# Article information:

DOE researchers partner to pelletize waste materials | Biomassmagazine.com  
<https://biomassmagazine.com/articles/19753/doe-researchers-partner-to-pelletize-waste-materials>

# Article summary:

1. Researchers at Idaho National Laboratory, Michigan Technological University, and Convergen Energy have developed a technique to combine non-recyclable plastics and paper fiber into pellets with an energy content like bituminous coal.

2. The process of torrefaction is used to convert biomass into a coal-like material by applying mild heat between 200°C and 320°C.

3. Combining paper and plastic to form stable feedstocks that can substitute for coal and reduce landfill mass would be a green energy win-win.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article is generally reliable in its reporting of the research conducted by Idaho National Laboratory, Michigan Technological University, and Convergen Energy. It provides detailed information about the process of torrefaction used to convert biomass into a coal-like material, as well as the potential benefits of combining paper and plastic to form stable feedstocks that can substitute for coal and reduce landfill mass. The article does not appear to be biased or one-sided in its reporting, nor does it contain any promotional content or partiality towards any particular party involved in the research project.

The article does not present any counterarguments or explore any potential risks associated with the research project, which could be seen as a limitation in terms of providing a balanced view of the situation. Additionally, there is no evidence provided for some of the claims made in the article, such as those related to biodegradable plastics representing less than 1% of plastics made worldwide in 2021. This could lead readers to question the accuracy of these statements.

In conclusion, while this article provides an informative overview of the research project conducted by Idaho National Laboratory, Michigan Technological University, and Convergen Energy, it could benefit from further exploration into potential risks associated with this type of research as well as providing evidence for some of its claims.

# Topics for further research:

* Torrefaction of biomass
* Biomass to coal conversion
* Potential risks of torrefaction
* Combining paper and plastic feedstocks
* Biodegradable plastics production
* Landfill mass reduction strategies

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/fd2570d9eb5adeb52652f4be3914a5b7>