



**Keynote Presentation
Conference Dinner**

Thursday, October 21, 2010

GROWING A BIO-BASED ECONOMY...FROM THE GROUND UP

Kelly Tiller

Genera Energy, LLC
2450 E. J. Chapman Drive
Business Incubator
Knoxville, TN 37996

ktiller@generaenergy.net

Tennessee is leading an ambitious effort to build a bio-based economy. With more than \$300 million in combined state, federal, and private funding, Tennessee has made tremendous progress and is poised to succeed. A centerpiece of the integrated approach is construction and operation of a demonstration-scale cellulosic biorefinery, in partnership with DuPont Dansico Cellulosic Ethanol (DDCE). The biorefinery commenced operations in January 2010 and is the first biorefinery in the country to operate on both ag residues and switchgrass. The state's effort also includes the country's largest and most comprehensive effort around purpose grown energy crops, with nearly 6,000 acres of switchgrass in production under contract with local farmers near the biorefinery. A significant focus is developing a supply chain for providing sufficient, reliable, and sustainable dedicated energy crop feedstocks, with a first-of-kind Biomass Innovation Park under construction to demonstrate and optimize a template for regional biomass aggregation and pre-processing. The integrated effort is designed to answer a variety of research questions, ranging from feedstock supply systems to pre-treatment and conversion technology approaches and systems to product distribution and marketing to commercial scale up. The presentation provides an overview of the integrated systems approach of the Tennessee Biofuels Initiative and its efforts to foster development of a large scale commercial bio-based economy.