ATTACHMENT A

Biographical Information for Principal Scientists

About TSS Consultants

TSS is a consultancy providing natural resources management, forest feedstock supply analysis, environmental compliance, greenhouse gas management, life cycle analysis and financial assessment services. Since TSS' establishment in 1986 the firm has provided technological and economic evaluation of new and proposed commercial scale energy projects, biomass resource utilization alternatives, and policy review. The TSS team has over 150 years of cumulative experience in forestry and wildfire management, wildland fuel mitigation, solid waste management, environmental and regulatory compliance, climate change mitigation and greenhouse gas management. TSS consistently advocates the use of sustainable biomass resources and appropriate technologies in support of value-added utilization, producing innovative wood products, electric power, process heating and cooling, and transportation fuels.

Active in the United States and internationally, TSS brings its private and public sector clients the tools necessary to develop feedstock supply assessments, financial feasibility assessments and technology evaluations for a range of small- and large-scale commercial facilities. TSS understands and focuses on the financial risk, environmental constraints, and benefits (such as improving forest health), social and regulatory/permitting constraints and benefits (such as meeting land diversion goals and reducing greenhouse gases through the utilization of biomass) facing project development. TSS works to assist clients from the planning and development phase, on-the-ground construction, and to full operational status. With the current dynamic forest products and energy markets increasing the risk of long-term investments, TSS provides due diligence level investigation and long-term planning, providing clients the necessary information to understand and mitigate risk, thus optimizing investment options.

Key Staff and Associates

Tad Mason, Chief Executive Officer

Tad Mason has over 43 years of experience in the fields of natural resources management, cellulosic fuels/feedstock supply chain development, bioenergy project development and hazardous forest fuels reduction. Mr. Mason has hands-on experience in all aspects of natural resources management, from preparation of forest/range management plans to advising decision makers on key land management/resource utilization policies.

As the CEO of TSS Consultants, and a Registered Professional Forester, Mr. Mason leads a team of professionals who are well versed in the critical tasks such as developing fuel/feedstock supply availability assessments, generating fuel/feedstock procurement plans, negotiating fuel/feedstock procurement agreements, conducting financial analyses, obtaining environmental permits, negotiating offtake agreements, assisting with plant design, and providing technology assessments are key to the successful development of a commercial-scale facility. Mr. Mason also assists clients with development and implementation of communications plans targeting stakeholders, peer groups and state/federal policymakers. Community support is an integral component of every successful bioenergy project.

Mr. Mason has worked closely with a variety of resource managers in the agriculture and forest sectors. Much of his work is in support of optimized utilization of cellulosic byproducts generated during commercial land management and agriculture/forest products manufacturing activities. As bioenergy technologies and fuel/feedstock markets continue to evolve, fuel/feedstock harvest, collection, processing, and transport operations will continue to be essential. Mr. Mason has significant experience in fuel/feedstock supply chain infrastructure development.

Mr. Mason served as manager of fuel supply with Pacific Energy (now Covanta Energy) for over 12 years. In this role, he developed, coordinated, procured, and managed fuel supplies for four commercial-scale biomass power generation facilities. Woody biomass fuel availability assessment and supply chain development utilizing a variety of woody biomass fuels (urban wood waste, agricultural residuals, and forest thinning material) were a major focus. Contract negotiation and establishment of long-term fuel procurement agreements, including multiple-year forest fuels thinning contracts and forest stewardship contracts, were an important part of the feedstock procurement process. In addition, he was closely involved with company start up, strategic long-term planning, fiscal budgeting, management of field operations and community outreach.

Mr. Mason received his B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of California at Berkeley. Mr. Mason and TSS Consultants have managed investigations throughout North America (28 states and 6 provinces) for a diverse set of clients, including public resource management agencies, Indian Tribes, private sector enterprises, public utilities, private investment firms and community stakeholder groups.

Mr. Mason is an active member of the California Society of American Foresters and the California Licensed Foresters Association. He has served on numerous committees and task forces, including the Western Governors' Association Biomass Task Force, University of California Forest Products Laboratory Advisory Board, Western Governors' Association Forest Health Advisory Committee, California Forest Products Commission Board of Directors, University of California Woody Biomass Utilization Work Group, California Oak Mortality Task Force, and the Oregon Forest Biomass Work Group. Mr. Mason was a founding board member of the Bioenergy Association of California.

Mr. Mason's professional and community service recognition include the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts Forestry Award, California Board of Forestry Francis H. Raymond Award, William Main Distinguished Visitor Lecturer (University of California at Berkeley), Society of American Foresters Fellow Award, Northern California Society of American Foresters Forestry Achievement Award, and the American Pulpwood Association Forestry Activist Award.

Steven Daus Ph.D., Senior Planner/Project Manager

In his 41-year professional career Dr. Daus has served both national and international clients with natural resources project needs. Between 1979 and 1998, as both a short- and long-term contractor for private companies and international agencies, he participated in natural resources development and regulatory compliance projects in 12 countries throughout South-east Asia, the Indian sub-continent, and Africa. Elements common to all of these projects included, project identification and detailed scoping, regulatory compliance, project implementation assistance, and mentorship-based technology transfer. His clients included Louis Berger International, Inc., World Bank, United Nations Development Program, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Since 1990 Dr. Daus, currently working out of the San Francisco Bay Area, has served national clients requiring the expertise of an experienced specialist in wildland fire and fuels planning and management, oak woodland assessment and management, and regulatory compliance. These clients included individual landowners, community groups, residential developers, federal, state, and county agencies, and non-governmental organizations. He has provided project assistance to clients that have been privately funded, California State funded, or supported through grants (various CAL FIRE programs and federal sources: USDA, FEMA, etc.).

Over the span of his career Dr. Daus has had direct project-related experience with a broad spectrum of legal and regulatory frameworks including:

- Federal statutes and their associated regulatory codes:
    - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA);
    - Code of Federal Regulations, Sub-Chapter Q, Part 161 (Environmental Protection);
    - Endanger Species Act (ESA);
    - National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA);
    - Clean Water Act and subsequent revisions (CWA);
    - National Forest Management Act of 1976;
    - Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA);
    - Clean Air Act;
    - Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Recovery Act (Stafford Act);
    - And Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
- California state statutes and their associated regulatory codes:
    - Z'Berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 and the associated Forest Practices Rules;
    - California Endangered Species Act of 1970 (as amended);
    - California Code of Regulations, §§ 5020 – 5097.9 (California State Law and Historic Preservation);
    - Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act;
    - And Oak Woodlands Conservation Act.
- Ordinances and Codes from 16 California counties

Dr. Daus received a Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Forestry, University of California, Berkeley in 1970. His areas of emphasis included general forest management, range science, and remote sensing-aided inventories. He remained at the School of Forestry and subsequently received a Master of Science degree in Wildland Resource Science in 1972 with emphasis on forest and range ecosystem dynamics and remote sensing applications. He then completed a course of study with the Graduate Ecology Group at UC Davis and received a Doctorate in Ecology in 1979.

Dr. Daus provided services as a California Registered Professional Forester with an associated Archaeological Survey certification until his retirement in 2017. He has had past affiliations with the California Licensed Foresters Association, the American Planning Association-California Chapter, California Oak Foundation, and is a current member of the Society of American Foresters and the International Society of Tropical Foresters.

Stephen Quarles, Ph.D., Wildfire and the Built Environment

Dr. Stephen Quarles is a University of California Cooperative Extension Advisor Emeritus. He joined the University of California in 1985. Early in his University career Quarles' research focused on wood drying and the nondestructive measurement of moisture in wood. This led to work related to moisture-related durability issues in the built environment. More than 20 years

ago his research focus shifted to understanding vulnerabilities of the built environment to wildfire and developing effective mitigation strategies.

Quarles retired from the University of California in 2011 and joined the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) Research Center team in Richburg, South Carolina where his research on wildfire and the built environment continued. Quarles retired from IBHS in 2018 as the Chief Scientist for Wildfire and Durability.

During 2007 and 2008, Quarles worked half-time for the California Office of the State Fire Marshal where he developed, coordinated and served as an instructor for the educational program related to the Wildland Urban Interface (wildfire) Building Code and Standards (Chapter 7A in the California Building Code). Quarles served on the initial WUI Task Group that made recommendations to the Office of the State Fire Marshal for Chapter 7A and has served on subsequent task groups.

Quarles is a member of the American Society of Testing and Materials (and is Chair of ASTM E05.14 Subcommittee on Exterior Fire), the National Fire Protection Association [and former member of the NFPA Technical Committee on Forest and Rural Fire Protection (2013-2018)] , the International Association of Wildfire Fire, the International Association of Fire Safety Science, the Forest Products Society [and former Editor-in-Chief, *Forest Products Journal* (2010-2017)], the American Wood Protection Association and the Association of Fire Ecology.

Quarles earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech (Blacksburg) and a Master's and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis-St. Paul).