

# Role of Renewable Natural Gas in Closing the Carbon Cycle







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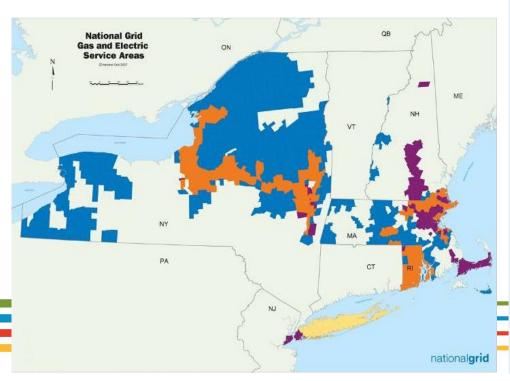
#### Agenda

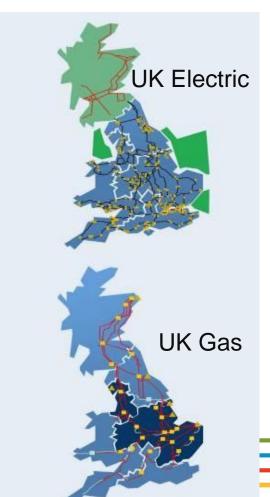


- Background on National Grid
- Renewable natural gas fundamentals
- Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant project and Micro CHP
- Conclusions

#### An International Energy Company

- Based in US and UK
  - One of world's largest utilities
  - 19 million customers
  - 27,000 employees

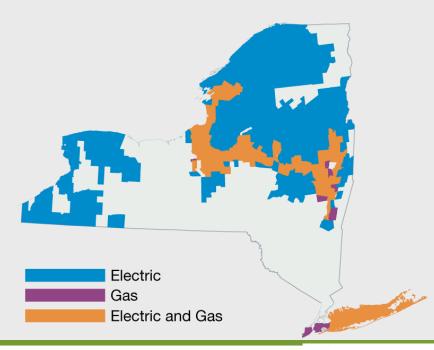




#### ...Yet, a Very Local NY Business

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**New York** represents 60% of National Grid's **US** business



10,500 employees

2.3 million gas customers

1.6 million electric customers

3,700 MW electric generation

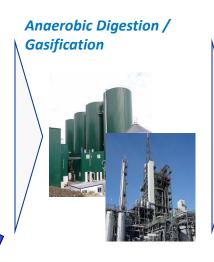
Nearly \$1 billion in annual capital investment

#### What is Renewable Natural Gas?

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- Pipeline quality gas derived from biomass resources that is injected into the gas distribution network
- Sources of biomass include wastewater treatment plants, landfills, livestock manure, municipal solid waste, agricultural residues and energy crops







Injection of pipeline quality gas



#### How is Renewable Natural Gas **Produced?**



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#### **Anaerobic Digestion (AD)**

- High-moisture organic material such as wastewater, food waste & certain livestock manure
- Microorganisms convert organic matter into biogas
- Commercially available and in use today

#### **Thermal Gasification (TG)**

- Low-moisture feedstock such as forestry waste, crop residue, municipal solid waste and energy crops
- > Thermal breakdown of solid biomass into syngas and converted to methane
- ➤ A proven technology likely to reach commercial-scale implementation within 10 years



#### Why Should It Be Considered?

# Renewable Natural Gas is a here and now energy solution that delivers the following benefits:

- Lowers greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by offsetting the use of natural gas (and in some instances capturing methane that would have otherwise entered the atmosphere)
- Provides a real option for managing and using local waste resources to produce renewable energy
- Leverages the existing natural gas network to deliver a renewable fuel for homes, business, industrial, and transportation needs
- Stimulates the local economy and creates jobs
- Enhances diversity of supply with a local and domestic resource

# Renewable Natural Gas Is Interchangeable With Natural Gas for Everyday Uses in Our Homes and Businesses

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#### What Is the Potential?

Recent study by American Gas Foundation (released Sept. 2011)

Finding: Under a reasonable long-term scenario, Renewable Natural Gas could be used to meet the natural gas needs of half of all American homes.

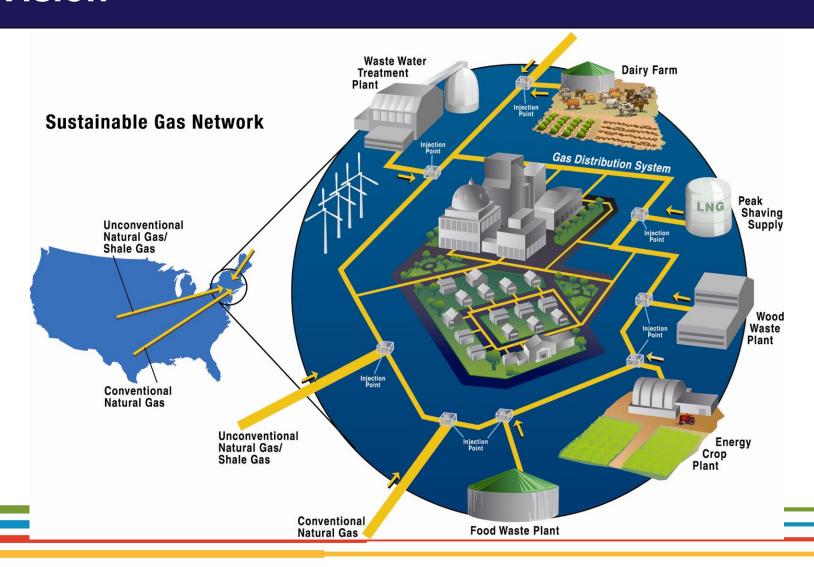
	AGF Study Scenario		
Category	Non-Aggressive	Aggressive	Technical Potential
Energy Potential (billion cubic feet /yr)	967	2,485	9,450
Potential as a Percentage of Overall Demand*	4%	10%	40%
CO <sub>2</sub> Abatement (million tons/yr)	57	146	556
Direct Jobs Created (low – high range)	8,825 – 32,189	22,692 – 82,765	86,732 – 316,338

<sup>\*</sup> Based on a national usage of approximately 24 TCF of natural gas (for 2010), source EIA

#### Vision

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# **Transportation Sector Is Well Positioned to Embrace Renewable Natural Gas**

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- The environmental attributes of renewable gas can be recognized through Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) – EPA program
  - RFS sets annual mandates for renewable transportation fuels in the United States
- RFS program was created under the Energy Policy Act (EPACT) of 2005
   & it was expanded and extended by the Energy Independence & Security
   Act (EISA) of 2007
  - Requires 36 billion gallons of renewable fuel by 2022
- RFS2 also established new RINs that are differentiated by type of biofuel
  - Renewable natural gas is considered an advanced biofuel

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#### **Newtown Creek Demonstration Project**

- National Grid and New York City Department of Environmental Protection are working together to deliver renewable gas from the largest wastewater treatment plant in New York City
- Once operational, the project will inject enough gas to provide heat to approximately 2,500 homes and reduce CO2 emissions by about 16,000 tons annually (equal to CO2 emissions of approximately 3,000 cars)



Picture of Newtown Creek wastewater treatment plant in Brooklyn, NY. Source: New York City Department of Environmental Protection

# Typical Clean-up System Components

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- Source
- Gas compression/Liquids knock-out
- H2S Removal Various Options
- Pretreatment TSA or PSA
- CO2 Separation
  - Multiple systems (Dry, Wet, PSA, Membrane)
- Thermal Oxidizer/Flare
- Balance of plant
  - Meters
  - Chromatographs
  - Gas sampling
  - Odorizers





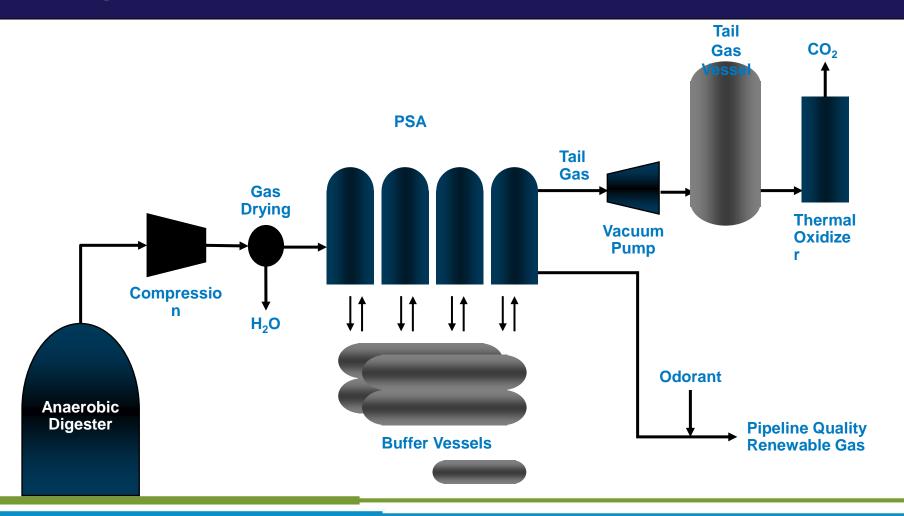


Courtesy of Air Liquide

TSA: Temperature Swing Adsorption PSA: Pressure Swing Adsorption

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#### **Simplified Process Flow**



#### **Net-Zero Emissions Buildings**

- "Net-Zero Emissions: A net-zero emissions building produces (or purchases) enough emissions-free RE to offset emissions from all energy used in the building" NREL/TP-550-44586
- Enabling Technologies Renewable Pipeline Gas + Efficient Buildings







- Infrastructure required
  - Gas and electric? Gas or Electric?
  - NRG's CEO predicts there will be one; the gas infrastructure.
  - The gas infrastructure will also be able to transport CO<sub>2</sub>

#### **Conclusions**

- Energy is critical to human well being
  - Direct correlation to reduction of poverty and economic growth
- Need to develop collaborative regulatory and government approaches
- Energy can be clean
  - Scale is challenge
- Natural gas utilities can play a critical role in the future
  - Net zero concept
  - Asset management expertise in a CCS world