



**Ted Strickland**  
Governor

**Mark Barbash**  
Interim Director

**Lee Fisher**  
Lieutenant Governor

**For Immediate Release**

April 15, 2009

**BARBASH ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
FOR NEW \$500,000 BIOMASS GRANT PROGRAM**

**COLUMBUS** – Interim Director Mark Barbash today announced that the Ohio Department of Development is accepting proposals for \$500,000 in funding available for the Biomass – Waste to Energy Program for projects that demonstrate technologies that utilize farm waste to produce energy in Ohio’s farming communities.

“Ohio’s historical strengths in agriculture position our state to develop technologies that utilize our biomass resources,” Barbash said. “By taking steps to change the way we produce energy, Ohio is harnessing our agricultural resources, strengthening our state’s energy position, and moving toward the goal set forth in Governor Strickland’s advanced energy portfolio standard, requiring that 25 percent of Ohio’s energy come from advanced or renewable sources of energy by 2025.”

The Biomass – Waste to Energy program is funded through the Advanced Energy Fund administered by the Ohio Department of Development’s Ohio Energy Office. The program encourages private investment in projects that use anaerobic digestion or similar technologies to produce electricity, thermal energy and/or conditioned methane gas from farm waste. Eligible projects must demonstrate completion within two years, job creation and retention during the construction and operation phases, and the use of Ohio manufactured components and/or ownership by an Ohio partnership or company. One award of \$500,000 or two awards of \$250,000 will be selected through a competitive process.

For more information about the Biomass – Waste to Energy Program and requirements to apply for funding, visit: <http://www.development.ohio.gov/cdd/oeo/GrantsLoans.htm>

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the non-profit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is absolutely necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio’s future.*

*The **Ohio Energy Office** works to grow the economy of the state by connecting companies and communities to financial and technical resources in order to deploy renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency.*

###

Media contacts: Robert Grevey at (614) 466-6619 or  
the Communications and Marketing Office at (614) 466-2609