy Efficiency Services. He has been with NYSERDA since 2001 and currently manages the Flexible Technical Assistance Program. Mr. Gundrum graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a commission as an officer in the United States Army. While in the Army, he attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course and the Airborne School. After completing his military service, Mark worked as a process engineer at General Electric Plastics in Selkirk, New York.
<b>John</b>	<b>Hinckley</b>	John Hinckley works in the Energy, Environment & Acoustics division at Resource Systems Group (RSG). He completed one biomass-fired boiler project in 1998. Now, nearly all his time is spent working on biomass energy projects. John specializes in air pollution permitting, emissions estimation, atmospheric dispersion modeling and pollution control technology evaluations.
<b>Tom</b>	<b>Lindberg</b>	Thomas Lindberg is Vice-President for Business and Program Development at Mesa Reduction Engineering & Processing, Inc. Previously he had a 20-year career in New York State government, including 8 years at the Department of Agriculture & Markets where he served as Executive Assistant, Assistant Commissioner, and First Deputy Commissioner. Prior to joining the Department, Mr. Lindberg was a Policy Analyst for Governor George Pataki, where he worked on the 1996 Clean Water, Clean Air Bond Act. He has also worked for the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation and the New York State Senate Research Service. Mr. Lindberg is a 1987 graduate of Potsdam State College and has a master's degree in Environmental Management and Policy from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Moser</b>	Michael Moser is the Assistant Director of Mechanical, Electrical, and Utilities in the Facilities Services department at Middlebury College. His primary responsibilities include oversight of the campus combined heat and power plant and utility distribution infrastructure. Michael has a BS degree in Electrical Engineering.
<b>Bruce</b>	<b>Payton</b>	Mr. Payton is Supervising Forester for the Rhode Island Dept. of Environmental Management. With a B.S. in Forest Management from the University of New Hampshire, Bruce has long experience including past positions in RIDEM's Division of Forest Environment: Urban & Community Forest Program Coordinator and Senior Forester. He has been a member of SAF since 2001 and Certified Forester since 2002. Bruce is chair of the Rhode Island Land Trust Council and Gloucester Land Trust, among other community services.

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<b>Renee</b>	<b>Piché</b>	Renee M. Piché is President of Municipal Leasing Consultants, with over 20 years of experience in the tax-exempt municipal leasing industry providing innovative financing solutions and excellent customer service. MLC has secured funding in excess of \$1Billion for a variety of US municipal lease projects. MLC works closely with leading financial investors and offers competitive and flexible terms, tailored to the unique needs of each.
<b>Jodi</b>	<b>Smits-Anderson</b>	Jodi Smits Anderson is the Director of Environmental Programs for the Dormitory Authority, State of New York. She is an architect, member of the Upstate Chapter of the USGBC in NY, secretary of the AIA ENY Chapter, and LEED Accredited Professional. She is a graduate of RPI School of Architecture and has practiced architecture with many firms in the Capital Region as a designer and as a construction administrator on-site. Within the last 5 years an interest in greening buildings came to the fore, partially in reaction to all of the emerging data on toxins and poor air quality in NYS schools, and particularly due to a desire to design better buildings. She has given presentations on green building and sustainable choices throughout NY State, and worked with a talented and knowledgeable committee on "Greening the Executive Mansion." She is the Chairman of the AIAENY COTE (Committee on the Environment); planners of the successful Green Material Expo held each fall in Troy, NY.
<b>Bert</b>	<b>Spaeth</b>	Bart Spaeth is a Certified Energy Manager with nearly 30 years experience as an energy engineer and energy efficiency expert. He currently is an energy engineer with Siemens Building Technologies, Inc. based in Buffalo, NY. In this capacity, Bert introduces new technologies as part of customer energy solutions. He has worked with a wide variety of facility types to find solutions that maximize energy efficiency and at the same time minimizing costs.
<b>Tony</b>	<b>Woods</b>	Tony Woods is a professional forester with 17 years experience in forest management and wood procurement. He graduated with a BS degree in Resource Management and Forestry from SUNY ESF in Syracuse, NY. He works for Wagner Forest Management, managing private forest lands in the North Country as well as coordinating wood chip procurement activities for the Schuyler Wood Pellet Plant, a 100,000 ton/year wood pellet plant in Schuyler, NY. Tony resides with his family in Potsdam, NY.