

# TRI-AGENCY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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## Commissioners

Patrick Bailey, Harbor  
Richard Holley, City  
Scott Feller, Harbor  
David Finigan, County  
Mike Sullivan, County  
Donna Westfall, City

## Executive Director

William "Bill" Renfroe

## Community Treasures

Pristine Rivers & Streams  
Rugged Coastline  
Sandy Beaches  
Coastal Redwoods  
Old Growth Forests  
Dungeness Crab  
Seafood  
Organic Dairy Products  
Award Winning Cheeses  
Lily Bulbs  
Yurok Culture  
Tolowa Culture  
Ecotourism  
Redwood National Park  
State Parks  
Trekking & Hiking  
Camping  
RV Parks  
Historic Lighthouses  
Pelican Bay Prison  
Temperate Climate  
World Class Fishing  
Mycology  
Birding  
Surfing  
Seals & Sea Lions  
Marine Mammal Center  
Artisans  
Art Galleries  
Restaurants  
Nonprofits  
Foundations  
Scenic Byways  
Tsunami Survivors  
Daily Newspaper  
Agate Hunting  
Distinguished Schools  
Community College  
Affordable Housing  
Commercial Fishing Harbor

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

October 1, 2012

California Energy Commission  
**DOCKETED**  
**12-EPIC-01**

Subject: Docket No. 12-EPIC-01 - Forest Biomass Resources

TN # 67441

OCT 01 2012

California Energy Commission:

The Tri-Agency Economic Development Authority (Tri-Agency) represents the economic development interests of the City of Crescent City, the County of Del Norte, and the Crescent City Harbor district. Our county is approximately 70% forested and is situated in the northernmost corner of the state.

Crescent City is the only city in the county and is located at the junction of two U.S. Highways - Highway 101 and Highway 199. The combination of a small, heavily forested county and access to U.S. Highways places the community in a position to take advantage of the forest biomass resource opportunities.

Tri-Agency supports *S12.1 Proposed Funding Initiative: Demonstrate and Appraise the Operational and Performance Characteristics of Pre-Commercial Biomass Conversion Technologies, Generation Systems, and Development Strategies*. We are interested in taking a leadership role in how to best use these woody biomass resources as energy sources rather than the current practices of addressing them as waste. We are confident that there are both more energy efficient and more environmentally acceptable uses for woody biomass than open burning resulting in the uncontrolled release of green house gases.

We are very interested in *S14.1 Proposed Funding Initiative: Pilot Demonstrations of Localized Energy Resource Markets* as it applies to our county and adjacent counties along the north coast. We represent a very much different set of conditions from other parts of California and would provide an excellent platform to "beta test" pilot projects.

Six Rivers National Forest, the National Park Service, State Parks, the Smith River National Recreation Area, and four sovereign nations provide unparalleled depth of knowledge regarding forest woody biomass.

Lastly, we would like to offer to lead or at least participate in the Forest Products Advisory Group that will be formed to oversee this segment of the EPIC program. Our local private sector forest resource expertise combined with that of the US Forest Service Six Rivers National Forest, the National Park Service, State Parks, the Smith River National Recreation Area, and four sovereign nations provides unparalleled depth of knowledge regarding forest woody biomass.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the "Proposed 2011-2014 Triennial Investment Plan".

Please continue to keep us apprised of progress of this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William T. Renfroe, Jr.", is centered below the word "Sincerely,".

William T. Renfroe, Jr.  
Executive Director  
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