## Montana Economic Development Tools: Bringing Biofuel and Biomass Development to Montana

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Montana has a vast array of business development tools and a team of experts to assist in bringing biomass development even further in Montana. As economic developers we are ready to work with the NARA team and business leaders to bring bio-jet fuel to Montana. Montana is equipped with economic development resources to assist in the startup or expansion of businesses that improve the overall economic standing of our state. We are proud of our heritage in the timber industry. Montana timber that fueled Butte copper mines electrified our nation. Montana has a workforce readily available, many with a background in timber related manufacturing.

We in Montana feel that the potential of biomass-based industries will flourish with our resources of workforce, raw materials, and technical assistance. Our goal as economic developers will be to catalyze conversations and help build relationships among the players so that all may capitalize on NARA's academic work. The end goal for Montana is the implementation of on-the-ground development that leads to jobs in the timber industry and economy that makes good forest management attainable.

We are thrilled to be invited to speak at the Northwest Wood-Based Biofuels and Coproducts Conference. During our presentation we will review economic development tools we utilize in Montana. We will demonstrate the effectiveness of our tools with exciting examples from successful businesses with whom we have worked. Montana Economic Developers work as a statewide team and we bring experience and knowledge with us to explore all the opportunities of biofuels for Montana.