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 PM
Capitol Visitors Center | Senate 201-00

- Welcome – Jessie Stolark, EESI
  - What is biogas? The current and potential biogas market
    - Bernie Sheff, American Biogas Council
      - How Biogas is Made (Feedstocks & how systems work)
      - How Biogas is Used (including digestate)
      - Biogas Market Today & its Potential
  - How is RNG different from biogas? The current and potential RNG market
    - Johannes Escudero, RNG Coalition
      - What is RNG (& how it’s different from biogas)
      - Current RNG Production (Feedstock / Utilization)
      - RNG Production Potential

Related industries—rural, urban and suburban
- Agriculture
- Food
- Waste management
- Water utilities
- Energy (fuels and baseload power)
- Shipping (Trucking & Fleets), and Municipal Buses/Fleets
- Fertilizer & Compost

- Value of biogas/RNG through real projects
  Short case studies from industry professionals highlighting some of the benefits of developing biogas and RNG systems.
  - Grant Zimmerman, ampCNG
    - Fair Oaks Dairy, IN (benefits: manure management, baseload onsite electricity, vehicle fuels and onsite fueling, renewable heat, soil and fertilizer products, watershed protection)
  - Caroline Henry, quasar energy group
    - Central Ohio BioEnergy (COBE), Columbus, OH (benefits: food scrap recycling, onsite baseload electricity, vehicle fuel, renewable heat, soil and fertilizer products, watershed protection)
  - Luke Morrow, Morrow Renewables
    - Morrow Renewables Projects, Texas (benefits: use of methane from landfills, pipeline injection, vehicle fuels, renewable heat)
  - Brian Meek, Avant Energy
    - Hometown BioEnergy Le Seur, MN (benefits: food scrap recycling, peak power, energy storage, renewable heat, soil products, watershed protection)
Key benefits from biogas and RNG systems:

- Waste management solution
  - Manure management
  - Use of methane from landfills (rather than flaring)
  - Commercial and urban food scrap recycling
- Energy generation and storage
  - Electricity: Onsite, baseload, peak power, small/utility scale
  - Gas: Vehicle fuel, natural gas pipeline injection, energy storage
  - Renewable heat
- Soil and fertilizer products
- Watershed protection
- Economic benefits (All)
  - Investment dollars
  - Creates jobs
  - Reduces costs to handle waste material

- Existing Federal programs supporting biogas & RNG industries
  - Patrick Serfass, American Biogas Council
    - RFS (RNG fulfills large majority of cellulosic biofuels production)
    - Farm Bill (energy title is critical):
      - Energy Title (IX): Rural Energy for America Program, Bioenergy Program for Advanced Biofuel, Biorefinery Assistance Program, Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI).
      - Conservation Title (II): Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Innovation Grants.
      - Research Title (VII): Agricultural Research Service and National Institute of Food and Agriculture
    - Tax policy
    - Agency efforts (appropriations):
      - Cross Agency:
        - USDA/DOE Biomass Research & Development Technical Advisory Committee
        - EPA, USDA, USGS integrated nutrient management strategy

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