

# BIOPOWER — IT'S NOT JUST CARBON NEUTRAL

Reducing greenhouse gases, naturally

Because biopower is “carbon neutral,” it releases no new carbons into our atmosphere — and actually helps reduce the greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.



## PART OF A NATURAL CYCLE

- Plants and trees absorb carbon from the atmosphere when they grow, then release that same carbon back into the environment when they die — a natural cycle that’s “carbon neutral,” neither adding nor subtracting from existing levels of carbon.
- By combusting organic matter to make energy, biopower simply releases the same carbon into the atmosphere that would be released naturally when the organic matter decomposed — thus making the process “carbon neutral,” adding no new carbon to the atmosphere.
- In contrast, gas, oil and coal release new carbon into the air when burned — because the carbon found in these fossil fuels has been buried deep in the earth for millions of years, and hasn’t been part of our modern-day environment until being pumped or mined.



## REDUCES GREENHOUSE GASES

- Biopower is twice as effective at reducing greenhouse gases (GHG) as other forms of renewable energy.
- When organic matter is open burned, dumped in landfills or decomposes in the wild, it returns carbon to the atmosphere as either carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) or methane gas (CH<sub>4</sub>) — with methane being 25 times more potent as a GHG on an instantaneous basis.
- Biopower completely combusts methane during its energy-making process, releasing only CO<sub>2</sub> into the air.
- By efficiently combusting organic matter, biopower reduces by 15.2 million tons annually the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that would be released if this organic matter simply decomposed.



## HELPS THE ENVIRONMENT IN OTHER WAYS

- Biopower removes some 8.1 million tons of overgrowth biomass from American forests annually — improving forest health and dramatically reducing the costly threat of forest fires.
- Biopower prevents over 13.2 million tons of wood waste from being dumped in landfills each year.

## HOW BIOPOWER REDUCES GREENHOUSE GASES

