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LOWER HUDSON-LONG ISLAND RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

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Request For Information

The Lower Hudson-Long Island Resource Conservation and Development Council is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate economic growth that is both environmentally sound and socially equitable through the promotion of a partnership between rural and urban conservation initiatives.

For over five years the RC&D has been engaged in a biomass renewable energy project known as [Hudson Valley Grass Energy](#) (HVGE). With the assistance of numerous grants and agency partnerships, we researched, designed and developed **a mobile equipment line capable of producing biomass heating pellets from low-value agricultural products**, primarily mulch hay. Through extensive experimentation and equipment modifications, we were able to refine the process whereby up to 1 ton per hour of pellets could be produced with our equipment line from baled or loose agricultural biomass. Experimentation was also undertaken on the performance of these pellets in modern biomass heating appliances. Multi-fuel appliances with the capability of dealing with high percentages of ash (up to 5%) were shown to be able to effectively burn the grass/biomass pellets. Research among numerous groups continues on the long-term viability of burning grass/biomass pellets as an alternative to non-renewable fossil fuels.

The RC&D considers the project to have been successful, but has determined that in the current economic climate operation of the grass pelletizer at a break-even or profitable level is not feasible. Therefore, we are seeking information from educational, not-for-profit or similar institutions or entities with an interest to acquire the pelleting equipment – free or at low cost -- for continued use in a renewable energy –related project.

Additional information on the equipment, its operation, and findings of the HVGE project is available through the following link:

<http://www.ocsoilny.org/hudson-valley-grass-energy.html> *NOTE- Hudson Valley Grass Energy website link provided for information only. This site is not currently maintained or monitored.

This RFI is a preliminary attempt to determine if there are entities with some level of interest in acquiring the HVGE equipment and using it for purposes compatible with the original goals of the project. We are seeking short letters indicating the entity's interest and a general description of the intended use. Based on responses to the RFI, the RC&D will contact interested parties to discuss more formally a potential transfer of the equipment.

Interested entities may contact Kevin Sumner, Orange County Soil and Water Conservation District Manager, at kevin.sumner@ocsoil.org or at 845.343.1873 with questions or to further discuss this RFI.

The Lower Hudson-Long Island Resource Conservation and Development Council Inc. is an independent 501c3 organization. You can contact us through our website www.lhircd.net or emailing Brian Zimmerman at brianz1@msn.com.