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**Pellet Fuels Institute Encourages Early Pellet Purchases for
2014-2015 Winter Season**

Early Fall is the Ideal Time to Stock Up on Wood Pellets

Arlington, VA – September 26, 2014 – The Pellet Fuels Institute today urged pellet fuels heating appliance owners in North America to consider stocking up on pellets in the early fall in preparation for the coming 2014 winter season.

“The pellet fuels industry is highly seasonal in nature and it is important for pellet appliance owners to think ahead when it comes to pellet purchases,” said Jennifer Hedrick, Executive Director of the Pellet Fuels Institute. “Even though most parts of the country are still enjoying warm weather, early fall is an ideal time to start stocking up on pellets. Buying now will help pellet manufacturers and retailers accurately pace their operations for the season. Both have reported very strong early shipments.”

Heating with pellet fuels can be a very effective way to save money over the long run, particularly for families in colder climates. A colder than normal winter can often cause higher fossil fuel heating costs whereas pellet pricing has traditionally remained steady.

Pellet fuels present an efficient and considerably more affordable alternative to electricity and fossil fuels such as heating oil. A long, cold winter can thus result in unexpectedly high demands for pellet fuels in early spring, when pellet producers are normally slowing down production from the winter. Early planning by retailers and consumers helps pellet manufacturers plan accordingly for the season.

Early indicators show that this winter may be as harsh as last winter, which saw freezing temperatures well into April for much of the country. Parts of New England have already experienced unseasonably early freezing temperatures, reaching record lows in some areas.

Well over one million American homes and businesses rely on wood pellet appliances as a primary or supplementary method of heating. This number is on the rise, growing about 6% each year for the last five years – a trend expected to continue according to RISI, Inc.

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The Pellet Fuels Institute (PFI) is a North American trade association based in Arlington, Virginia, that represents a range of contributors to the pellet industry, including companies that manufacture wood pellets and pellet manufacturing equipment, or

provide other products and services to the densified biomass industry at large. To learn more, please visit PFI's website at www.pelletheat.org.