



Yakima County Yakama Nation Feasibility Study A2010-001

Link to Economic Development Strategy

Yakima Nation — In July 2009, the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) approved a \$10,000 grant to the Yakama Nation to conduct a feasibility study for a large-scale biomass co-generation plant. The plant would use pre-commercial and post-production timber waste to generate electrical energy.

Local Perspective of CERB Impact

“The proposed biomass project will provide several important benefits to our state and region. First, it will reduce our state’s carbon dioxide emissions...Secondly, it will provide green energy jobs, and, in particular, tribal energy jobs.”

- *Tim Culbertson, General Manager
Grant County Public Utility District*

Catalyst for Private and Local Investment

The planned biomass plant will assist the tribe in maintaining traditional cultural values while practicing good environmental stewardship of the Yakama Nation’s forest land. The project will simultaneously address economic concerns of the Yakama people while making the best use of the tribe’s valuable natural resources.

Unique State Program

As Washington’s strategic economic development resource, CERB is focused on creating private sector jobs in partnership with local governments by financing infrastructure improvements which encourage new business development and expansion. In addition to funding construction projects, CERB provides limited funding for studies that evaluate high-priority economic development projects. CERB receives management services from the Department of Commerce; the lead state agency charged with enhancing and promoting sustainable community and economic vitality in Washington.