

Gail Richardson, PhD

VP for Programs, Energy Vision, NYC

Advanced Energy Conference, November 18, 2009



- Founded in 2006 by Joanna Underwood, President
- A NYC-based non-profit environmental organization that studies and promotes technologies and policies to achieve the sustainable energy and transportation systems needed in the 21st century.
- Greening Garbage Trucks report played a key role in launching the shift to natural gas refuse fleets in Smithtown and elsewhere on Long Island.

# Biomethane Is Natural Gas (CH<sub>4</sub>) Made from Biomass

#### **Highest Biomass-Conversion Efficiency**

- Biomethane is the most efficient conversion option for biomass. Gas Technology Institute (US), 2009
- No other biofuel can compete with biomethane in terms of fuel per tonne of waste or per hectare of cultivated land.
   Pål Börjesson, Lund Technical University, Sweden, 2008
- Thermo-chemical and bio-chemical biomass gasification to make biomethane is the key to bringing high shares of biomass efficiently into energy markets.
   German Biomass Research Center, 2009

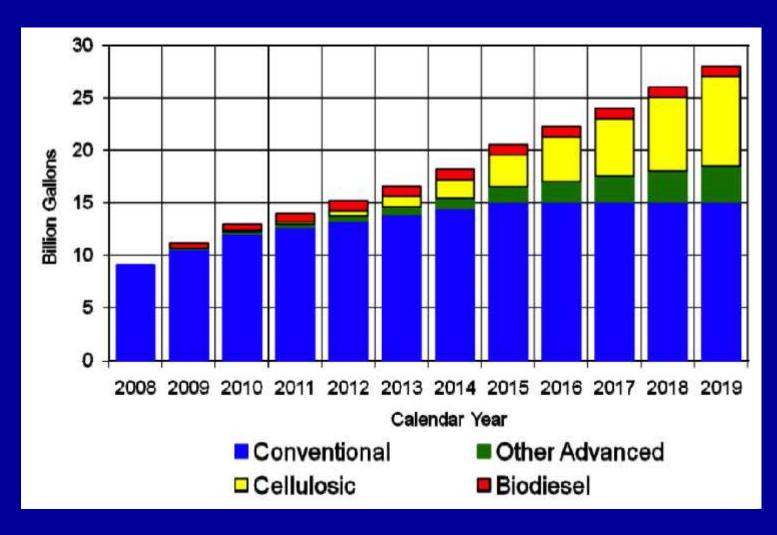
## Biomethane Feedstocks and Conversion Technologies

- Landfill gases from municipal solid wastes Gas drying, separation, and cleanup technologies
- Animal manures, sludge, industrial wastes, energy crops, etc. <u>Anaerobic digestion</u>
- Woody feedstocks <u>Gasification</u>



- Biomethane is the only sustainable commercial alternative to diesel for years to come.
- Methane/biomethane fuel reduces soot to nearly 0.
- Sustainable biomethane made from wastes reduces GHG by 88% to >100%. (CARB; Swedish research)
- Vast domestic supply: EPA-regulated large landfills emit enough biogas to make 9.4 billion diesel gallon equivalents of biomethane = 25% total US highway diesel fuel consumption. (MSW Management)

### Liquid Biodiesel Potential 1 Billion Gallons by 2019 (US DOE)



Energy Vision, 11-18-09 6

# US Diesel Trucks & Buses: Big Roles & Impact, Small #'s

#### **Economic & Service Roles**

- 69% of freight tonnage (11x109 tons); 84% value (ATA)
- Essential community services
- Transportation for 25,000,000 school children

#### Oil Users & GHG Emitters

- 20% highway fuel consumption
- 25% highway CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- 7% total GHG emissions

Only 4% of highway vehicles!: ~9 million of 250 million

Energy Vision, 11-18-09 7



- Europe: Sweden, Madrid, Lille, Bern, Oslo
- CA: Altamont Landfill (Waste Management & Linde)
- TX: McCommas Bluffs Landfill (Clean Energy & Shell)
- OH: Franklin County (SWACO & Firm Green)

What about Long Island?



### Urban Fleets First: The Bridge to Sustainable Fuel for Trucks & Buses



Energy Vision, 11-18-09 9

### Long Island Invests in Natural Gas Fleets

### Natural Gas Vehicles & Infrastructure

L.I. Bus Company: 330 buses

Smithtown: 22 refuse trucks, others

Brookhaven: 70 refuse trucks Nassau County: 5 dump trucks

Oyster Bay: 5 refuse trucks

Long Beach PSD: 20 school buses

Hempstead: CNG-Hythane-Hydrogen

fueling station

GLICCC Stimulus award: 87 trucks, 5

fueling stations







### Time for Biomethane on L.I.

- "Island" vulnerability = waste is a VITAL ISSUE
- Natural gas infrastructure in Smithtown, Brookhaven, Hempstead, elsewhere
- Strong municipal leadership, world-class scientific community
- Examples to learn from in US & Europe
- Value of the LI model on the regional/national stage

Energy Vision project *Drive to Sustainability* 



### **ENERGY VISION**

www.energy-vision.org

Thank you for your attention.