

WOOD MARKETS MONTHLY

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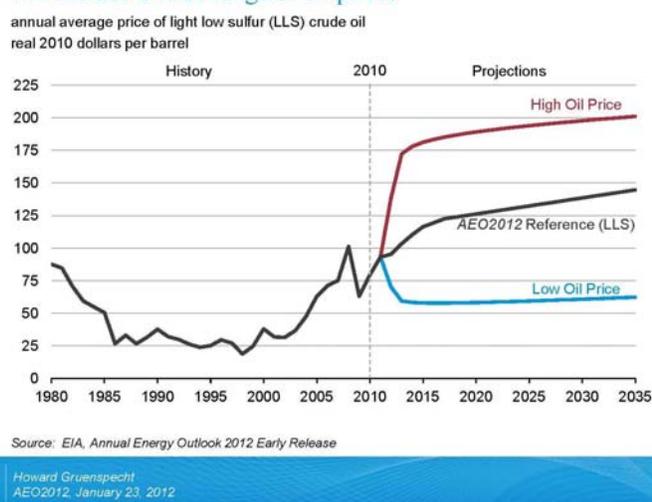
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Oil prices in the Reference case rise steadily; the full AEO2012 will include a wide range of oil prices



Source: U.S. EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2012 Early Release.

Roadmap released for Minnesota's bio development

March 30, 2012 (BiorefiningMagazine.com) – The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota (BBAM) has released a comprehensive white paper detailing the extent and impact of the advanced biofuels and biobased chemicals industry and providing a roadmap for their continued growth in Minnesota. The report details several factors influencing domestic growth of the advanced biofuels and biobased chemicals industry, including demand for safer materials, volatile petroleum prices and government policies requiring consumption of advanced biofuels. Given these factors, sources cited in the report project multibillion dollar growth for the biobased chemicals and biofuels industries.

Minnesota's mix of natural resources, highly trained workers, established supply chains and research and development capabilities positions it to be at the leading edge of growth of the international advanced biofuels and biobased chemicals industries. According to the report, Minnesota's direct and indirect employment in bioindustrial processing has the potential to reach 14,000 by 2025, up from approximately 2,000 in 2011. The full report is available at:
<http://www.biobusinessalliance.org/publications.asp>

The case for advanced biofuels, energy independence and economic opportunity

March 7, 2012 (PEW Environment.org) – Advanced biofuels offer the United States an exciting new economic opportunity and a path away from dependence on foreign oil. The nation imports 49 percent of the liquid fuel it consumes, primarily petroleum, often from volatile regions of the world. In addition to security concerns raised by political uncertainty abroad, our reliance on foreign oil exacerbates the trade gap. **The U.S. sends \$1 billion a day to foreign countries and 59 percent of the 2011 trade deficit was attributed to oil imports.** To strengthen its energy independence and its economy, the United States must increase its use of domestic sources, specifically advanced biofuels.

What Are Advanced Biofuels?— First-generation biofuels such as ethanol are made from sugar, starch, or vegetable oil and are extracted from food crops such as corn and soybeans using conventional technology. Advanced biofuels (the second, third, and fourth generations) are high-energy cellulosic liquid fuels made from non-food, non-feed, sustainably grown stocks and agricultural wastes that have low greenhouse gas emissions. Many forms exist, including cellulosic ethanol, biomass, and biogas. Some advanced products can be “dropped in” to seamlessly replace traditional diesel or jet fuel without a need to retrofit engines. They are most commonly used in the transportation sector.

Who Is Using Advanced Biofuels?— The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and commercial airlines are testing and using advanced biofuels. **The DoD and its service branches are the single largest consumers of liquid fuels in the world, spending more than \$11 billion annually. In the long term, there is no question that the military will need alternatives to petroleum,** especially for their fleets, which will be used by war fighters for decades. By investing today, the DoD is positioning itself to take advantage of these new fuels when they are cost-competitive with conventional fuel. Currently, price volatility causes budgetary challenges: **for every \$10 increase in the price of a barrel of oil, the DoD must pay an additional \$1.4 billion. The Navy and Air Force have set a target date of 2020 and 2016 respectively to increase use of non-petroleum blends to 50 percent.** Commercial airlines also see the promise of advanced biofuels to reduce costs, avoid oil price shocks, and cut greenhouse gas emissions. Fuel represents the largest cost center for airlines. In November 2011, Continental Airlines Flight 1403 was the first commercial passenger flight in the United States to use advanced biofuels, and Alaska Airlines also used blends for a domestic flight that month. Other carriers, such as KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Finnair, and Thomson Airways, are using similar jet fuel products.

Wisconsin companies' pine tree jet fuel passes initial U.S. Air Force test

March 26, 2012 (Milwaukee Journal Sentinel) – Jet fuel made from sugar extracted from pine tree wood chips has passed Air Force lab tests, Virent Inc. and its partner said Monday. **Madison, Wisconsin-based Virent and Virdia, formerly HCL Cleantech, said they were able to convert pine tree sugars into gasoline and jet fuel.** The project tapped Virdia's technology to convert cellulosic biomass into sugars. The sugars were then converted to fuel using Virent's chemical conversion process. **"This biofuel passed the most stringent specification tests we could throw at it (such as thermal stability) under some conditions where conventional jet fuels would fail,"** said Tim Edwards of the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory in a statement. **"This fuel is definitely worth further evaluation."**

Biofuels companies are in a race to cost-effectively make biofuels from cellulosic sugars in order to move biofuels beyond the food-vs.-fuel controversies that have raised concerns about corn-based ethanol. Among the prizes in the race: contracts to supply the military with renewable jet fuel. **The Navy and federal departments of Energy and Agriculture last year announced a \$510 million project that will seek to deploy several biorefineries around the country.** Those refineries would make renewable biofuels that would then be sold to the Navy, which is seeking to reduce its reliance on petroleum. The \$2.1 million project was co-sponsored by a \$900,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Israeli Ministry of National Infrastructure and the BIRD Foundation. **Virdia recently announced plans to open a commercial plant in Mississippi in 2014 to convert wood into sugars for biofuels. Virent is planning a commercial-scale plant by 2015.**

GENERAL INTEREST

Sales of investment homes surged 64.5% in 2011

WASHINGTON (March 29, 2012) – Sales of investment and vacation homes jumped in 2011, with the combined market share rising to the highest level since 2005, according to the National Association of Realtors®. NAR's 2012 *Investment and Vacation Home Buyers Survey*, covering existing- and new-home transactions in 2011, shows investment-home sales surged an extraordinary 64.5% to 1.23 million last year from 749,000 in 2010. Vacation-home sales rose 7.0% to 502,000 in 2011 from 469,000 in 2010. Owner-occupied purchases fell 15.5% to 2.78 million. Vacation-home sales accounted for 11% of all transactions last year, up from 10% in 2010, while the portion of investment sales jumped to 27% in 2011 from 17% in 2010. NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun said investors with cash took advantage of market conditions in 2011. "During the past year investors have been swooping into the market to take advantage of bargain home prices," he said. As an added inducement, rising rental income easily beat cash sitting in banks.

2011 real GDP growth pegged at 1.7%

March 29, 2012 (BEA News Release) - According to the "third" estimate released today by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, real gross domestic product -- the output of goods and services produced by labor and property located in the United States -- increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 3% in the fourth quarter of 2011. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 1.8% SAAR. For the full year 2011, real GDP increased 1.7% compared with an increase of 3.0 percent in 2010.

Court ruling may speed up effort for genetically-modified eucalyptus in US South

SAN FRANCISCO, March 23, 2012 (PPI Pulp & Paper Week) - ArborGen may be able to take to market quicker its genetically-modified eucalyptus trees for hardwood pulp production and biofuels following action from the US federal government. The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) outlined new processes to determine whether biotech products should be approved for commercial use, cutting the time to less than 16 months from an average of 36 months. "The new process should achieve faster petition determinations without foregoing any of the rigor of APHIS's environment assessment process," said ArborGen CEO Andrew Baum, who was recently appointed to the firm's top executive post. ArborGen -- whose shareholders are International Paper, MeadWestvaco, and Rubicon -- has been testing the growth potential of genetically modified trees in the Southeast USA for several years.

Food companies serving you wood

March 2, 2012 (thetstreet.com) – The recent class-action lawsuit brought against Taco Bell raised questions about the content and quality of food many Americans eat each day. Chief among those concerns is the use of cellulose (wood pulp), an extender whose use in a roster of food products, from crackers and baked goods to ice cream and pudding, is now being brought to light. What you're actually paying for -- and consuming -- may be surprising.

Virgin wood pulp (cellulose) is deemed safe for human consumption, according to the FDA, which regulates most food industry products. FDA sets no limit on the amount of cellulose that can be used in food products meant for human consumption. The USDA, which regulates meats, has set a limit of 3.5% on the use of cellulose, since fiber in meat products cannot be recognized nutritionally. Wood pulp is common in processed foods, often labeled as reduced-fat or high-fiber -- products like breads, pancakes, crackers, pizza crust, muffins, scrambled eggs, mashed potato mixes, and even cheesecake. Processed and fast food companies adding cellulose filler include: General Mills (Fiber One, Pillsbury, Betty Crocker), Jack in the Box, Kellogg (Eggo), Kraft Foods, McDonalds, Nestle, Pepsi (Aunt Jemima), Sara Lee, Sonic, Wendy's/Arby's, Weight Watchers, and YUM's Brands (KFC, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell).

FINANCE & MANAGEMENT

Verso living on borrowed time?

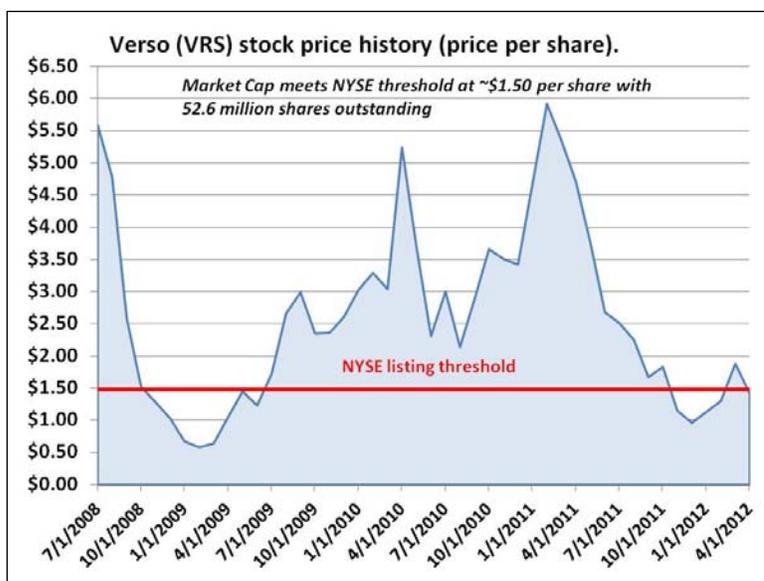
March 27, 2012 (PPI Fiber - Viewpoint) - In the fourth quarter, Verso (NYSE: VRS) announced the permanent closure of 193,000 tons of coated and uncoated groundwood papers, more than 10% of the company's capacity. For 2011 as a whole, North American production of coated and uncoated groundwood paper dropped 5.8% and 9.7%, respectively, reflecting falling demand as content and advertising dollars continue to move on-line.

Net Debt Increased 9% - During 2011, Verso's net debt increased to \$1.168 billion from \$1.076 billion at the end of 2010. Nevertheless, Verso has "bought time" by effectively extending its bank revolver, which was set to expire in August, as well as extending its first lien notes due in 2014 out to 2019. The company has a bit more first lien debt capacity which could be used to reduce the company's less-secured debt. This flexibility most likely means Verso will be able to survive the next two years without having to issue substantial new equity or completely reorganize.

Fourth Quarter Misses - Verso recently reported fourth quarter results, losing \$(0.31) per share. While this loss was narrower than our \$(0.41) loss estimate, we note that the operating segments combined missed is by a net 7 cents (with better-than-expected corporate and "other" income more than offsetting this shortfall). Specifically, a large 19-cent downside surprise within the coated paper and super calendared segment was partially offset by a 12-cent upside variance in market pulp.

Verso's market cap drops below NYSE listing threshold

MEMPHIS, TN, March 21, 2012 (Business Wire) - Verso Paper Corp. (NYSE: VRS) announced today that the New York Stock Exchange has accepted the company's plan for continued listing on the NYSE. As a result, Verso's common stock will continue to be listed on the NYSE, subject to quarterly reviews by the NYSE to monitor the company's progress against the plan. The NYSE notified Verso on December 21, 2011, that the company had fallen below the NYSE's continued listing standard requiring that it maintain an average market capitalization of at least \$75 million over a consecutive 30 trading-day period. Verso has 18 months from the original notification date in which to comply with the average market capitalization standard.



Verso announces CEO retirement and election of Dave Paterson as successor

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 20, 2012 (BUSINESS WIRE) - Verso Paper Corp. (NYSE:VRS) announced today that Michael A. Jackson will retire as the President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of Verso and that David J. Paterson has been elected by Verso's board of directors to serve as CEO, with both events to occur effective as of May 14, 2012. Mr. Paterson, age 57, served as President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of AbitibiBowater Inc. (now doing business as Resolute Forest Products), a leading global producer of newsprint, coated and specialty papers, market pulp and wood products, from 2007 to 2011. He was Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Bowater Incorporated during 2007 and President and Chief Executive Officer of Bowater Incorporated from 2006

to 2007. From 1987 to 2006, Mr. Paterson worked in various executive and sales and marketing positions for Georgia-Pacific Corporation, a leading global manufacturer of tissue, packaging, paper, building products and related chemicals, including most recently as Executive Vice President of the Building Products division from 2003 to 2006, Executive Vice President of the Pulp and Paperboard division from 2001 to 2003, President of the Paper and Bleached Board division in 2001, and Senior Vice President of the Communication Papers division from 2000 to 2001.

Potlatch reports 12Q1 \$5.1 million net income

SPOKANE, Wash., April 23, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Potlatch Corporation (Nasdaq: PCH) today reported financial results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2012. Total consolidated revenues for Q1 2012 were \$112.4 million, compared to \$122.2 million in Q1 2011 and \$109.9 million in Q4 2011. Net income for the quarter was \$5.1 million, or \$0.13 per diluted share, compared to \$7.7 million, or \$0.19 per diluted share for Q1 2011 and a loss of \$1.5 million, or negative \$0.04 per diluted share in Q4 2011. Operating income for the Resource segment in Q1 2012 was \$8.7 million, compared to \$14.1 million in Q1 2011 and \$12.6 million in Q4 2011. The primary reason for both variances was the previously announced planned harvest deferral for 2012, combined with favorable logging conditions in Q1 and Q4 2011 in Idaho that increased the harvest levels during those periods. In addition, the increased Q4 2011 logging resulted in customers holding relatively high inventories, which led to reduced demand in Q1 2012. As a result of the decreased harvest levels, there were corresponding reductions in logging and hauling expenses, which were partially offset by the increased cost of fuel.

Global carbon markets plummet 21%

April 6, 2012 (Environmental Leader.com) - The value of the world's carbon markets declined by 21 percent over the last quarter, despite trading volumes above the historical average, according to analysis from Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Global carbon markets fell to €14.2bn (\$19.2bn) over Q1 2012, according to Bloomberg. This was 41 percent less than in the same period a year ago. The drop is the result of a 50 percent decline in the volume-weighted average carbon price compared with Q1 2011, to €6.6/t over the last three months, Bloomberg says. Some 2.1bn metric tons of EU allowances and U.N. certificates were traded over the first three months of 2012, 17 percent more than a year ago, making this the largest first-quarter volume on record. UBS carbon analyst Per Lekander told the Financial Times that the figures were worse than the markets expected, describing markets as massively oversupplied.

Wausau and Starboard reach agreement, two new directors to join board

MOSINEE, Wis., February 13, 2012 (BUSINESS WIRE) – Wausau Paper (NYSE:WPP) today announced it has reached an agreement with Starboard Value LP and its affiliates regarding the composition of the Company's Board of Directors. Under the terms of the agreement, Wausau has agreed to nominate two new directors recommended by Starboard, Mr. Michael Burandt and Mr. Charles Hodges, neither of whom is employed by or affiliated with Wausau or Starboard. The nominations will be included in the Company's 2012 proxy statement and submitted for stockholder approval at the Company's 2012 Annual Meeting. In addition, the company has also agreed to form a newly-created committee of the Board. The committee will be made up of four individuals including Mr. Burandt and Mr. Hodges. The committee will advise the Board with respect to operations of, and investments and capital spending in, the Company's business. Starboard owns 9.7 percent of Wausau's stock.

PRODUCTION & PRICES

NewPage to hike coated paper prices \$30-60/ton effective May 1

April 5, 2012 (RISI) - Coated paper producer NewPage, which has the largest coated papermaking capacity in North America, told customers today that because of rising input and transportation costs it is increasing prices on all its coated freesheet and coated mechanical products by \$30-60/ton. Effective with May 1 deliveries, NewPage said the price of its Arborweb, Orion and Vision products would rise \$30/ton (\$1.50/cwt), while Dependoweb, Escanaba, Capri and Consoweb products and all Textbook grades would increase by \$60/ton (\$3.00/cwt).

Verso plans \$30-60/ton May 1 price hike for coated, supercalendered papers

April 4, 2012 (RISI) - North America's second largest coated papermaker by capacity, Verso Paper, plans to increase the price of its coated freesheet, coated mechanical and supercalendered papers by \$30-60/ton effective May 1. The price of Influence and Velocity products brands will increase \$30 (\$1.50/cwt) and Liberty, Advocate and Clarity brands will go up by \$60 (\$3/cwt),

Sappi to hike NBHK pulp \$30/tonne, aspen list at \$760/tonne

March 28, 2012 (RISI) - Sappi Fine Paper North America told customers today that it will increase all of its northern bleached hardwood kraft (NBHK) pulp prices by \$30/tonne, effective April 1 until further notice. Sappi plans its April 1 mixed and aspen NBHK list prices at \$760/tonne and maple increase at \$770/tonne.

2011 crosstie demand surged 9.7% on drilling activity and tax credit, 2012 forecast flat

Jan/Feb (Crossties Magazine) - The U.S. economy is limping along, but one would not know it from examining crosstie demand data. While real GDP is expected to increase at a snail's pace in 2012 and 2013, inching ahead at about 2 percent rate in both years, railroad crosstie purchases are booming. Class 1 purchasing finished 2011 with 17.3 million crossties, a 5-plus percent y/y increase and small market (short line) demand experienced explosive growth (4.2 million crossties purchased), in response to gas & oil drilling and the 2011 investment tax credit. Together, these two market segments, helped tie purchases reach 9.7 percent growth in 2011. For the crosstie market as a whole, then, 2012 will be a year where Class 1 tie purchases retain more vigor than the small market tie purchases. In the absence of a tax credit, purchases are predicted to fall by about 1 percent overall.

New Treated Wood Crosstie Purchasing, Actual and Forecast

Year	Real GDP %Change	Class 1 (000s)	Small Market (000s)	Total (000s)	%Change
2006	2.7%	15,937	5,110	21,047	11.7%
2007	1.9%	15,285	5,349	20,634	-2.0%
2008	-0.3%	16,761	3,907	20,668	0.2%
2009	-3.5%	16,216	3,432	19,648	-4.9%
2010	3.0%	16,379	3,200	19,579	-0.4%
2011	1.8%	17,297	4,188	21,486	9.7%
2012f	2.0%	17,670	3,560	21,230	-1.2%
2013f	2.2%	18,426	3,807	22,233	4.7%
2014f	3.4%	19,160	3,765	22,926	3.1%

March printing-writing paper shipments down 11% y/y

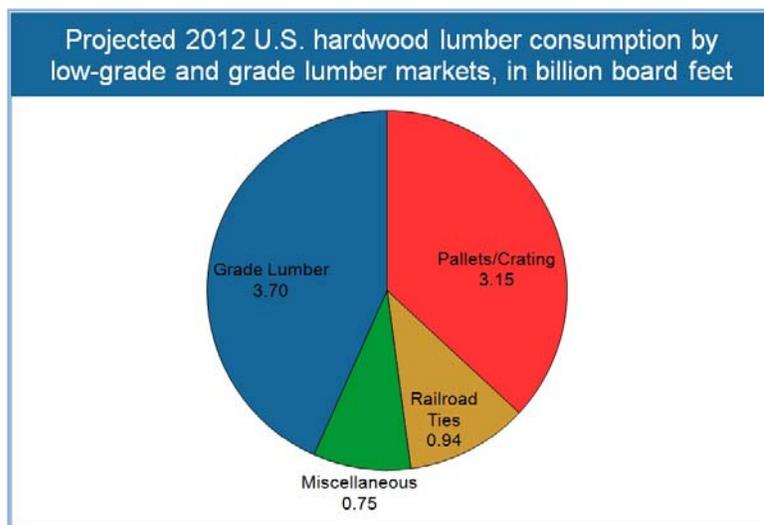
WASHINGTON, DC, April 20, 2012 (AF&PA Press Release) - According to the American Forest & Paper Association's March 2012 Printing-Writing Paper Report, **total U.S. printing-writing paper shipments decreased 11% in March compared to March 2011**. Three of the four major printing-writing grades posted double-digit decreases compared to last March, and the one single-digit decrease is the largest for that grade since 2009. U.S. purchases (shipments + imports - exports) of printing-writing papers decreased 16% in March. Total printing-writing paper inventory levels increased slightly, up just one percent compared to February 2012.

North American coated paper demand falls 9% in 1Q 2012

SAN FRANCISCO, April 19, 2012 (RISI) - **Demand for coated paper in North America fell 9.2% in the first quarter of the year, with coated freesheet demand declining 10.0% and coated mechanical down 8.3%, according to the Pulp and Paper Products Council**. The first quarter operating rate averaged 88%, three points lower than in 1Q 2011. The quarter culminated with a 15.9% demand drop in March for coated papers, but it was a tough month for year-over-year comparisons as March was the strongest month of 2011 for demand. Total coated paper shipments declined 5.5% in the quarter -- a much smaller reduction than the demand drop -- thanks to a 29.7% boost in overseas exports.

U.S. hardwood lumber production forecast to increase 10% y/y

April 12, 2012 (Wood Working Network) – Conventional wisdom a decade ago was that low-grade, industrial lumber items were merely byproducts from grade lumber production. Few hardwood sawmills paid serious attention to marketing railroad ties, pallet cants, board road or crane mats. During the last several years, however, solid demand for these products has helped keep the hardwood industry afloat. According to our estimates, **U.S. hardwood lumber production is forecast to increase by about 10% in 2012 over 2011**. Pallet, crating and railroad tie markets will consume 4.09 billion board feet of hardwood lumber in 2012, or 47.9% of U.S. production. Add “miscellaneous” items such as industrial timbers, board road and crane mats, and total low-grade usage amounts to 4.84 BBF, or 56.7% of production.



Southern pine sawtimber prices down 40% since 2007

April 4, 2012 (F2M) - **Southern Yellow Pine (SYP) sawtimber prices decreased by 40% from 2007 to 2011**, according to recent analysis of Forest2Market's Delivered Raw Material Price Benchmark. **Stumpage price decreased 41.8%, and delivered price fell 38.8%**. According to Daniel Stuber, Director of Operations at Forest2Market, most of the decline has been in the price of larger classes of sawtimber. For instance, small sawtimber prices between 2007 and 2011 fell \$5/ton (both stumpage and delivered). Large sawtimber stumpage prices during this same period fell \$17/ton; large sawtimber delivered prices fell \$14/ton. The causes of the substantial drop in the larger classes of pine sawtimber prices are twofold, according to Stuber, who performed the analysis: “Market forces have placed both a floor and a ceiling on prices over the last five years. Pine pulpwood prices provided the floor and wider dimension lumber prices provided the ceiling.”

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Domtar's Dryden, Ontario pulp mill set for waste wood bio-oil project

Domtar's mill in Dryden, Ontario will be home to a new research project that will test the conversion of wood waste into a bio-oil. The project is being initiated by Domtar and Battelle. Battelle is the world's largest, independent research and development organization. The total project value will be up to \$14 million. The Centre for Research and Innovation in the Bio-Economy (CRIBE) is providing up to \$6 million for the project. Domtar Dryden will use wood waste, which is currently burned for low value, as the biomass feedstock for the process. If successful, the bio-oil will be used to blend into the fuel for Domtar's vehicle fleet or it could be used internally to offset the use of natural gas.

The project aims to develop a unique, cost-effective system that if successful, will increase operational efficiencies and create a fossil fuel alternative for transportation fuels. This system uses "fast pyrolysis" technology, a process that rapidly converts biomass using heat without oxygen to produce crude bio-oil and gas. The key to Battelle's approach is in the treatment and processing of this crude bio-oil to a "drop-in fuel", which can be blended directly with gasoline or diesel fuel.

FL biomass power plant will feed on plantation-grown eucalyptus

March 30, 2012 (Local News) - Polk County, FL, may soon have a part to play in home-grown and renewable energy. U.S. Ecogen, an energy company headquartered in Potomac, MD, plans to build a \$240 million biomass energy plant just north of Fort Meade on US 17. The plant will burn wood chips from a variety of eucalyptus tree that the company plans to grow on plantations in Florida.

EPA delivers potential death blow to coal industry

April 2, 2012 (FrontPage) - Yesterday, the U.S. EPA delivered the coup de grace to coal, in the form of a new rule that – unless overturned by Congress or a future administration – will ensure that no new coal-fired power plants will be built in the United States. The EPA released Subpart TTTT of New Source Performance Standards yesterday, a proposed rule that limits carbon dioxide emissions from new power plants. With current technology, no coal-fired power plant can meet the emission limit (1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt of power produced) but, natural gas-fired power plants can. This will lead to some significant changes in the power energy once the rule goes final, sometime next year.

It is now estimated that around 50,000 to 80,000 megawatts of coal fired power will be retired from the grid over the next few years. Coal fired power is base load power (that is, power that has to be available all of the time) and neither solar nor wind can provide base load power. Biomass (wood, energy crops, etc.) can provide base load power, but there's not nearly enough of the fuel to replace so much coal. More nuclear power could shoulder the load but, the long-term risks are not acceptable using current technology. That leaves natural gas as the only fuel that can possibly be used to replace most of that coal.

Historically, natural gas prices have been very volatile and, despite the current glut, there is no reason to believe that supply will outpace demand in the long run. Using natural gas to generate thousands of megawatts of power will consume huge quantities of the fuel, thus necessarily causing prices to rise as more new power plants come on line. In contrast to the volatility of natural gas prices, coal prices have always been pretty steady. Thus the coal fleet (along with the nuclear fleet) has helped to smooth out fluctuations in natural gas, currently a relatively small portion of energy production in the United States. A shift away from coal to more natural gas will likely cause electricity prices to become more volatile and to increase substantially over the long-term.

Wood Statistics Monthly

	Latest Month	Month Ago	M/M Change	Year Ago	Y/Y Change
Conference Board Indices (2004=100)	<i>2004 = 100</i>				
China LEI (Leading Economic Index) ®	Mar(p) 230.6	228.7	0.8%	199.3	15.7%
U.S. LEI (Leading Economic Index) ®	Mar(p) 95.7	95.4	0.3%	94.0	1.8%
Industrial Production (2007=100 SA)	<i>2007 = 100</i>				
Mfg - Pulp, Paper, & Paperboard	Mar(p) 85.46	85.88	-0.5%	89.45	-4.5%
Mfg - Wood Products	Mar(p) 72.85	72.62	0.3%	73.16	-0.4%
Mfg - Furniture & Related	Mar(p) 70.05	71.29	-1.7%	69.96	0.1%
Total Industrial Production	Mar(p) 96.57	96.57	0.0%	93.09	3.7%
Employment (000s Jobs SA)					
Total Nonfarm	Mar(p) 132,821	132,701	0.1%	130,922	1.5%
Manufacturing	Mar(p) 11,928	11,891	0.3%	11,690	2.0%
State & Local Govt.	Mar(p) 19,171	19,172	0.0%	19,318	-0.8%
Forest Industry (000s Jobs NSA)					
Logging	Feb(p) 47.3	48.2	-1.9%	48.1	-1.7%
Sawmills	Feb(p) 83.6	83.3	0.4%	82.9	0.8%
Engineered Wood Products	Feb(p) 57.8	58.1	-0.5%	60.8	-4.9%
Pulp & Paper Mfg	Feb(p) 77.7	78.6	-1.1%	80.6	-3.6%
Paperboard Mfg	Feb(p) 29.0	29.0	0.0%	29.2	-0.7%
Housing Market (000s units SAAR)					
Private Housing Starts	Mar(p) 654	694	-5.8%	593	10.3%
Private Building Permits	Mar(p) 747	715	4.5%	574	30.1%
New Residential Sales	Mar(p) 328	353	-7.1%	305	7.5%
Manufactured Home Shipments	Feb(p) 59.0	60.0	-1.7%	44.0	34.1%
Market Pulp SPOT Prices (US\$/ton)					
Eucalyptus (delivered US East)	Apr(p) \$744	\$708	5.1%	\$826	-9.9%
NBHK (delivered US East)	Apr(p) \$526	\$513	2.5%	\$587	-10.4%
NBSK (delivered US East)	Apr(p) \$635	\$612	3.8%	\$755	-15.9%
Deinked Pulp (fob US East)	Apr(p) \$590	\$585	0.9%	\$671	-12.1%
Structural Panel Prices (US\$/Msf)					
OSB Composite	Apr(p) \$243	\$227	7.0%	\$219	11.0%
OSB NC 7/16 Sheathing (fob)	Apr(p) \$215	\$194	10.8%	\$189	13.8%
OSB SE 7/16 Sheathing (fob)	Apr(p) \$201	\$180	11.7%	\$175	14.9%
Lumber Prices (US\$/Mbf)					
RL Eastern SPF Composite	Apr(p) \$343	\$322	6.5%	\$330	3.9%
KD W-SPF 2x4, #2&Btr. del Chicago	Apr(p) \$353	\$334	5.7%	\$359	-1.7%
Red Oak Grn 4/4 #2A& (fob)	Apr(p) \$490	\$490	0.0%	\$555	-11.7%
Pallet Lbr Mixed Grn 4/4 RW (fob)	Apr(p) \$225	\$225	0.0%	\$220	2.3%
US Rail Shipments (carloads)	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>5 weeks</i>		<i>4 weeks</i>	
Roundwood & Chips	Mar 5,561	7,858	n/a	5,584	-0.4%
Lumber & Wood Products	Mar 12,874	15,556	n/a	12,012	7.2%
Pulp & Paper Products	Mar 24,203	31,513	n/a	23,880	1.4%
Canadian Rail Shipments (carloads)	<i>4 weeks</i>	<i>5 weeks</i>		<i>4 weeks</i>	
Roundwood & Chips	Mar 7,024	8,243	n/a	6,234	12.7%
Lumber & Wood Products	Mar 11,444	13,944	n/a	10,946	4.5%
Pulp & Paper Products	Mar 13,862	16,790	n/a	14,854	-6.7%

Featured Time Series



Figure – U.S. total nonfarm employment, seasonally adjusted.

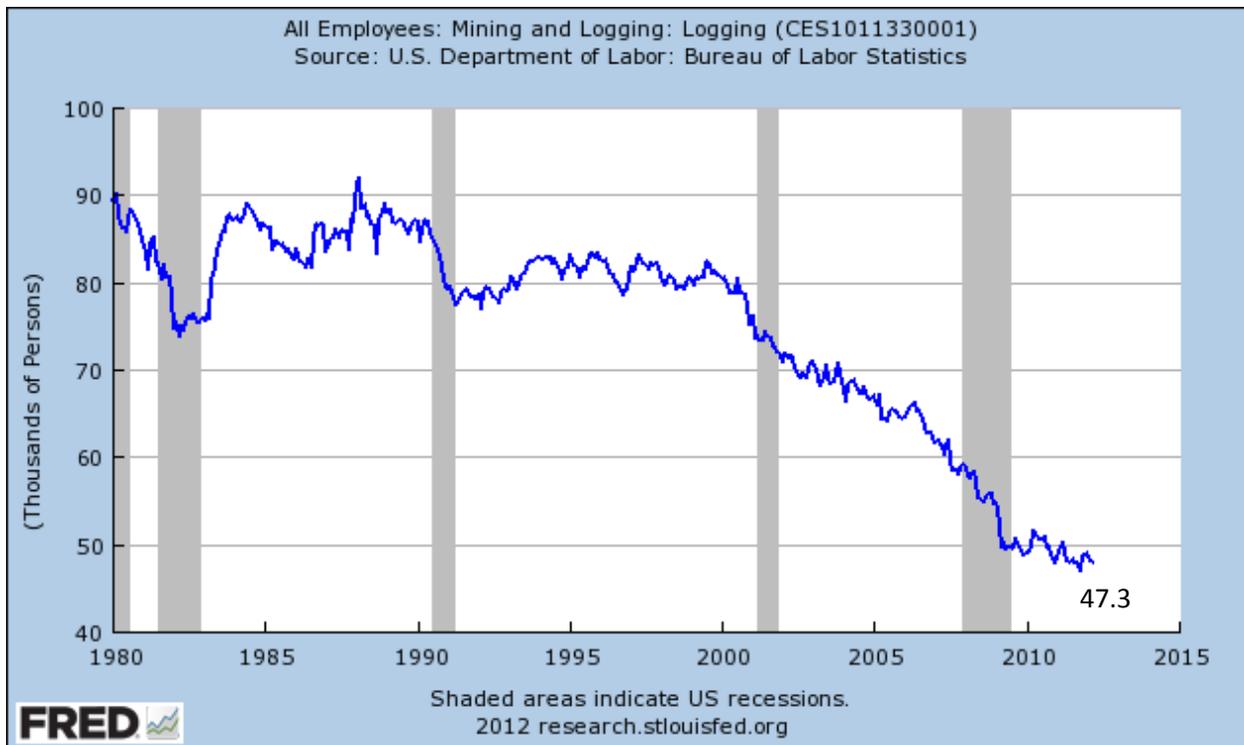


Figure – U.S. total logging employment, seasonally adjusted.