

The obstacles involved in application of biomass for energy purposes and means of their overcoming in the realities of Polish market

A. Cebula; A. Maciag; W. Nikodem

This paper discusses the issues connected with obtaining, transport and processing of biomass in order to substitute fossil fuels.

The main problems taken under consideration are the logistics, scope of application and application possibilities of individual technologies for biomass processing and burning, economic effects, legal aspects as well as the information flow matters in the domain of renewable energy.

The paper calls attention to the access barriers in Poland to modern biomass burning technologies and to equipment needed to extract and process fuels which originate from renewable sources.

Authors focused especially on the problems connected with:

- small group of domestic manufacturers engaged in the large-scale industrial production of equipment for utilization of energy obtained from renewable energy sources.
- lack of significant number of education and information programs dealing with the renewable energy (biomass) issues aimed at engineering personnel, municipal authorities or farmers
- insufficient legal provisions standardizing scope of competence of the individual bodies taking decisions on local stage in the domain of renewable energy sources

Relying on the extensive experience gained over the years by ENERGOPROJEKT-Katowice SA in the energy sector, authors attempted to give basic directions to overcome the obstacles to renewable energy utilization, particularly the projects whose technologies utilize biomass as a fuel.

A dividing line has been drawn between projects belonging to so called large power engineering project group and local energy sources project group (small power engineering projects).

In scope of the above mentioned division, the basic problems and the means of their solution have been discussed.

At the conclusion of the paper, authors have presented the substantial differences in the potential investors' approach towards ventures so differing in the financial and economic engagement.