

# Intro to the Biogas Industry Trends and Opportunities

Patrick Serfass, American Biogas Council Sustainable Food & Beverage Packaging Value Chain Meeting 10 December 2014 | Washington, DC

American Biogas Council



# American Biogas Council: The Voice of the US Biogas Industry

- The only U.S. organization representing the biogas and anaerobic digestion industry
- Over 220 Organizations from the U.S., Germany, Italy, Canada, Sweden, Belgium and the UK
- All Industry Sectors Represented:
  - o project developers/owners
  - anaerobic digestion designers
  - equipment and supply chain companies
  - o waste managers
  - waste water companies
  - farms
  - composters
  - utilities
  - consultants and EPCs
  - financial firms



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#### **ABC Membership**





Environmental Protection

### Organic material is delivered to the digester system

This may include animal manure, food scraps, agricultural residues, or wastewater solids.

> Digested material may be returned for livestock, agricultural and gardening uses.

### organic material

biogas system. Some organic materials will digest more readily than others. Restaurant fats, oils and grease; animal manures; wastewater solids; food scraps; and by-products from food and beverage production are some of the most commonly-digested materials. A single anaerobic digester may be built for a single material or a combination of them.

Some biogas can be used to heat the

digester.

BIOGAS

DIGESTED MATERIAL

#### Organic material is broken down in a digester

The digester uses a natural biological process under controlled conditions to break down organic material into products for beneficial use or disposal.

#### the digester

and th

system

more airtight tanks that can be equipped for mixing and warming occurring microorganisms thrive and break down (digest) organic matter into usable products such as biogas and digested materials. The system will continuously produce biogas and digested material as long as the supply of organi

### Raw biogas is processed

Typically, water, carbon dioxide and other trace compounds are removed, depending on the end use, leaving mostly methane.



LIQUIDS



### Processed biogas is distributed and used

The gas may be used to produce heat, electricity, vehicle fuel or injected into natural gas pipelines.



### Digested material is processed and distributed

Solids and liquids from the digester may be used to produce marketable products, like fertilizer, compost, soil amendments or animal bedding.

### biogas distribution

Processed biogas, often called "biomethane" or "renewable natural gas," can be used the same way you use fossil natural gas: to produce heat, electricity, or vehicle fuel, or to inject into natural gas pipelines. The decision to choose one use over another is largely driven

### digested material

In addition to biogas, digesters produce solid and liquid digested material, containing valuable nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium) and organic carbon. Typically, raw digested into a wide variety of products like fertilizer, compost, soil amendments, or animal bedding, depending on the initial feedstock and local markets. These "coproducts" can be sold to agricultura

http://www.americanbiogascouncil.org/biogas\_howSystemsWork.asp

Liquids and solids

may be separated.

#### biogas processing

Biogas is mostly methane, the primary component of natural gas, and carbon dioxide, plus water vapor, and other trace compounds (e.g. siloxanes and hydrogen sulfide). Biogas can replace natural gas in almost any application, but first it must be processed to remove non-methane compounds. The level of processing varies



# What goes INTO a biogas system? (organic materials)

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**Food Waste** 





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Food Waste



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# Manure (animal/human)



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# What comes OUT of a biogas system? (gas, solid and liquid products)

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## Electricity (gas)



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## Heat (gas)



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# Fuels (gas)



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# Soil Products (liquid/solids)



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### **U.S. Biogas Market–Current and Potential**

**2,000+** Operational Biogas Systems Today

**11,000+** <u>Potential</u> New Biogas Systems



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### **U.S. Biogas Market – Potential Impact**

**13,000+** Biogas Systems



Enough energy to power 3.5 million American homes

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# Trending: Adding Food Waste Making Vehicle Fuel and

# **Making Products from Digestate**

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### What wastes are BEST for making biogas?



35x manure 25x manure 10x manure

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### **A Focus on Commercial Organics**



Sources: MIT and Tim Horton

- Restaurants (example), Grocery Stores, Convention Centers, Hotels
- Lots of organic waste generated

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### Mandates, Incentives — Food Waste Recycling

- **Municipalities:** San Francisco, Seattle, Austin, Vancouver, New York City, most starting in 2009-10
- **2011:** CT, Public Act 11-217 (updated in 2013)
- **2012:** VT, Universal Recycling Law, Act 148—all organics, largest generators first, effective 7/1/2016

#### 2013

- CT: Public Act 13-285 (update to 2011)—Commercial organics, effective 1/1/14
- NYC: Local Law 146-2013—Commercial organics, effective 7/1/2015

#### 2014

- MA: 310 CMR 19.000 regulations—Commercial organics, effective 10/1/14
- RI: An Act Relating to Health and Safety—Commercial organics, effective 1/1/2016
- CA AB 1826: Mandatory Commercial Food Waste Recycling (awaiting Gov's signature)
- MD: Composting and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities-Yard Waste and Food Residuals (pending)

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# Food + Yard Waste (CT)

**Central Connecticut Organics Recycling** Facility +Near Hartford, CT +75,000 tons/year of municipal and commercial organics (Food, yard and woody waste) +16 municipalities contributing +1.4 MW + CHP +Digested Material: high quality compost and engineered soil products +Construction: late 2014 +Commissioning: late 2015





## Food Waste + Biosolids (FL)

Harvest Energy Garden

+130,000 tons per year of biosolids, fats, oils, grease, and food waste mostly from Walt Disney Resorts and hotels +3.2 MW of installed power generation +2.2 MW of recoverable heat

+Digested material: class AA granular fertilizer and phosphorous-rich Struvite sold as a fertilizer additive



### Manure Digester + Food Waste



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### **Thank You!**

- Learn More
  - Sign up for the **FREE Biogas News**
  - <u>www.AmericanBiogasCouncil.org</u>
- Become a Member
  - Dues start @ \$75-\$1,250
  - Application online, or contact us

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### Vehicles: Recent EPA changes to Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS2)

### • Before:

- Feedstocks: Biogas from manure, wastewater and landfills
- Uses: CNG vehicles
- RIN credit: D5 "advanced biofuel"
- After:
  - Feedstocks: Biogas from virtually ALL feedstocks (all the ones before + non-manure agricultural waste, food waste, yard waste, MSW, energy crops, crop residues)
  - Uses: CNG vehicles + LNG, electric vehicles (battery and fuel cell), DME (renewable diesel)
  - RIN credit: mostly D3 "advanced <u>cellulosic</u> biofuel" (<u>more valuable</u>) and some D5, depending on project.

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# Food + Yard Waste (CA)

Zero Waste Energy +San Jose, CA +90,000 tons/year +1.6 MW electricity + CHP +Digested Material: high quality compost +Phase 2 completed +Phase 3: Turning residential food waste into biogas for vehicles







## Food Waste (CA)

Sacramento, CA +Awarded International Bioenergy Project of the Year (2013) +40,000 tons/year of food waste +700,000/year diesel gallon equivalents of renewable CNG +fueling Atlas waste haulers and city vehicles





# Biogas + Ethanol (KS)

### Himark BioGas/Western Plains Energy

+Biogas and ethanol (50M gal/yr) production

+Biogas Inputs: cattle feedlot manure, ethanol plant waste, slaughter-house waste and municipal organics, rich in sand, dirt, rocks, plastic, and cellulose.

+Biogas offsets fossil natural gas in ethanol plant (13MW equiv.)

+Digested materials fertilize largest plot of sweet sorghum in US







### A Legislative and Regulatory Push

### **Federal Activities**

- Farm Bill (elec.)
- <u>Biogas</u> ITC (gas)
- Tax Extenders (elec.)
- Renewable Fuel Standard (gas)
- Clean Energy Standard (elec.)
- USDA, EPA, DOE, DOD

### State Activities

- Organic Waste Plans: Top 11 States
- CA, WA, OR, WI, MN, NY, MA, PA, NJ, MD, NC



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