



Dear Madam/Sir:

We are proud to announce the location and dates for the 5th Annual Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass Conference and Expo! **The 2016 conference and expo will be held October 11 - 13 in Harris, Michigan, at the Island Resort and Casino (14 miles West of Escanaba).** This location provides an opportunity to continue the momentum developed during the 2015 Heating the Midwest conference. This year's theme is "Adopting Renewable Biomass Heat: Investing In Tomorrow's Sustainable Communities." Topics at the 2016 conference will include: investing in our communities with biomass, breaking through market barriers, biomass technologies, realizing a sustainable advanced biomass thermal industry and much more! A two-part technical workshop will also be offered in conjunction with the conference.

The [Island Resort and Casino](#) offers a modern conference facility, with over 13,000 sq. ft. of meeting space and expo hall. The conference planning committee is actively working on the program - which includes biomass heating tours, keynote presentations, breakout sessions, and a two-part technical workshop -- all designed to increase support in the biomass industry. This event will feature a similar agenda to last year's conference with tours of regional biomass operations on Tuesday, October 11 and the Conference and Expo on Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13. We will be working with new and returning co-host organizations to engage attendees and businesses in the region for this event.

We would appreciate your participation in the HTM event in 2016 as a sponsor/exhibitor. Your leadership in this event will help to provide needed support and will truly enhance the success of the event. Our planning committee is committed to making sure that our sponsors and vendors receive great value and recognition. We are attaching a sponsorship/exhibitor document for your consideration, and hope you will take a leadership role by sponsoring/exhibiting during this event, and I look forward to discussing this opportunity with you further in the coming days.

In addition to serving as a sponsor, you have an opportunity to suggest specific program topics, speaker recommendations and real project presentations. If you are interested in recommending program content, recommended speakers or real project presentations, please send an email to Brian Brashaw at bbrashaw@fs.fed.us.

If you would like to be a sponsor or vendor at this year's conference, please complete and email the sponsorship/vendor agreement (attached) and proof of liability insurance to Abdou Niang at aniang@auri.org. Abdou will then confirm receipt and contact you regarding an invoice and payment instructions.

Please contact me with any specific questions regarding the opportunities for the conference and expo.

Thank you in advance.

Bruno Zagar
Sponsorships Chair, Heating the Midwest Conference Planning Committee
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