NORTHERN HEMISPHERE PROGRESS IN THE UTILIZATION OF WOOD FOR BIOFUELS

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A review of the 2007 federal mandate and the status of US ethanol production status and anticipated capacity shows that a large potential exists for cellulosic biofuels and other transportation technologies in the U.S.

A large number of cellulosic biofuels facilities are in the pipeline when commercial, demonstration and pilot scale facilities are considered. A brief review of the cellulosic biofuels technologies under development shows a very large range. Two types of approaches being taken by the U.S. Forest Industry are described in more detail with attention to current cost projections and how they relate to 2012 price reduction targets set by the US National Biofuels Action Plans. Sources and costs of feedstocks are considered as well as technologies that could increase the cost-competitiveness of woody crops. The presentation concludes with a brief discussion of how electricity from woody crops might be one of the “other” transportation technologies that should be considered.