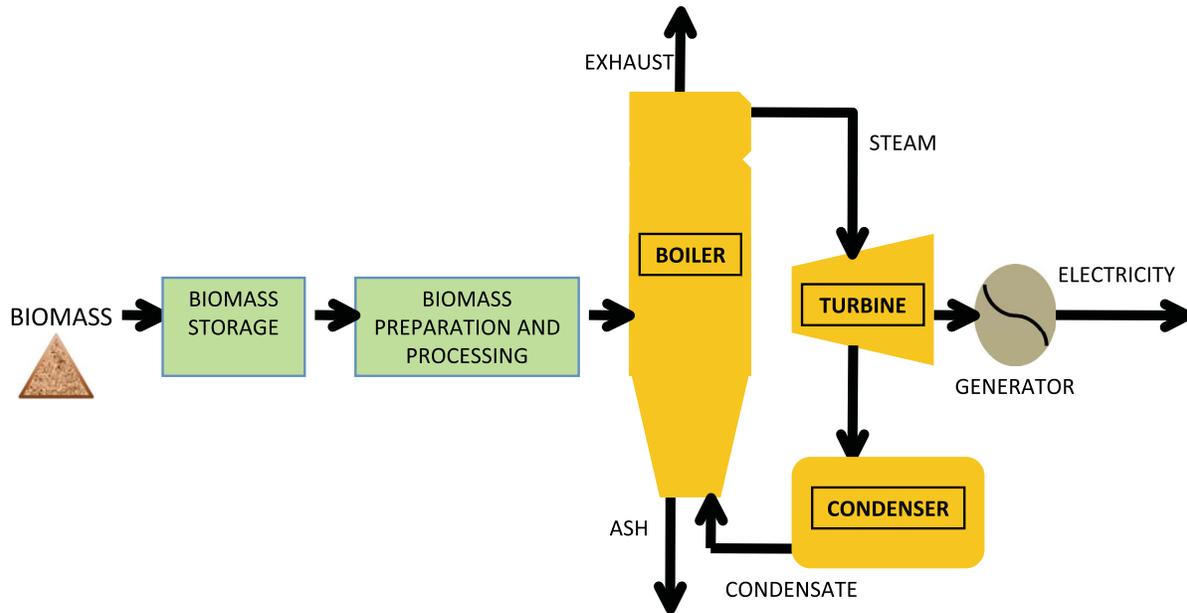


Biomass



Biomass power, or biopower, is the use of living organic matter to generate renewable electricity. It is also one of the most promising sources of renewable energy in the Southeast. Biomass can be converted into electricity in one of several processes. The majority of biomass electricity is generated today using a steam cycle as shown in the diagram. In this process, biomass is burned in a boiler to make steam. The steam then turns a turbine, which is connected to a generator that produces electricity. Biomass can also be burned with coal in a conventional power plant to produce electricity. Cofiring biomass with coal is one way that utilities can generate renewable energy. When implemented in a sustainable manner, biomass can provide numerous environmental and economic benefits while simultaneously providing renewable energy.