Biomass in Food and Energy Production

Heating the Midwest Conference Carlton, MN April 25th-26th, 2013

How it Began:

In October 2008, an inter-disciplinary Project Team of local stakeholders and regional renewable energy experts began discussing the possibility of transforming the Silver Bay

Business Park into an Eco-Industrial Business Park

Sustainable Industrial Development

 A Minnesota Pollution Control Agency grant for "Sustainable Industrial Development" was applied for and received in June 2009. The MPCA Grant assesses two elements. First, the ability to use wind, biomass and biodiesel to generate heat and power to make the park selfsustainable using renewable energy. Second, using industrial ecology and industrial clustering to achieve the ideology of "zero waste - zero emissions".

2 Concepts

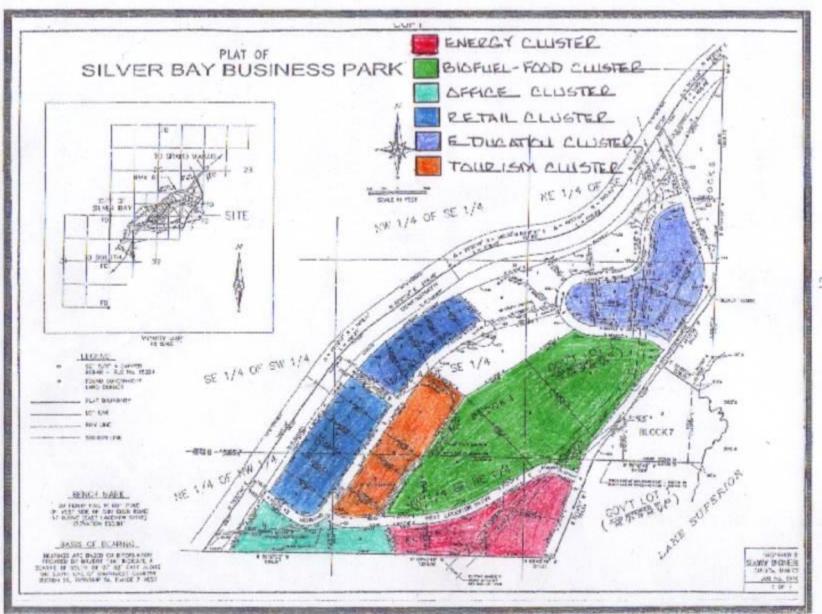
- Industrial ecology is achieved by designing clusters of businesses and industries to network with each so that one industry's waste becomes another nearby industry's feedstock.
- The goal of the park is to be self sustainable, i.e., off the grid and powered by renewable energy production systems that are locally owned. It is strongly believed that the park is an ideal location for integrating three types of renewable energy (wind, biomass, biodiesel).

Cluster Based Economic Development

- Cluster based economic development refers to similar manufacturing processes or infrastructure needs, related feedstocks or resources that are typically positioned in a defined geographical area.
 - Reduces waste and pollution
 - Provides for resource conservation
 - Reduces transportation costs
 - Greater efficiency within related manufacturing processes.

Clusters Identified and Placed

- Energy Cluster
- Office Cluster
- Education Cluster
- Retail Cluster
- Tourism Cluster
- Biofuel Food Cluster



Economic Development Tool

Businesses will be attracted to locate within the park as they will benefit from predictable renewable, sustainable energy costs. In addition, the need for fossil fuel consumption will be eliminated, which ultimately results in reductions in greenhouse gas emission, reductions in carbon footprint and reductions in waste.





