

PRESS RELEASE:

CALEDONIA COUNTY, VERMONT ISSUED BDO ZONE 'A' RATING FOR WOODY BIOMASS

– 'A' Rating to lead innovation and business growth in northern Vermont –

August 27, 2024



Do North, Forestry Accelerator, Ecostrat and the BDO Zone Initiative are pleased to announce the issue of an investment grade BDO Zone 'A' Rating for Caledonia County, Vermont. Caledonia County's BDO Zone rating for 726,000 bone dry tons per year of woody biomass is the first rating in the State of Vermont and extends a 75-mile drive distance from the center point in Lyndonville, VT.

Caledonia County's 'A' rating denotes high prospective viability of Feedstock Supply and Infrastructure and low expectations of default risk in the Zone. Capacity to support new biobased plant operations is considered strong. The region features large amounts of biomass due to the closure of biomass power plants and pulp mills. Forestry remains a strong industry in the BDO Zone with efficient, well-established supply chains for commercial quantities of pulpwood, sawmill residues, and forest residues.

"The 'A' rating underscores our region's potential to support emerging and growing businesses in the bioeconomy," stated **Jared Reynolds, Director of the Forestry Accelerator**. "We eagerly anticipate collaborating with bioenergy, biochemical, and bioproduct companies to foster the expansion and diversification of bio-based and agricultural resources, propelling Caledonia County towards the forefront of bio-based industrial manufacturing."

Jordan Solomon, Chairman of the BDO Zone Initiative, added, "Caledonia County's thriving forestry sector, combined with the abundant availability of project-ready wood fiber, positions this BDO Zone as a key player in attracting biobased projects. This region is well-equipped to support biobased economic growth, fostering job creation and revitalizing the local economy, especially in light of the opportunities presented by the closure of former biomass power plants and sawmills."

To see the full BDO Zone Rating for Caledonia County, Vermont please click [here](https://www.bdozone.org), or visit www.bdozone.org.

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About *The BDO Zone Initiative*

The BDO Zone Initiative certifies regional readiness for bio-based manufacturing, creates global connections with project developers, and ignites an influx of clean energy opportunities.

A BDO Zone rating is an internationally recognized standards-based technical risk assessment of biomass feedstock, supply chain, and infrastructure risk with respect to the development potential of new biofuel, renewable chemical, biogas, and bioproduct plants. Investment grade ratings attract new bio-based manufacturing plants to the areas where they are most likely to succeed-- and create jobs.

For more information on the BDO Zone Initiative, contact info@bdozone.org. To view all BDO Zone ratings, visit www.bdozone.org. Check out the BDO Zone [LinkedIn](#) page for news and updates.

Jordan Solomon is Chairman of the *BDO Zone Initiative* and President of Ecostrat (www.ecostrat.com). He can be reached at jordan.solomon@ecostrat.com. Ecostrat is the North American leader in biomass due diligence for biofuels, renewable chemicals, biogas, and bio-product project development and finance.