



**Owner:** Bennington College  
**Location:** Bennington, Vermont  
**Project:** Renewable Energy Biomass System

**Going green: School districts and higher education institutions are facing increased pressures to reduce operating costs and improve energy efficiencies.**

At Bennington College in Vermont, where long, cold winters can drive energy and heating costs sky-high, college administrators selected AFS Energy Systems to design and implement a cost-effective Renewable Energy Biomass System that supports the environment and lowers the college's dependency on oil for heating. The transition from oil to wood waste for heating fuel places Bennington College at the forefront of the green movement in America.

For the nearly 60 buildings covering the college's 470-acre campus, AFS Energy fabricated and installed a custom 400 horsepower wood-fired boiler system that provides heat through existing underground distribution channels. By reducing the need to operate the college's two existing oil-fired boilers, the new biomass system produced immediate results and is helping the college adjust to rising energy costs. In a short amount of time, it is expected that the biomass system will pay for itself.

*"Bennington College studied all of the available options for reducing its energy costs and associated carbon dioxide emissions: biomass, hydro, geothermal, solar and wind. After a thorough review, the use of biomass for generating low pressure steam to supply heat and domestic hot water to the many campus buildings was determined to be the most attractive option in terms of initial investment and length of payback.*

*The robustness of the AFS Energy Systems' transfer and processing equipment and its ability to handle bole and whole tree chips are key attributes of the system. Now in its second full heating season, the utilization is over 95%, i.e. the backup #4 oil fired boiler is in use less than 5% of the operating time. This translates into hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings per year.*

*We are very satisfied with all of the equipment that was supplied and installed by AFS Energy Systems.*

*Bill Tronsen  
Director of Facilities Management  
Bennington College  
Bennington, VT*

## The AFS Advantage:

- Measurable return on investment
- 20 years in business with 100+ combined years of biomass engineering experience
- Quality and service: Best components; best manufacturing
- Green zero net-carbon footprint
- Turnkey solutions: AFS is a total energy solution provider
- 24/7, 365-day online and onsite support services

**AFS**  
energy systems  
AFSEnergy.com

**HEADQUARTERS:**  
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## The AFS Advantage:

AFS Energy Systems is a leader in renewable energy biomass systems. Based near Harrisburg, PA, AFS Energy provides turnkey design/build energy solutions for businesses across North America. Unparalleled experience and a long list of satisfied clients are the result of twenty years of success combined with a passion for quality and service.

## AFS Product Lines:

### Wood-Fired Boilers

AFS designs, manufactures, installs, and supports state-of-the-art renewable energy biomass systems.

### Material Handling Systems

AFS manufactures reliable material handling systems, which are essential to any combustion or dust collection system.

### Fuel Storage Systems

AFS provides an array of fuel storage systems including storage silos, fuel bunkers, self-unloading trailers, and day bins.

### Dust Collection Systems

A custom-designed AFS dust collection system ensures minimal energy consumption and maximum performance.

### Boiler Retrofits

AFS will review your existing combustion system and provide an accurate analysis and economical solution for modernization.

### Process Piping Solutions

AFS designs, fabricates, and installs process piping to suit any system equipment.

### Metal Fabrication Services

Advanced Fabrication Services, Inc. (AFS) is a premier full-service metal fabrication company. AFS Fabrication has a long history of providing top quality, on-time fabrication solutions for clients throughout the United States and Canada.

### Engineering Services

AFS provides professional engineering services to exceed your sustainability and energy goals.

The AFS team invites you to call (717) 763-0286, visit us online at [AFSEnergy.com](http://AFSEnergy.com), or schedule a facility tour.

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