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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Jennifer Hedrick Appointed Pellet Fuels Institute Executive Director

Arlington, Virginia—September 20, 2011—The Board of Directors of the Pellet Fuels Institute (PFI) announced today the appointment of Jennifer Hedrick as its new executive director. Hedrick's appointment marks the first time in its 26-year history that PFI, a trade association dedicated to advancing the use of densified biomass fuel, will have a full-time executive director.

According to PFI President Scott Jacobs, "this is an important step for our association, and the industry, as we continue to build awareness of the benefits of using densified biomass fuel. Over the last three years, Jennifer has demonstrated outstanding coalition-building skills. She is equally committed to advocating for the use of densified biomass as a means for job creation in the United States and as a viable option for achieving our country's energy objectives."

Hedrick has been with PFI since 2008, serving first as the Association Manager before being appointed Acting Executive Director in July 2011. As Association Manager, Hedrick was the point person for PFI's standards program, as well as the PFI Annual Conference. She played a key role in the association's overall management, strategic development, and membership outreach. Prior to joining PFI, Hedrick spent several years working for a public policy initiative at Georgetown University Law Center that focused on workplace flexibility.

"I am excited about this opportunity and honored that the PFI Board has chosen me for this role," Hedrick said. "I look forward to continuing to work with the Board, membership and staff to advance the mission of PFI and help promote the industry to consumers and policy makers."

Hedrick received her undergraduate degree from Bridgewater College and a MA from Virginia Tech. She also holds a certificate in non-profit management from Georgetown University. Hedrick is a member of American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) and the Center for Association Leadership and serves on its Greater Washington Committee.

Located in Arlington, Virginia, the Pellet Fuels Institute is a North American trade association promoting energy independence through the efficient use of clean, renewable, densified biomass fuel. For more information about pellet heat, contact the Pellet Fuels Institute at 703-522-6778 or visit www.pelletheat.org.