

# Renewable Natural Gas :

*Part of our Sustainable Energy  
Future*

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# The American Gas Foundation

- A 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 1989.
- An independent source of information research and programs on energy and environmental issues that affect public policy, with a particular emphasis on natural gas.

*Major Study: The Potential for Renewable Gas (2011)*

<http://www.gasfoundation.org/ResearchStudies/agf-renewable-gas-assessment-report-110901.pdf>

# Benefits of Renewable Natural Gas:

**Economic Benefits**



**Social Benefits**



**Environmental Benefits**

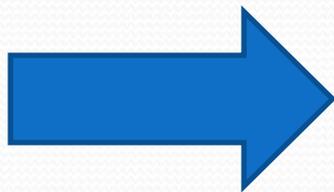


**Energy Security Benefits**

# What is Renewable Natural Gas?

A *carbon-neutral fuel* produced or captured from:

- Renewable, sustainable biomass sources;
- Landfills;
- Wastewater treatment facilities.



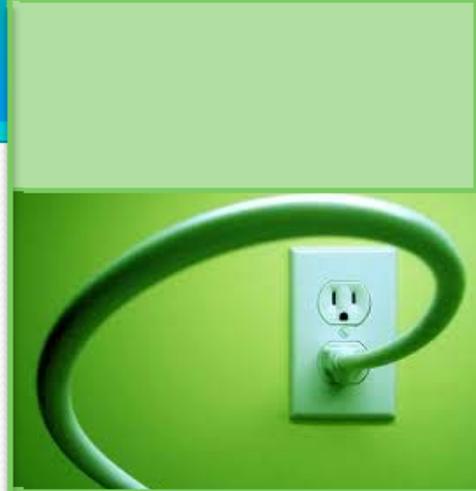
*Beyond carbon-neutral:*  
Substantial greenhouse gas  
reductions from avoided  
methane emissions

# What is Renewable Natural Gas?

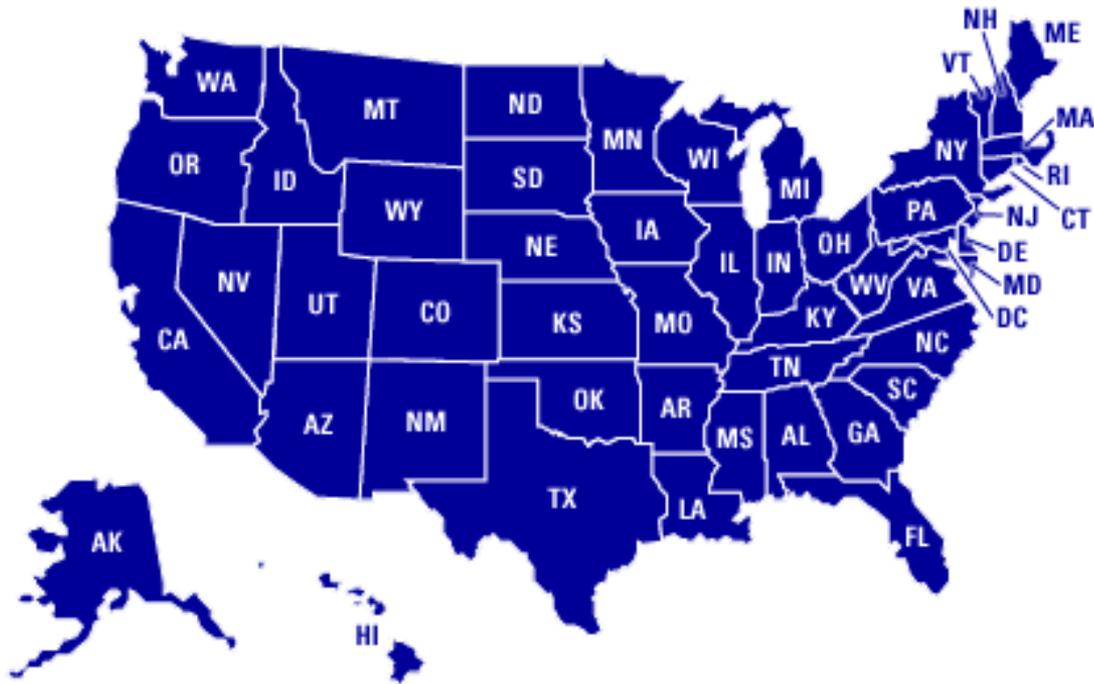
*A highly versatile energy source that can be used for:*

- Direct use at site;
- Residential heating and cooking;
- Commercial applications;
- Manufacturing, including heavy industry;
- Electricity production;
- Transportation fuel.

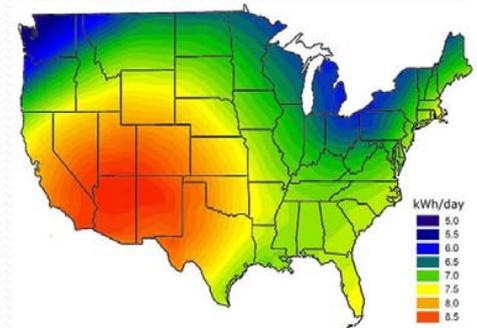
Renewable natural gas could meet demand for between 4-10% of natural gas usage.



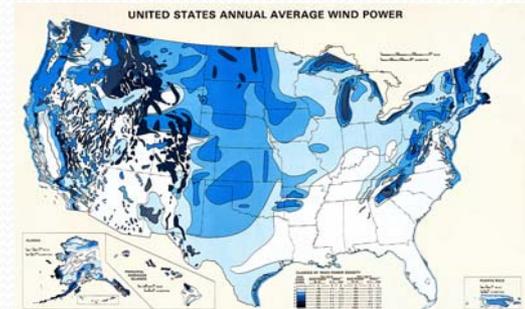
Where is there Significant Potential for *Renewable Natural Gas Production*?



## Solar Power Potential



## Wind Power Potential



*Geography is no longer destiny for renewable power.*

# Renewable Natural Gas: A Fifty-State Resource

- Every state has potential from landfills, wastewater treatment, and/or agricultural sources.
- Nearly every state in the US has potential for renewable feedstock production suitable for renewable gas.

*Using all available feedstocks nationally, we could provide 9.5 quadrillion Btus per year.*

# Reduction in GHG Emissions

- National Greenhouse Gas reductions estimated at up to 146 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.
  - Approximately the equivalent emissions of 29 million cars
  - According to the California Air Resources Board, renewable gas is the lowest carbon transportation fuel available.
- Additional benefits to the agricultural sector by controlling the release of methane.



# Renewable Natural Gas: A pathway to sustainable transportation.

- Renewable gas provides increase security by the potential displacement of foreign produced transportation fuel .
- European nations, especially Sweden and Germany, are developing renewable gas (biomethane) as an alternative transportation fuel.
- 22 models of light duty natural gas vehicles available in Europe today - all compatible with renewable natural gas



# Developing Renewable Gas Resources: Job Creation Potential



Up to 250,000 jobs  
in green energy,  
farming, and  
agricultural  
sectors.

Source: The Potential For Renewable Natural Gas published by the American Gas Foundation (2011)

# Renewable Natural Gas: Compatible with Existing Infrastructure

- The nation has 2.4 million miles of natural gas pipeline in place today - all compatible with renewable natural gas.



## ***Developing the Potential: Renewable Natural Gas***

- Maintaining a level playing field for all renewable energy sources, including renewable natural gas, will help us meet our national energy goals.
- Solar energy receives a 30 percent federal investment tax credit (ITC) through December 31, 2016.
- *Including renewable natural gas in the renewable energy ITC would stimulate deployment of this clean, versatile, and abundant resource.*

# The Case for Renewable Natural Gas





# The American Gas Foundation

*Dedicated to addressing the role natural gas can play in a sustainable, secure energy future.*

*Please find this and other studies at [www.gasfoundation.org](http://www.gasfoundation.org):*

The Potential for Renewable Gas (2011)