

# Rule 1118.1

## Beneficial Use Working Group - Biogas

### Emerging Technologies

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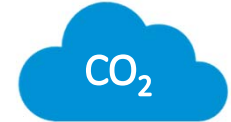
October 10, 2019, 1:30P.M.  
South Coast AQMD Headquarters  
Conference Rooms CC-3, CC-5, overflow CC-7  
21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765

# SoCalGas | System of the Future<sup>(1)</sup>

Maximizing the value of SoCalGas' unique size and scale to deliver cleaner energy over time

Present

2030 - 2050



Natural Gas	Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)	Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)	Distributed Energy (DE)	Hydrogen	Carbon Capture Utilization (CCU)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued safety enhancement investments</li> <li>Natural gas needed for decades – provides affordability and addresses renewables intermittency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal to deliver 20% RNG by 2030</li> <li>Partnership with agriculture waste stream sectors for RNG production and pipeline delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deployment of LNG facility at port of Los Angeles/Long Beach for transportation sector (heavy duty and marine)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fuel cell deployment as wildfire mitigation measure</li> <li>Fuel cell development in transportation (heavy duty)</li> <li>DE for residential and commercial addresses renewables intermittency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Power-2-gas</li> <li>Hydrogen vehicle fueling stations</li> <li>Hydrogen blending into pipeline system</li> <li>Collaborating with Engie, GRTgaz, GRDF and Energir</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capture waste carbon dioxide</li> <li>Deploy in carbon-utilizing industries such as manufacturing</li> </ul>

<sup>1)</sup> Timeline is illustrative only and not indicative of when, or if, certain events may occur or the order in which they may occur. Actual events and the timing thereof may differ materially.

# Addressing California Policy Goals

RD&D Policy Drivers

## GHG Emissions

- SB32 – Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030
- SB100 – Zero carbon electricity by 2045
- EO B-55-18 – Carbon neutral economy by 2045
- AB3232 – Building decarbonization

## Pipeline Safety

- CPUC General Order 112F
- DOT CFR 49 Parts 191 – 193
- AB1900 – Biomethane quality standards

## Local Air Quality

- Clean Air Act (CAA) – Air quality standards for NO<sub>x</sub> and PM
- AB617 – Pilot communities for air quality improvements
- Rule 1118.1 - Reducing emissions from non-refinery flares

## Methane Emissions

- SB1383 – Reducing methane emissions from dairies and landfills
- SB1371 – Reducing pipeline system leaks

## Clean Transportation

- ARB Implementation Plan – Low NO<sub>x</sub> standard for trucks
- AB8 – Development of 100 Hydrogen fueling stations
- EO B-32-15 – Sustainable freight action plan
- LCFS – Reduce carbon intensity of fuels 10% by 2020

# Regulatory Charter for Research Development and Demonstration (RD&D)

The California Legislature enacted **Public Utility Code section 740.1** to establish the basis upon which RD&D programs for gas and electric corporations are authorized by the Commission:

Each project should also support one or more of the following objectives:

- 1) Environmental improvement.
  - 2) Public and employee safety.
  - 3) Conservation by efficient resource use or by reducing or shifting system load.
  - 4) Development of new resources and processes, particularly renewable resources and processes which further supply technologies.
  - 5) Improve operating efficiency and reliability or otherwise reduce operating costs.
- Program Cycle 2019-2021 funding \$43 million.

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# Advanced Low Carbon Gas Technologies RD&D

Beneficial Biogas Use Utilization Pathways

# Key Technologies

- A. Advanced sorbents
- B. Hydrothermal processing
- C. On-site hydrogen generation
- D. Power-to-gas, power-to-molecules
- E. Co-production of hydrogen and carbon fibers



A



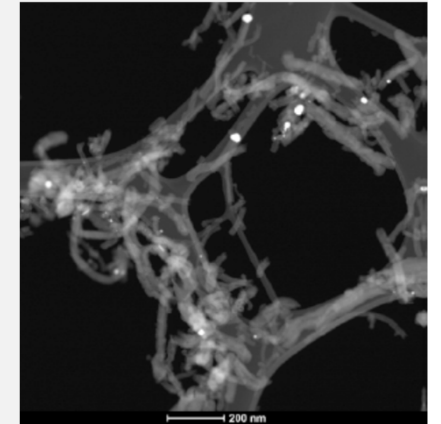
B



C



D

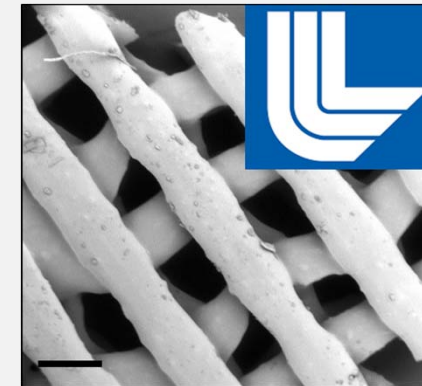


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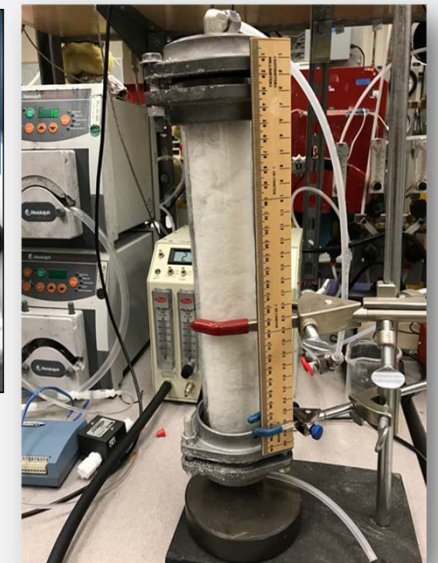
# Gas Separation

## Composite Sorbents: Enabling Economical Biogas Upgrading

- LLNL is refining and demonstrating a new class of sorbents for capturing CO<sub>2</sub>.
- The sorbent materials combine the operational advantages of solid sorbents with the high CO<sub>2</sub> selectivity of CO<sub>2</sub> capture liquids.
- This offers a simple, robust, modular, and environmentally benign means to capture CO<sub>2</sub>
- This could, for example, enable producers of underutilized biogas to turn their waste into high quality biomethane—becoming energy producers rather than consumers.

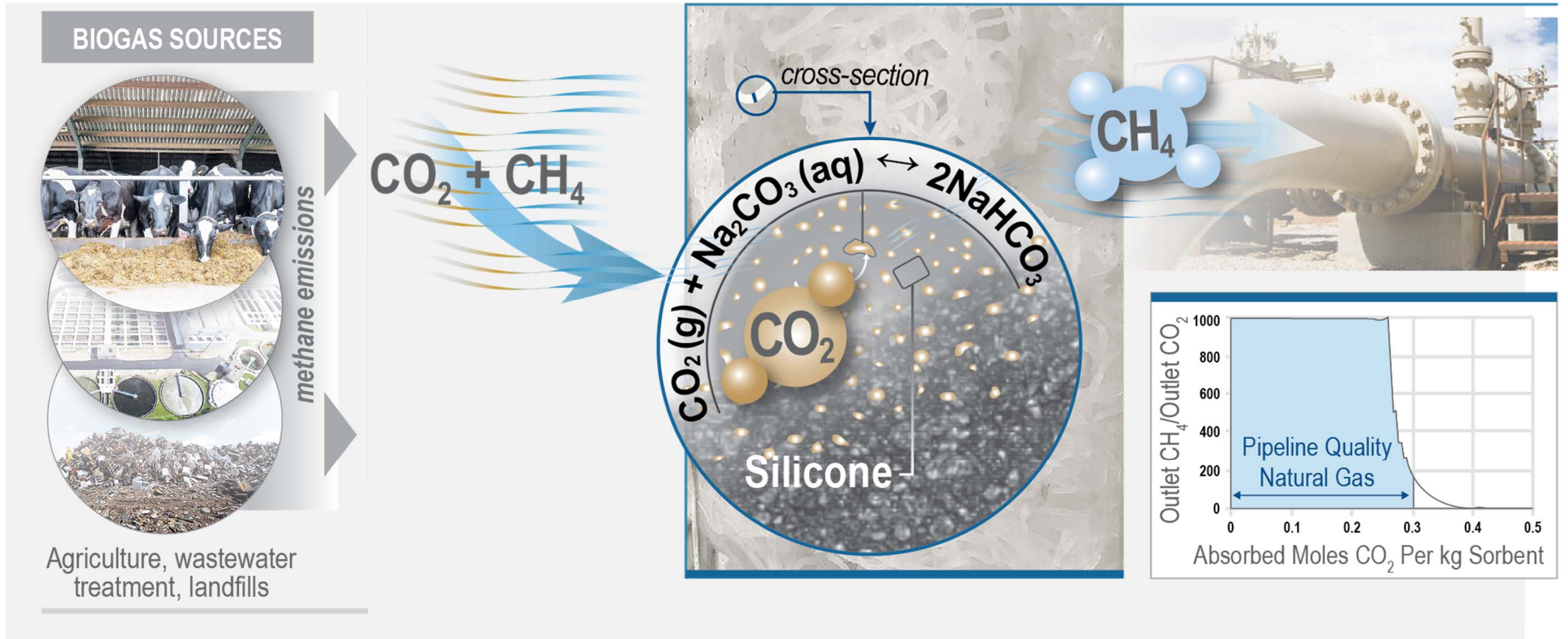


Composite Sorbents Can be Printed, Extruded, or Pelletized (scale bar 200  $\mu$ m)





# Gas Separation (Cont'd)





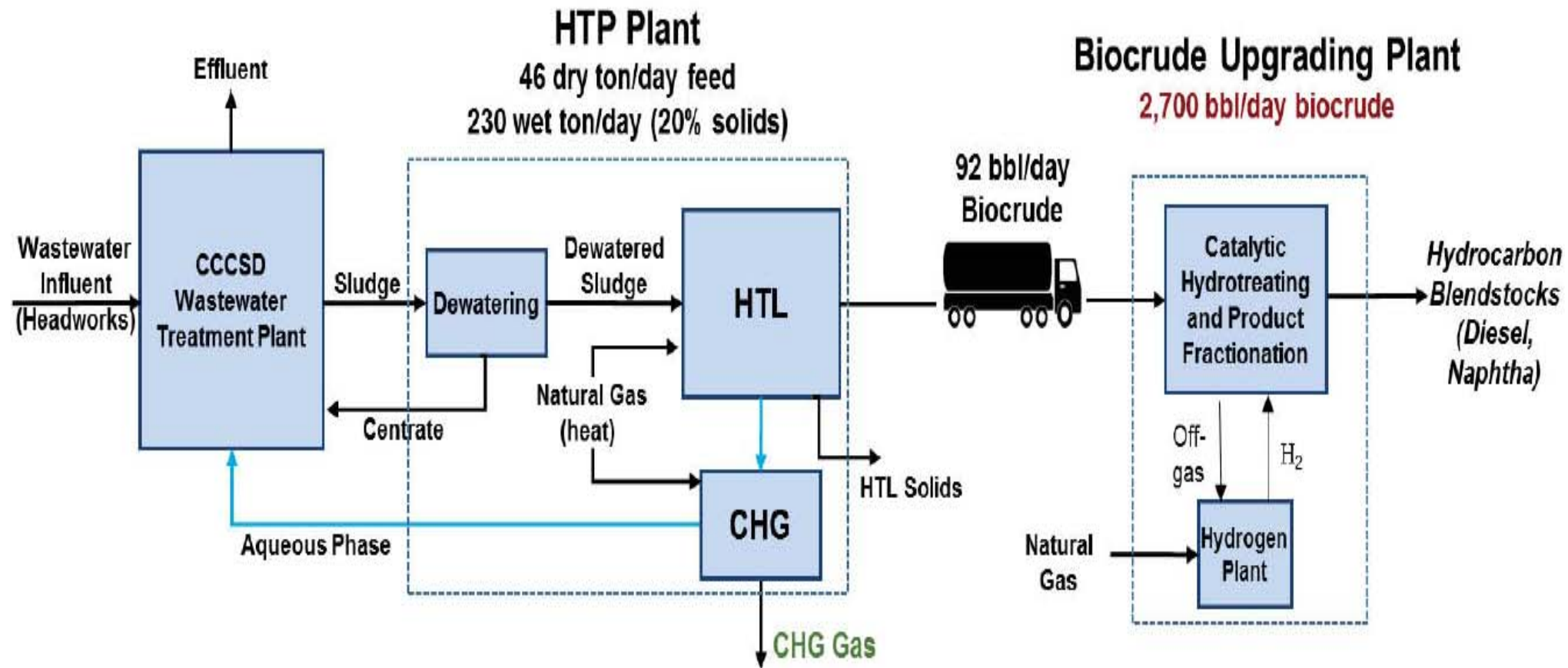
# Hydrothermal Processing

- Hydrothermal Processing (HTP) uses temperature and pressure to convert wet organic matter to:
  - Biocrude oil via hydrothermal liquefaction (HTL)
  - Methane via catalytic hydrothermal gasification (CHG)
- Operates at 350°C and 200 bar
- Wet feed stock includes wood, biosolids, food waste, dairy waste, algae, etc.
- Highly efficient—captures more than 86% of feedstock energy and uses only 14% for process
- Energy yield 2x biological processes
- Temperature much lower than syngas processes
- Feedstock is completely converted—no solids left
- Converting waste products to energy has the potential to address landfill, food, agricultural and forestry waste challenges while creating renewable energy and reducing GHG emissions.



**Genifuel dairy waste processing demonstration**

# HTP Process Model



# HTP Output Products



**Solids with Phosphorus**



**Bio Oil**



**Methane**



**Water**

- The oil/gas production ratio can vary from 100% oil/0% RNG to 0% oil/100% RNG, depending on operator preference.

# Hydrothermal (HTP) vs. Anaerobic (AD)

MEASURE	VALUE
▪ Footprint	HTP is 44% of AD
▪ GHG Reduction	HTP reduces GHG 3x as much as AD
▪ 20-year NPV Cost	HTP is 55% of AD Cost
▪ Energy Production	HTP produces 2x the fuel energy from AD



# Low-Cost Hydrogen Generation

## Solar Thermochemical Advanced Reaction System (STARS)

- “Chemical Process Chips”: Microchannel reactors and heat exchangers
- 70% World Record Solar-to-Chemical Energy Efficiency
- Multiple R&D 100 Awards
- 25 years of development
- \$50M to develop by NASA and DOE, 32 Licensed Patents
- STARS’ Modular H<sub>2</sub> Generator produces H<sub>2</sub> at an initial cost of < \$5/kg
- It will fall to under \$3/kg with low volume mass production





# Power-to-Gas

## Carbon utilization via methanation

Electrolysis with Methanation:  $4\text{H}_2 + \text{CO}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Biocatalyst}} \text{CH}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Heat}$

- Using the renewable  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  in a downstream methanation process to produce renewable methane and water
- 700 L bioreactor contains biocatalyst that combines  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  to produce pipeline quality methane
- Benefits of renewable methane
  - Enables higher penetration of renewable electricity
  - Recycles  $\text{CO}_2$
  - Meets pipeline quality standards
  - Provides long-duration energy storage in the NG network
  - Upgrades waste streams containing  $\text{CO}_2$ 
    - Ethanol, dairies, wastewater, breweries
  - Scale-able, non-toxic, self-replicating biocatalyst, low temperature systems

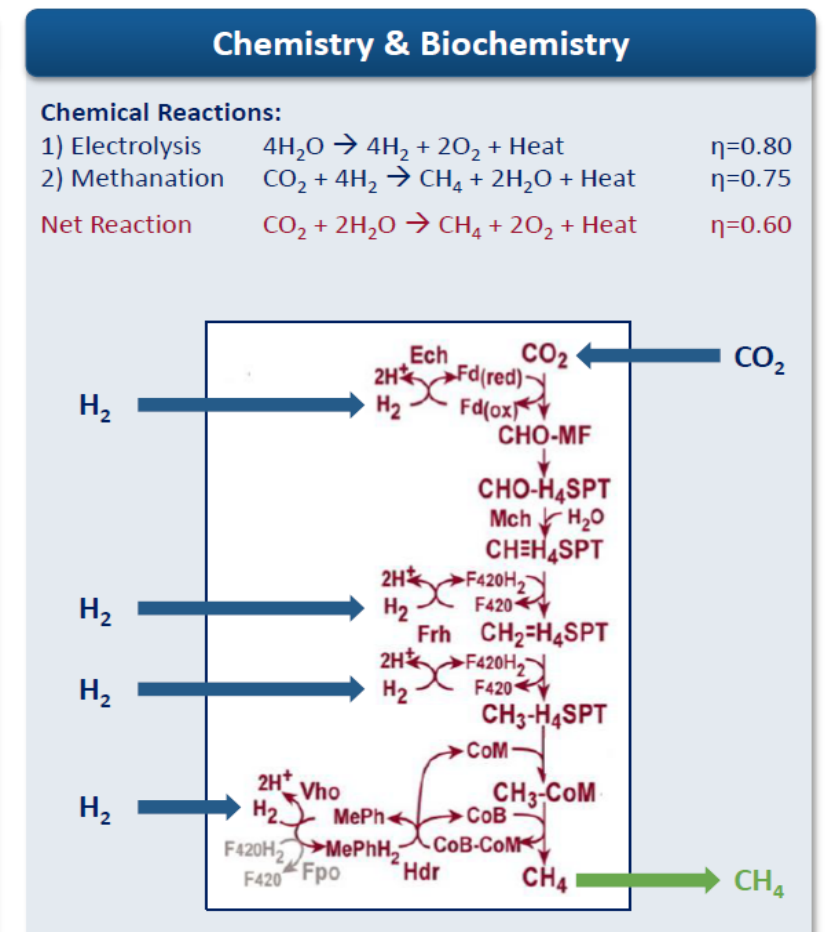
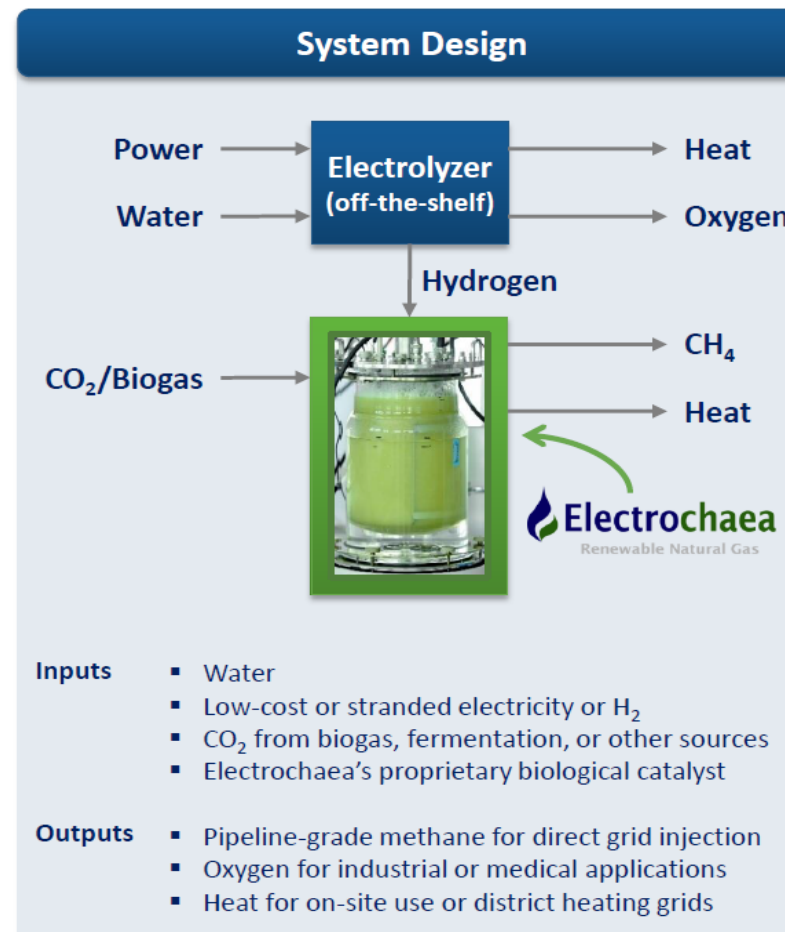
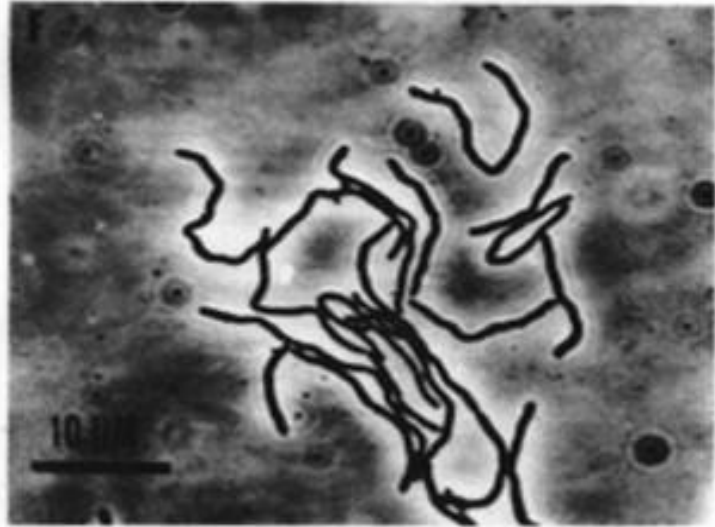


Rule of Thumb:  $10\text{MW}_e$  of electrolysis feeding a bioreactor can recycle 7500 tons of  $\text{CO}_2$  per year

# Power-to-Gas / Biocatalyst – Methanogenic Archaea

## About the organism

- Self-replicating
- Found in extreme environments
- Thermophile up to 80°C (176°F)
- Selectively evolved, not genetically modified
- Anaerobic, but tolerates some O<sub>2</sub>



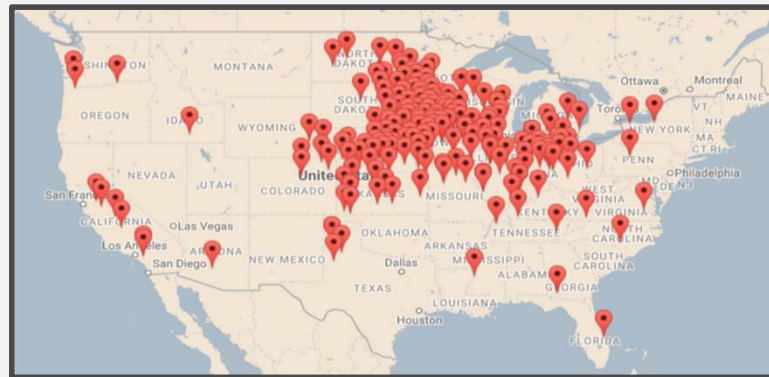
# Power-to-Gas (Cont'd)

## Rule of Thumb:

10MW<sub>e</sub> of electrolysis feeding a bioreactor can produce ~500 scfm (12,000 Nm<sup>3</sup> or 440 MMBTU per day/6 g/L-hr) of methane and recycles ~20 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per day

## Early Market CO<sub>2</sub> Sources – Plenty of Resource

- As of May 2018, the United States has over 200 operating refineries producing 15.8 billion gallons of ethanol per year (<http://www.neo.ne.gov/statshtml/122.htm>)
- Typical ethanol plant produces 50 Million gallons of ethanol per year and 150,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Each 50 MW of electrolysis (432 kg H<sub>2</sub>/day) feeding a bioreactor can recycle 37,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Therefore, It would take 200 MW of electrolysis per typical ethanol plant to recycle all of the CO<sub>2</sub> into CH<sub>4</sub>



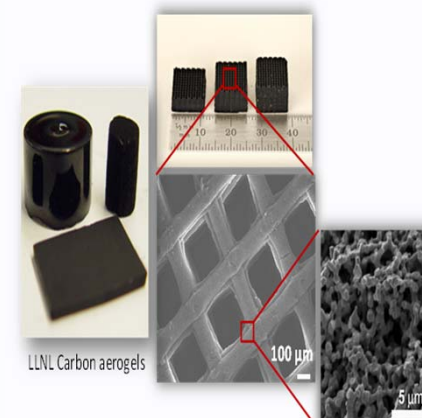
<http://www.ethanolrfa.org/resources/biorefinery-locations/>  
Last updated: April 30, 2018



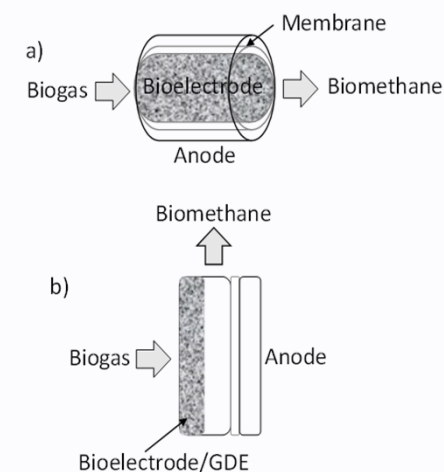
# LLNL/Stanford Microbial Electromethanogenesis Flow Reactors for Biogas Upgrading

## CO<sub>2</sub> and Electrons to Methane

- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Stanford University are using *Methanococcus maripaludis* to convert carbon dioxide and water into methane.
- Hierarchically porous electrode with high surface area due to mesopores generated during carbonization, and macropores to ensure good fluid flow/mixing



Carbon aerogels and printed aerogels with hierarchical pore structures.



(a) flow through aerogel tube-based reactor design; (b) GDE stack-based reactor design.



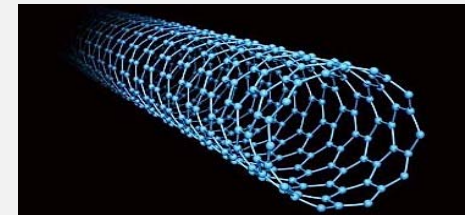
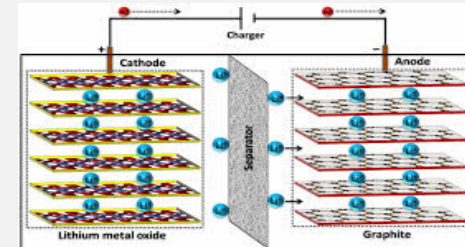
# Hydrogen + Carbon Fibers

## Carbon Capture and Utilization: H<sub>2</sub> + C Co-production

Methane Pyrolysis for Base-Grown Carbon Nanotubes and CO<sub>2</sub>-free H<sub>2</sub>

Partners: West Virginia University, C4-MCP, PNNL, DOE.

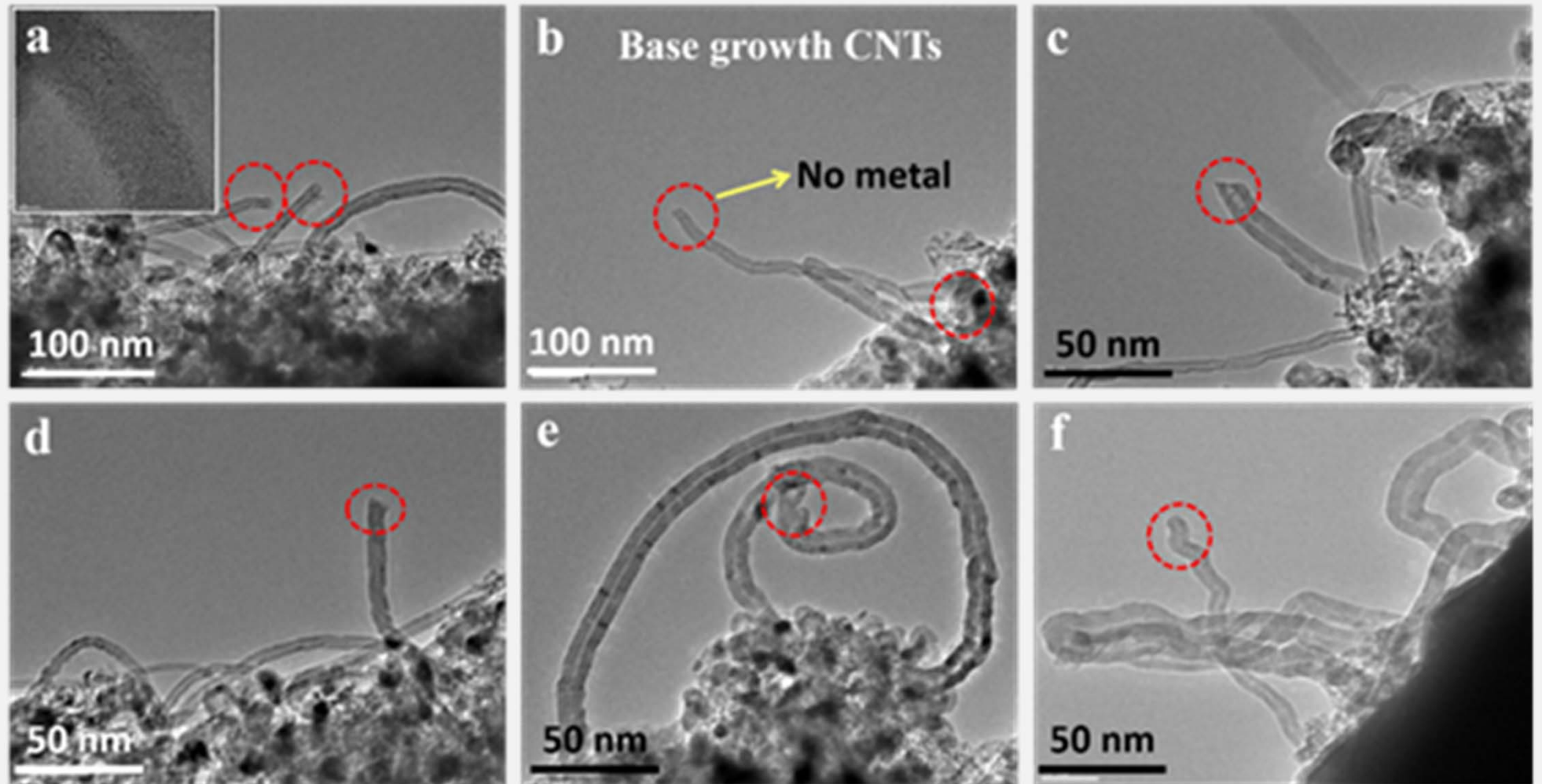
- A new process for producing CO<sub>2</sub>-free hydrogen and solid carbon from natural gas
- Net production cost of H<sub>2</sub>: < \$2/kg with the sale of valuable byproduct carbon.
- Carbon nanotubes produced via “base-growth” versus “tip-growth” mechanism, the conventional technology, offers potential for economic advantage (catalyst regeneration and purity)

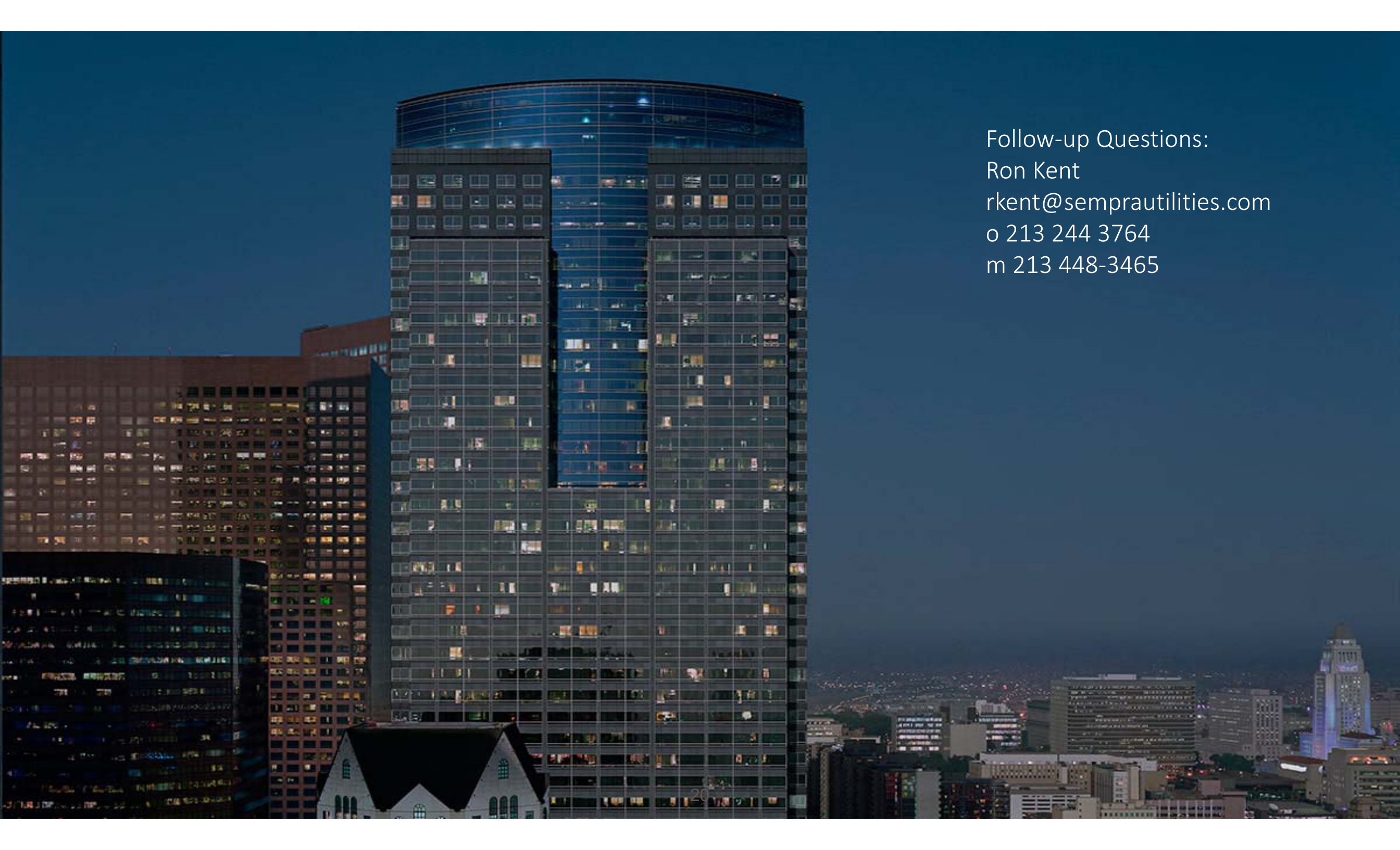




# Hydrogen + Carbon Fibers

Carbon  
Nanotubes





Follow-up Questions:  
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# **RNG Production and Market Barriers**

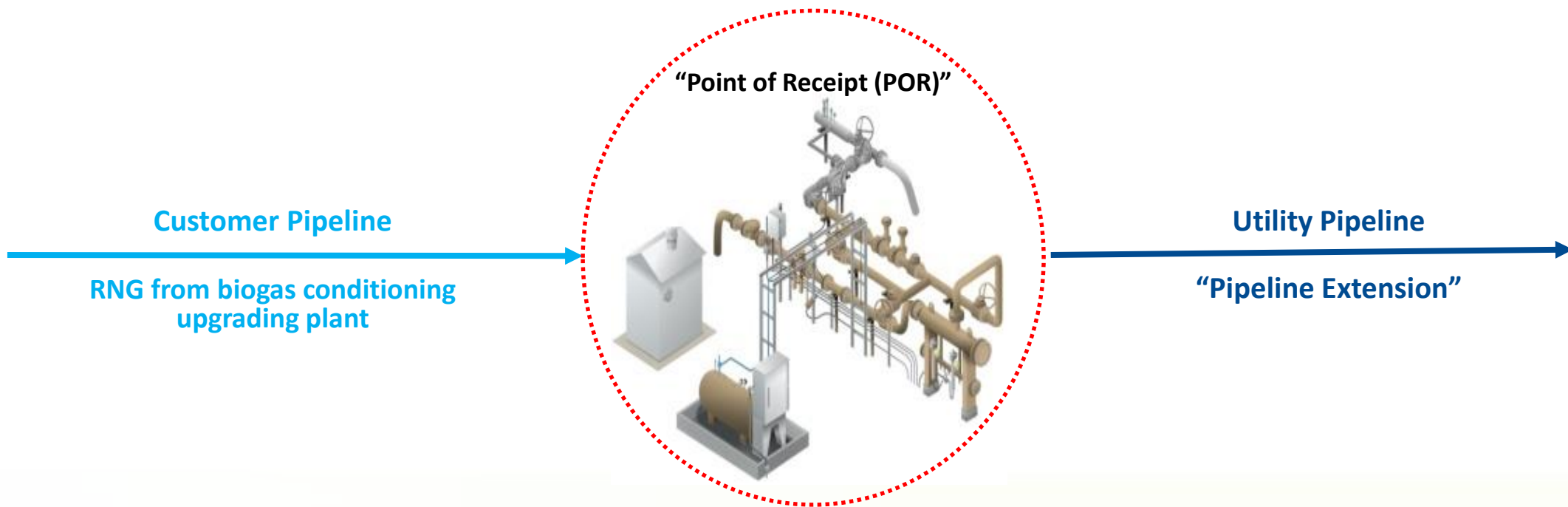
## **SOUTH COAST AQMD RULE 1118.1 BENEFICIAL USE TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP**

**Jim Lucas**  
**Market Development Manager**

October 10, 2019

# Interconnection: Overview of Components

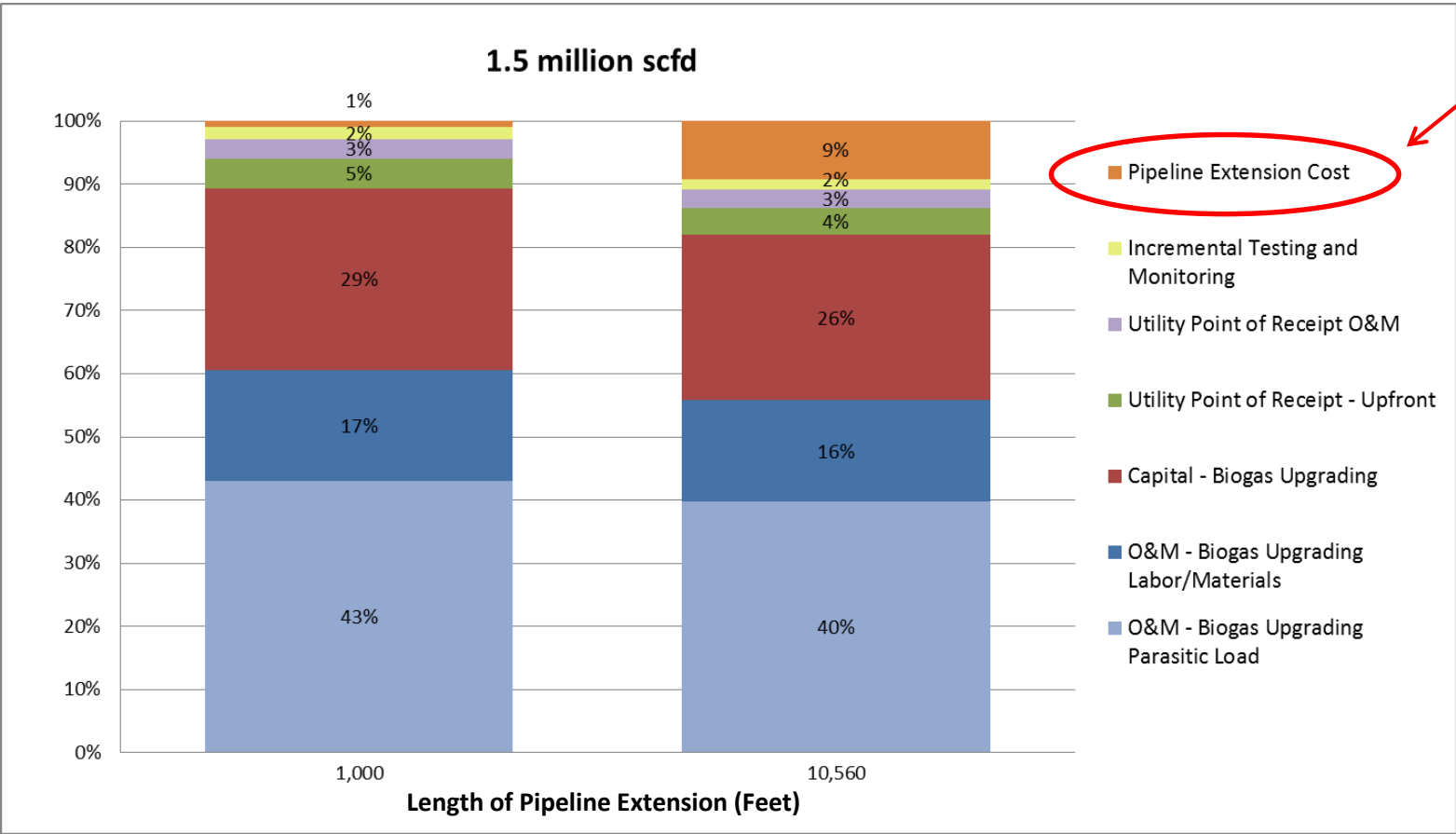
## Two Primary Components of the Term “Interconnection” (“Interconnection” = “Point of Receipt” + “Pipeline Extension”)



Interconnection Facilities are Funded by Interconnector and Owned/Operated by SoCalGas

# Estimated Breakdown of Major Cost Components for Producing and Injecting RNG into the Pipeline

Estimated Breakdown of Lifecycle Costs to Produce and Inject RNG into the Pipeline  
 {based on 1.5 million scfd of biogas for 15 years}



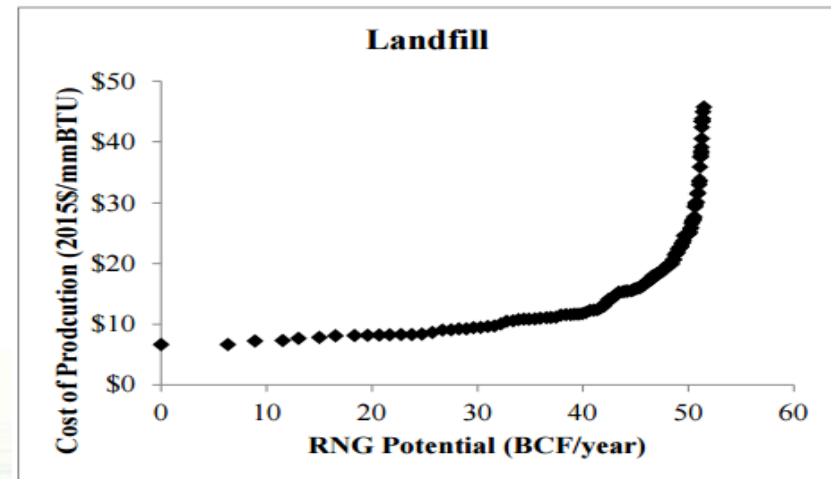
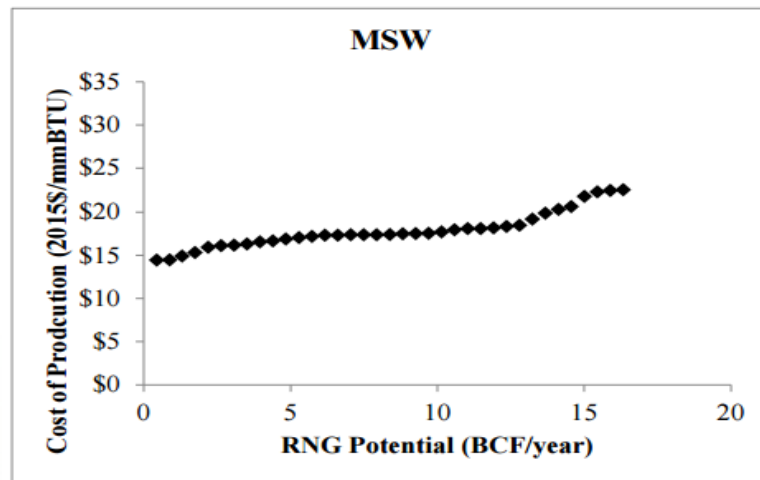
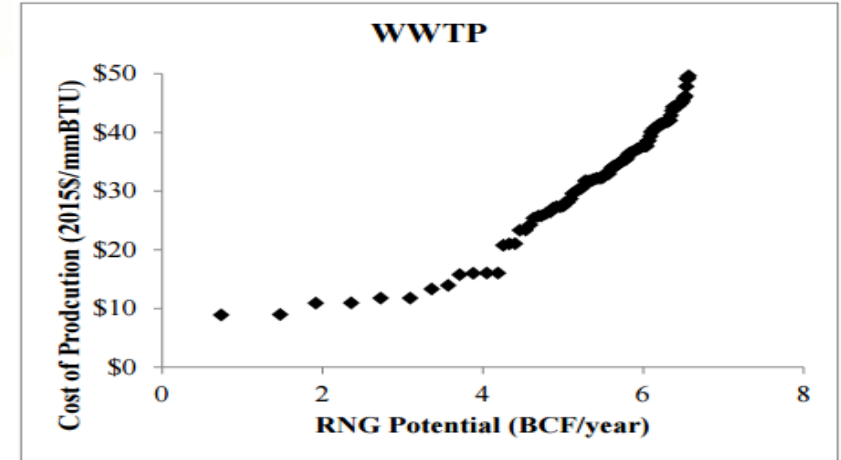
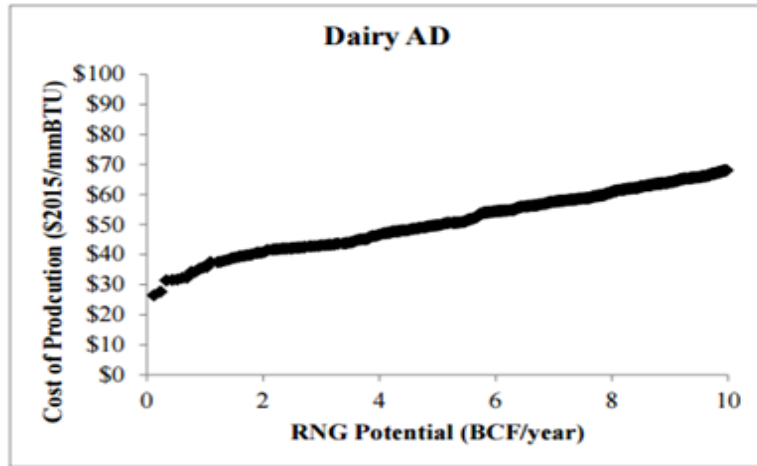
Breakdown includes "Biomethane Interconnection Incentive" subsidy of 50%, maximum of \$3.0 million per project

- 1) Pipeline Extension costs are based on installing pipeline in roads with curb/gutters.
- 2) Estimated costs assume testing for all 17 biogas constituents and includes the cost of the tests and associated labor.



# Cost of Renewable Gas Production in CA

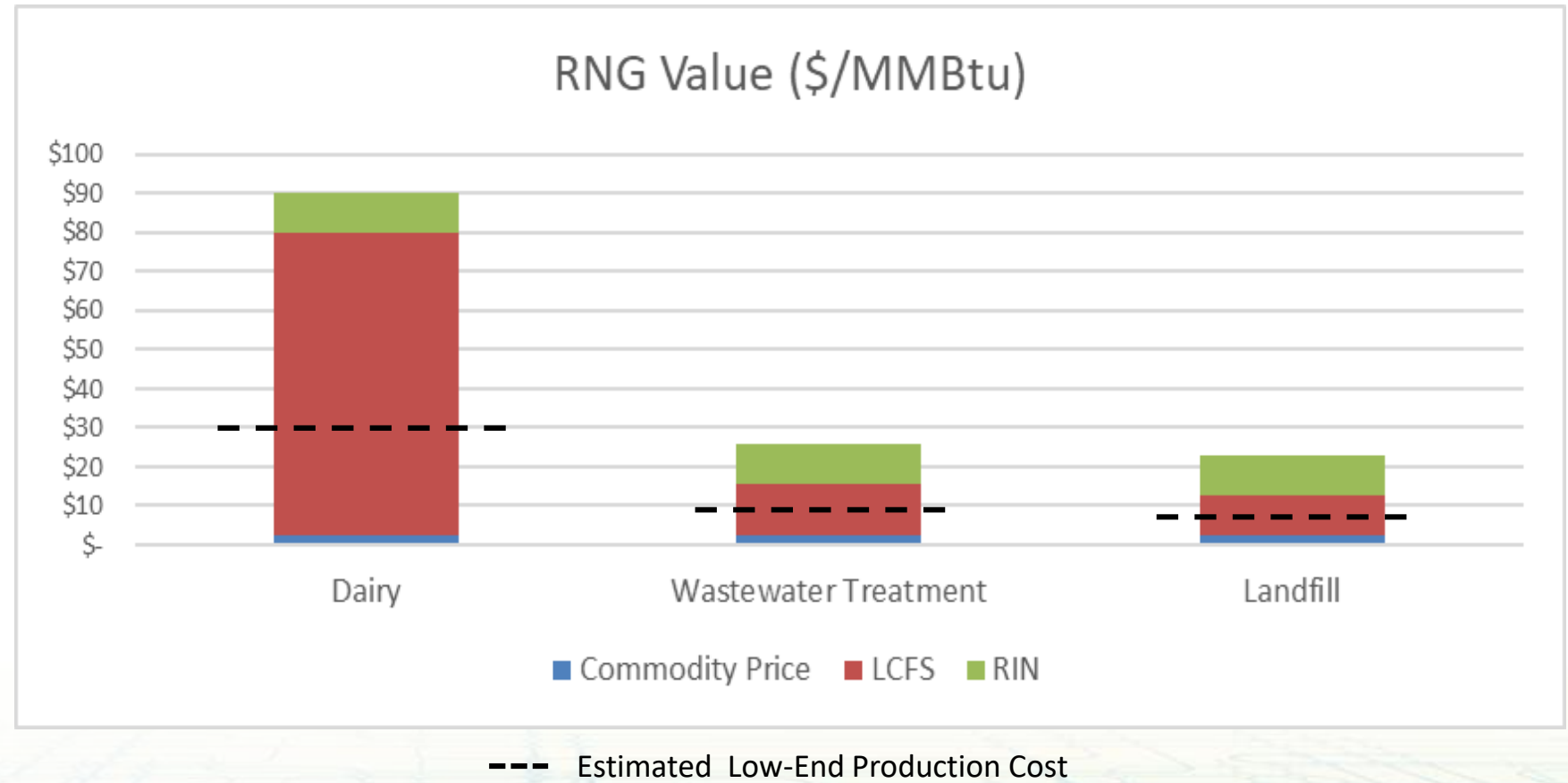
## RNG Production Cost Curves by Source of Feedstock



Source for RG Cost Curves: "The Feasibility of Renewable Natural Gas as a Large-Scale, Low Carbon Substitute," Updated June 2016. Amy Myers Jaffe, Principal Investigator; STEPS Program, Institute of Transportation Studies, UC Davis – [pp 54-55 <https://www.arb.ca.gov/research/apr/past/13-307.pdf>]

# Today's Value of RNG in Transportation

- RNG can have significant value when used as a vehicle fuel in CA
- Typically this value can compensate for higher production costs, however environmental credit uncertainty limits sector growth



# Challenges to Produce RNG

## 1) Market Price of RNG

- The primary barrier for the RNG industry over the last decade is the unavailability of long term contracts at a purchase price higher than the cost to produce/inject RNG
  - If RNG long term contracts were available, numerous landfills and wastewater treatment plants would likely stop flaring and develop RNG to pipeline projects
- Entities are not willing to enter into long term contracts to purchase LCFS and Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS2) due to future uncertainty of these markets

## 2) Project Scale

- Minimum threshold is approximately 1.0 to 1.5 million standard cubic feet per day for favorable economics (including interconnection costs). Higher volumes generally needed for landfills
- Small to medium scale biogas production facilities have historically not been economical. But with biomethane interconnection incentive and high credit prices things are changing

## 3) Landfill Gas Quality/Composition - many landfills have high-levels of nitrogen and oxygen (expensive to remove)

## 4) Incentives/Subsidies - Need incentive programs specific to RNG projects to bring down the costs

## 5) Limited Growth of CNG Vehicles in CA

- CNG vehicle fuel market is becoming saturated with RNG, resulting in limited demand for additional/incremental RNG

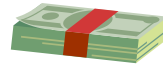
# Overview of SoCalGas Biogas Conditioning/Upgrading Services (BCS) Tariff

## BCS Tariff Illustration

Customer Owned Biogas



Biogas Conditioning/Upgrading Services Facility  
(SoCalGas Owned and Operated)



Customer pays SoCalGas a  
monthly BCS tariff fee for  
a turnkey solution

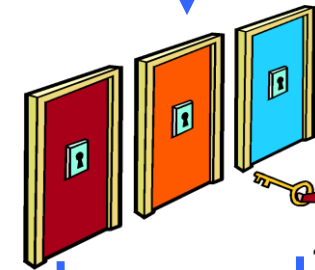
### What is included in SoCalGas' turnkey solution?

- 100% of the upfront capital
- Biogas conditioning/upgrading facilities design
- Equipment and construction RFP
- Vendor selection and management
- Project/construction management
- Facility operation and ongoing maintenance
- Contract management

### What is not included?

- Customer pays for utility costs (e.g. – kWh to operate the upgrading facility)

Customer Owned  
Conditioned/Upgraded Biogas



Customer decides  
how to use conditioned/  
upgraded biogas



Onsite Use – CNG  
or Generation



Interconnection for  
Pipeline Injection  
(Responsibility of Customer)