



EESI
Environmental and
Energy Study Institute

Briefing Notice

Powering Businesses, Homes and Vehicles with Waste: How to Grow the Economy and Jobs with Biogas and Renewable Natural Gas

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

201-00 Capitol Visitor Center (Senate-Side)

Lunch will be served

Please RSVP to expedite check-in: www.eesi.org/052317biogas

Live webcast (connection permitting) will be streamed at: www.eesi.org/livecast

The **American Biogas Council** (ABC), the **Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas** (CRNG) and the **Environmental and Energy Study Institute** (EESI) invite you to a briefing about the untapped energy in domestic wastes. Waste streams—including manure, agricultural waste, waste water, food scraps and landfill gases—can be converted to biogas and upgraded to renewable natural gas (RNG) for electricity, pipeline injection, or vehicle use, while also providing valuable products such as fertilizer and compost. Using these products provides local jobs, improves air and water quality, assists in meeting **multi-agency nutrient management strategies** and helps to meet multiple policy goals espoused in both the **Farm Bill** and the **Renewable Fuel Standard**. Speakers for this forum are:

- **Bernie Sheff**, Vice President, Engineering, ES Engineering Services; Chairman, American Biogas Council
- **Johannes Escudero**, CEO, Coalition for Renewable Natural Gas
- **Grant Zimmerman**, CEO, ampCNG
- **Caroline Henry**, Vice President, Marketing, quasar energy group
- **Luke Morrow**, Managing Director, Morrow Renewables
- **Brian Meek**, Director of Plant Operations, Avant Energy
- **Patrick Serfass**, Executive Director, American Biogas Council

Currently, most waste streams represent a missed opportunity. The United States produces over 70 million tons of organic wastes per year (food waste, manure, agricultural waste), yet only a small portion is used to make RNG, biogas and a variety of soil amendments (fertilizers, composts, peat moss replacement). According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, and the American Biogas Coalition, 8,241 dairy and swine farms, 3,888 wastewater treatment facilities, over 400 landfills and nearly 1,000 stand-alone food waste systems could be producing biogas, RNG and other commercial products from wet wastes.

These wastes can cause significant pollution problems. However, if utilized, they can reduce costs associated with waste remediation, provide value-added products and new revenue streams. Moreover, developing all the potential projects above would catalyze an estimated \$40 billion in capital deployment for construction activity, resulting in approximately 335,000 short-term construction jobs and 23,000 permanent jobs to run the digesters and produce raw biogas.

Making RNG from biogas creates additional jobs and investment. Since 2014, 53 existing RNG facilities have created 4,000 direct and indirect jobs. Forty new RNG projects a year over the next decade could create as many as 70,000 additional domestic jobs—in rural and urban communities—adding \$6.5 billion to the economy.

State waste resources are diverse and numerous. Briefing attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the potential resources in their states, as well as economic and job opportunities, and policy drivers.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Jessie Stolark at jstolark@eesi.org or (202) 662-1885

