



Minister Graham Stuart

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

11th August 2023

Dear Minister Graham Stuart,

RE: Industry Welcomes the Biomass Strategy

We, the undersigned Trade Associations, strongly welcome the publication of the Government's new Biomass Strategy. The Strategy makes clear that sustainable, well-regulated biomass is a vital tool for helping to deliver Net Zero across the economy. At a time when all eyes are on America's Inflation Reduction Act, new policy certainty on bioenergy will help to drive investment in the UK.

The biomass sector is highly diverse, delivering energy for power, heat and transport and this complexity, covering a broad church of technologies and important net zero solutions, can often be misunderstood. The biomass industry includes established sectors in biomass power, biomass heat, anaerobic digestion, advanced conversion technologies and the biofuel (for both transport and heat). The Biomass Strategy provides confidence to these established low carbon industries, ensuring skills, supply chains and jobs are maintained. It also helps push forward policies to deliver strategically important innovations including bioenergy carbon and storage (BECCS), sustainable aviation fuels and bio-hydrogen production pathways, critical to delivering net zero.

It is encouraging that the Government has taken a strong evidence-based approach to the development of Biomass Strategy, engaging with a wide set of industry stakeholders. This has particularly been the case when looking at sustainability, where the UK has led the world in developing regulations that ensure that biomass is always sustainable, whether imported or from the UK. The strategy recognises that feedstocks come from a complex range of sources, including forestry, agriculture residues, energy crops, waste wood and other residual waste streams. The industry looks forward to working with the Government as they further consult on development of a cross-sectoral common sustainability framework, ensuring that governance arrangements remain strong and aligned with the scientific evidence.

There is, though, an urgent need to go further in the next few months. It is critical that Ministers provide workable routes to market for "negative emissions" made possible by combining bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS). This proven technology removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, directly addressing the cause of our hotter

THE ASSOCIATION FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

York House, 23 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6UJ

Tel: +44 (0)20 7925 3570 Email: info@r-e-a.net Web: www.r-e-a.net

Company no: 04241430 Registered in England and Wales



climate. The Government must act now to make it possible to deliver BECCS at all scales, or we will be left without a crucial tool for tackling climate change.

We look forward to working with the Government and the wider sector to fully realise the potential of sustainable biomass. To solve climate change, we need every tool in the toolbox, and biomass is among the most versatile of them all.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Nina Skrupska CBE, Chief Executive,
Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology (REA)

Marta Krajewska, Deputy Director of Policy,
Energy UK

Richard Coulson, Chair,
Wood Recyclers Association (WRA)

Caroline Bragg, Interim Chief Executive Officer,
The Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE)

Ruth Herbert, Chief Executive Officer,
Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA)

Mark Lebus, Chair,
UK Pellet Council (UK PC)

Karl Smyth, Director,
Coalition for Negative Emissions

