

October 17, 2013



Dear **[guest]**,

I am writing to invite you to attend **[facility]**'s celebration of the first-ever National Bioenergy Day. We will be marking the occasion, along with dozens of other facilities across the country, with **[description of event: facility tour/barbecue/lunch/presentation]** at **[time]** on Thursday, October 17. We would be honored if you would attend to celebrate **[optional for special guests: and consider saying a few words about]** bioenergy and the role it plays in powering our area.

"Bioenergy" refers to an industry whose companies produce electricity and heat generated from wood and other organic materials. In addition to serving as a domestic energy source, these industries work closely together to keep American forests healthy and put organic byproducts like forest trimmings, industry byproducts and agricultural residuals to good use.

Bioenergy is a **sustainable, renewable, and carbon-friendly** energy source for many reasons.

- First, the organic materials used to produce heat and electricity at a biomass facility often have no other use. If not used at a biomass facility, these materials might be open burned, which releases methane into the air. Or, they might be left on a forest floor to decompose – a process that also releases methane and can contribute to catastrophic forest fires.
- Second, the use of organic materials to produce energy does not introduce new carbon into the atmosphere, unlike the use of fossil fuels for energy.
- Third, bioenergy is a key part of sustainably managed forests and farms. It is necessary to remove organic residues and non-merchantable wood in order to keep a forest healthy and growing. Rather than discarding or open burning the removed wood products, bioenergy provides a good, productive use for them.

We hope you will be able to join us on October 17, to learn more about bioenergy and see our facility, which employs **[number]** local residents and produces enough power for **[number]** local homes and businesses. Our facility is located at **[address and additional location details as needed]**. Please contact **[name]** at **[email/phone]** for more information and please RSVP by October 10.

Best,