MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
25x’25 INITIATIVE
and
SOUTH CAROLINA BIOMASS COUNCIL
and
SOUTH CAROLINA ENERGY OFFICE

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is between the 25x’25 Initiative, the South Carolina Biomass Council (SCBC), and the South Carolina Energy Office (SCEO) together referred to as “the Parties”.

The 25x’25 Initiative is an effort to set a national goal for America to produce 25 percent of its energy from renewable sources like solar, wind, and biofuels by 2025. As of the date of this memorandum, the 25x’25 Initiative has been endorsed by more than 625 organizations, 28 current and former governors and 12 state legislatures. The 25x’25 is led by a committee composed of volunteer leaders from the agricultural, forestry and renewable energy communities.

The SCBC is an independent organization governed by a committee of diverse South Carolina stakeholders selected by the organization membership. The mission of the SCBC is to work cooperatively with state legislators, biomass producers and users, and other stakeholders to increase awareness and use of biomass resources and to develop a long term strategy for biomass energy in the state.

The SCEO provides a broad range of resources designed to help citizens, businesses, and public entities save energy - and money - through greater efficiency, better information, and enhanced environmental quality. Functions of the SCEO include promoting the use of renewable energies and sustainable development practices and serving as a central clearinghouse for information related to energy use and energy efficiency in South Carolina.

The Parties have agreed to work together to make South Carolina a premiere example for the achievement of the goals of the 25x’25 initiative through networking opportunities, establish collaborative efforts, and promote good policy change. The expectations of the parties are that the SCBC will create a roadmap outlining how the generation of bio-based renewable energy will result in positive economic opportunities, including increasing net farm income, while improving environmental and human health and helping reducing oil demand. A primary objective of this project is to build a strong base of support for the SCBC and the 25x’25 Initiative. The SCEO will support the efforts of the SCBC by leveraging resources to aid in the development of the strategy. With that aim, the Parties have agreed as follows:
The SCBC will:
1. Define the potential for biomass energy in South Carolina by the year 2025.
2. Outline a plan to attain that potential, that will include:
   a. accelerating technology development and commercialization.
   b. identifying marketing barriers and regulatory constraints.
   c. Recommended legislation to help accelerate deployment of biomass energy projects.
3. Act as a catalyst for implementation of the plan including:
   a. relationship-building between public sector agencies, private sector companies and academic and other institutions involved in biomass energy development.
   b. assistance with securing of project funding.
   c. support of technology demonstration projects.
4. Maintain regular communications with national 25x’25 Alliance leaders sharing experiences, results and progress.

The SCEO will:
1. Develop, maintain and disseminate an inventory of renewable energy projects for South Carolina.
2. Help the SCBC seek out and leverage financial resources to support the activities of the SCBC.

The 25x’25 Initiative will:
1. Help facilitate the project through a regional coordinator and support initiatives for projects that are consistent with the goals of the 25x’25 Initiative.
2. Use its communication channels to disseminate reports on the progress of the SCBC to 25x’25 partners and state alliances across the country.

Nothing contained in this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING shall grant to any party the right to make commitments of any kind for or on behalf of any other party without the prior written consent of that party. No commitments of financial support are expressed in this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING will be terminated 30 days after written notice of termination by either Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Parties hereto have caused this MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING to be executed as of the effective date last written below.

For the 25x’25 Initiative
Name: [Signature]
Date: 2/16/08

For the SC Biomass Council
Name: [Signature]
Date: 2/25/08

For the SC Energy Office
Name: [Signature]
Date: 2/28/08