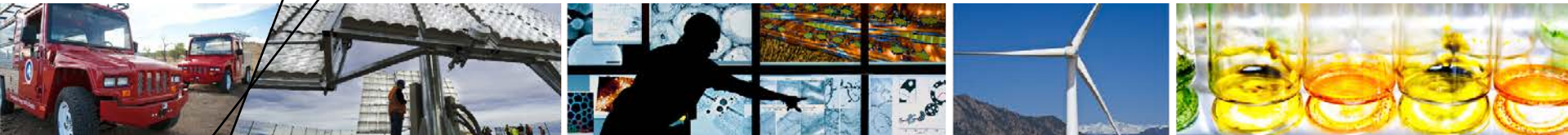


# Cooperative Research and Innovation Liquid Biofuels for the transport sector



## Research and Development Initiatives on Biofuels for Transport

**Helena Chum**  
**National Renewable Energy Laboratory,**  
**Golden, Colorado, USA**

**November 13, 2015**



# Outline

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- **Transport Fuels and Systems**
- **Renewable Fuels - 20,000 ft view**
- **Global RD&D examples**
  - Sugar crops and lignocellulosic crops can make a variety of fuels and products
  - Aviation biofuels development – biofuels with identical properties of petroleum-derived fuels
  - Biomass Flexibility - Refineries and Systems
- **Sustainability Considerations**

# Transport Fuels and Systems

**Strict Global Requirements for Aviation Fuels  
Requires Multiple Partnerships for RDD&D**

## SYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY

**Economic**

**Environment**

**Social**

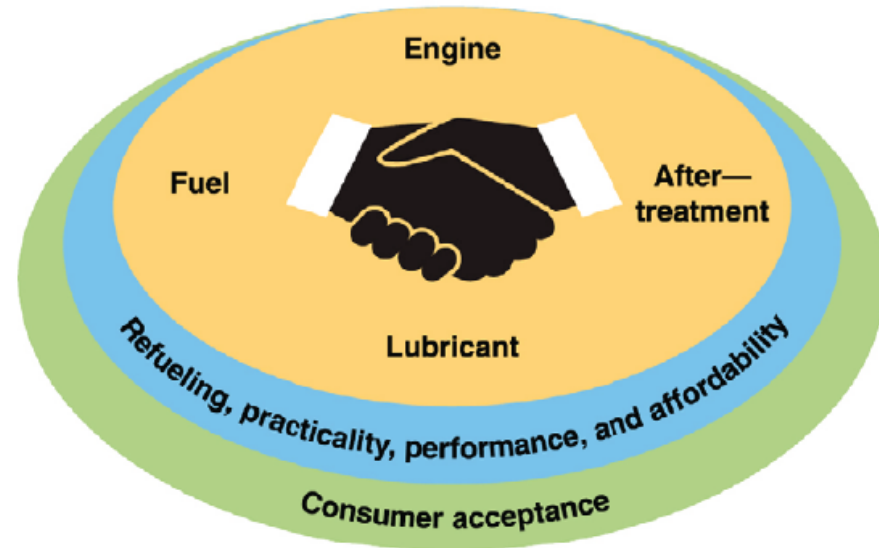
Hierarchy of fuels

Need for liquid fuels

Possibility for electrification increases



Everything has to fit together—  
different stakeholders have to work together!

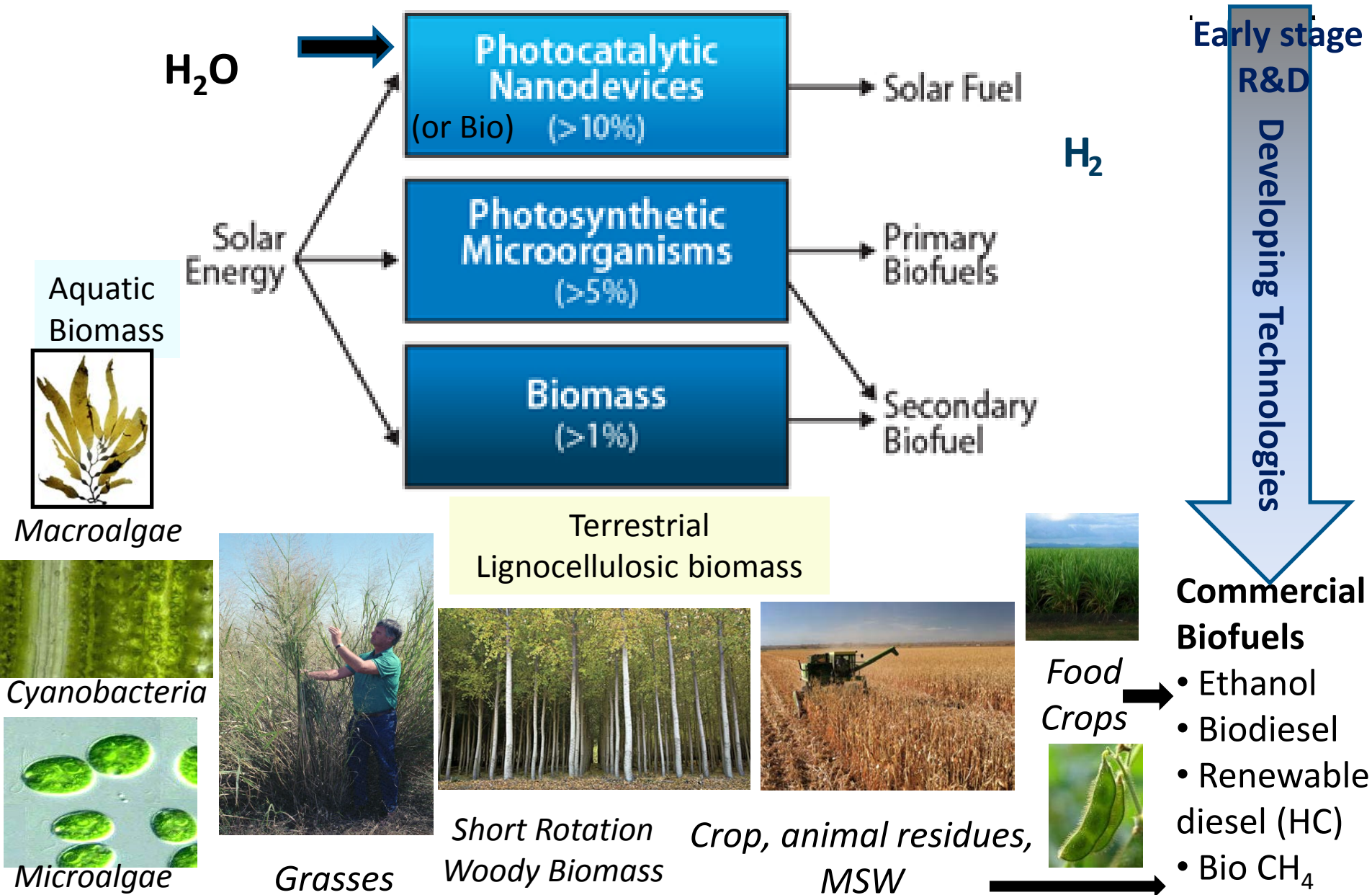


**Off Road Less strict local applications can use local fuels  
appropriate for the engines and conditions**

# Innovation versus Invention

- Innovation is the improvement of a product or process (often in combination) which creates meaningful social/economic impact.  
“The successful translation of new ideas into tangible societal impact.” — USC Stevens Institute for Innovation
- Innovation often involves:
  - Significant advances along an entire value chain.
  - Market demand and public acceptance.
  - Correct timing – confluence of historical factors/trends.
  - Cross-cutting, interdisciplinary inputs.
  - Longer term and significant impacts on economics and culture
- Invention is merely the starting point for innovation.

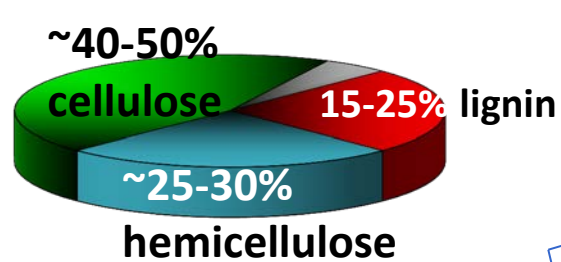
# Renewable Liquid or Gaseous Fuels





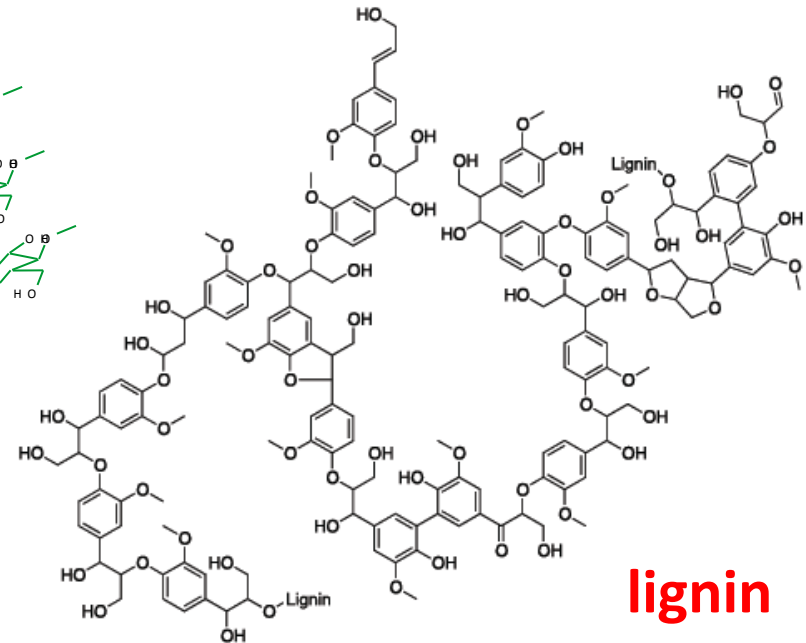
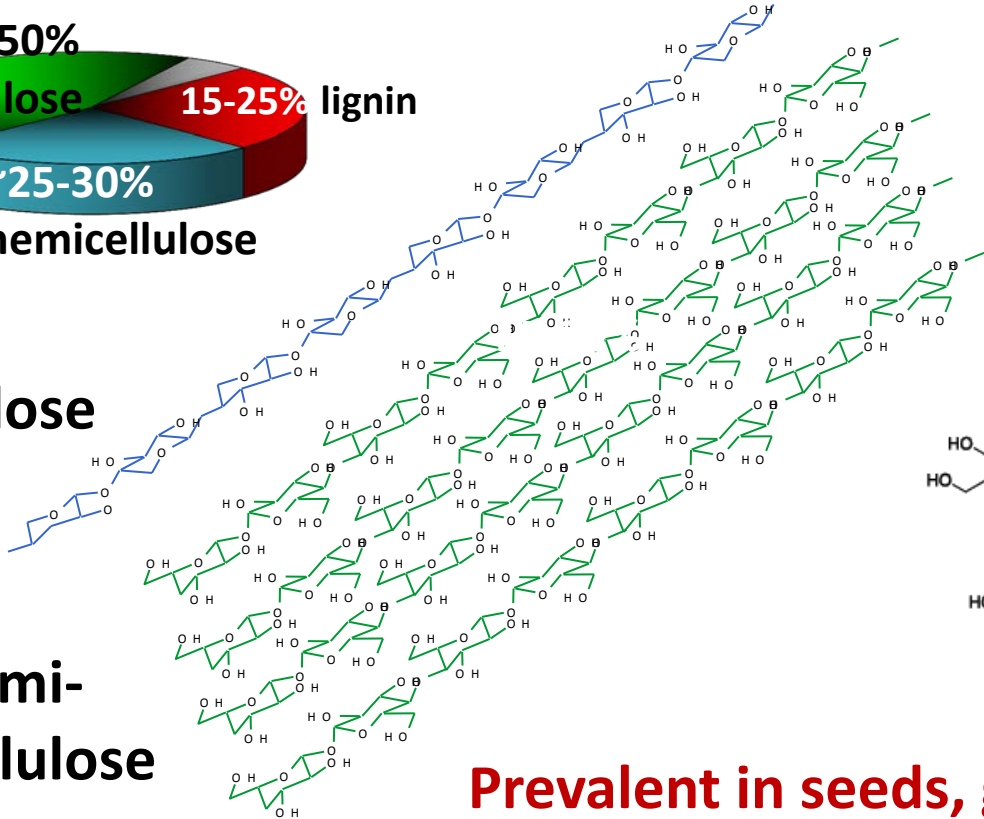
# What is in Biomass?

**Prevalent in woody, herbaceous feedstocks:**



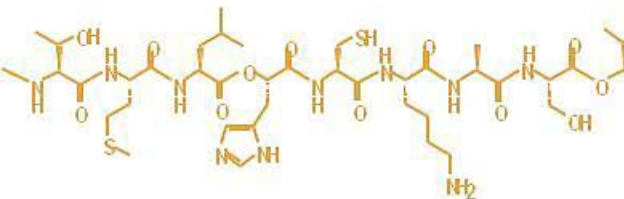
**cellulose**

**Hemi-cellulose**

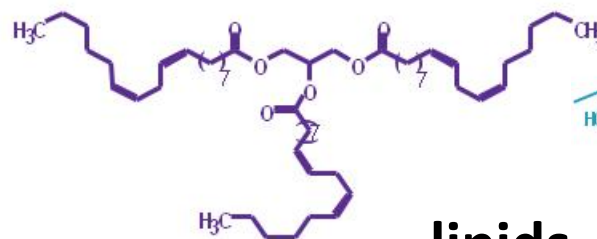


**lignin**

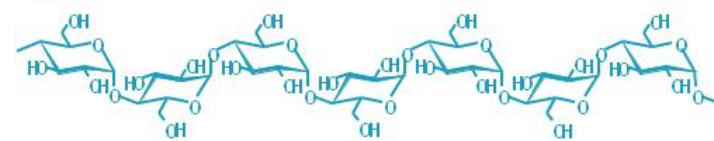
**Prevalent in seeds, grains (foodstuffs)**



**protein**

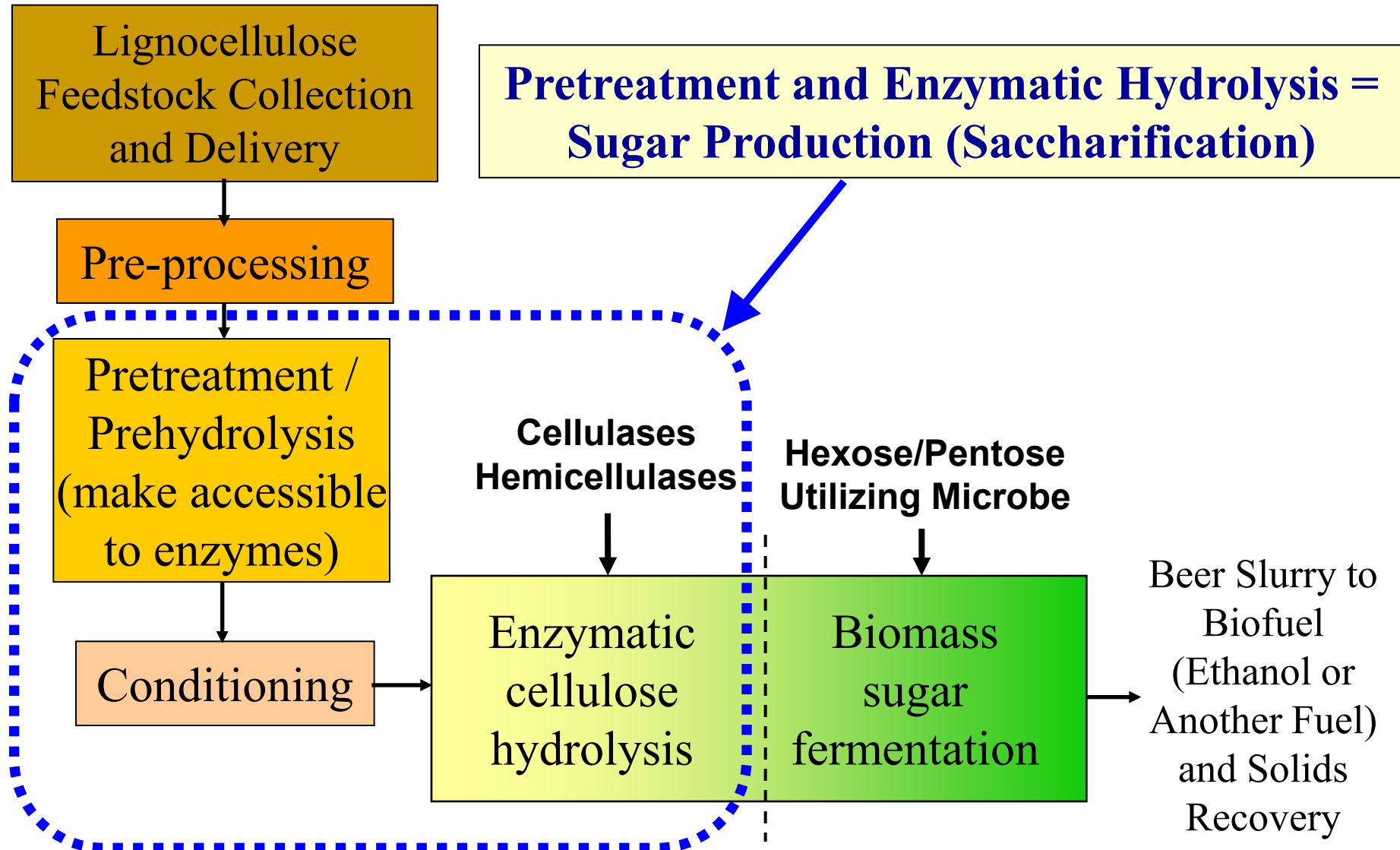


**lipids**



**starch**

# Economic Sugar Production Remains Biggest Challenge



# Major Commercial-scale Cellulosic Ethanol Projects

## POET-DSM's Project LIBERTY

- Grand opening on September 3, 2014, in Emmetsburg, Iowa.
- Once operating at full, commercial-scale, the plant will produce 25 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol per year – enough to avoid approximately 210,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually.
- Developed with the support of approximately \$100 million in investments and research from DOE.



## Abengoa Bioenergy Biomass of Kansas

- Grand opening on October 17, 2014, in Hugoton, Kansas.
  - The plant will produce cellulosic ethanol from non-edible corn stalks, stems, and leaves harvested within a 50-mile radius of the plant.
- <http://energyoutlook.naseo.org/Data/Sites/6/media/presentations/Male.pdf>



Supply Chain  
Development  
to supply  
year round  
specified biomass

Conversion Technology  
Scale-up to  
First-of-a-kind  
Commercial  
Facility

Fuel and other  
products off-  
take agreements

Whole System has to be  
sustainable

Large scale plants in Crescentino, Italy  
Further scaleup of that technology in Brazil, Alagoas – Gran Bio  
Others Raizen in Brazil, DuPont in the United States, and others



# Demonstration Portfolio – Selected Projects

## American Process, Inc., Alpena, MI

- Feedstock: waste hydrolyzate stream from hardboard manufacturing process (mixed northern hardwood and aspen).
- Capacity: 894,200 gallons/year of cellulosic ethanol (from C6 sugars) and 696,000 gallons/year of aqueous potassium acetate (De-Icer) (from C5 sugars).
- Accomplishments to date:
  - First batch of pure cellulosic ethanol produced in early FY14
- DOE share: \$22,481,523; Cost share: \$8,459,327



Pulp and Paper waste conversion to ethanol and deicer

## Haldor Topsoe, Inc., Des Plaines, IL

- Thermochemical process for the conversion of wood waste and woody biomass to gasoline.
- Expected to produce approximately 345,000 gal/year.
- Accomplishments to Date:
  - Testing shows acceptable ranges for gasoline blendstock
  - Emission level was “substantially similar” to conventional gasoline
- DOE share: \$25,000,000; Cost share: \$9,388,778
- Collaborative agreements with Gas Technology Institute, Andritz-Carbona, UPM-Kymmene, and Phillips 66.



Gasification/  
Catalytic

## INEOS, Vero Beach, FL

- Expected to produce 8 million gallons per year of cellulosic ethanol and 6 MW of power from wood and vegetative waste.
- DOE Share = \$50M; Cost share = \$82M.
- Created 400 construction jobs; 65 permanent jobs are expected for operation.
- Major construction began in October 2010, commissioning was completed in June 2013, and the facility initiated commercial production of cellulosic ethanol in July 2013.
- First commercial production of cellulosic ethanol in the U.S.



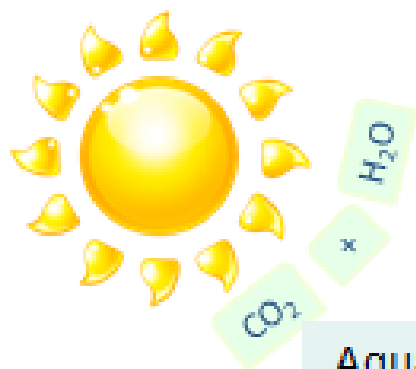
Gasification/  
Biological  
conversion  
Syngas to ethanol

<http://energyoutlook.naseo.org/Data/Sites/6/media/presentations/Male.pdf>

## Feedstocks

**Bio processing with:** Natural, modified or synthetic biology derived microorganisms

## Products

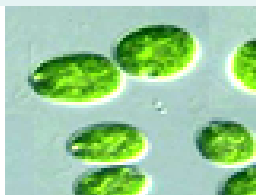


Aquatic Biomass

Macroalgae



Microalgae



*Chlamydomonas* sp.

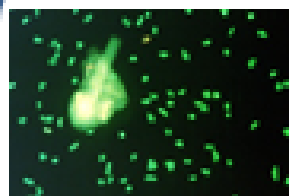
Photosynthetic Organisms

Cyanobacteria



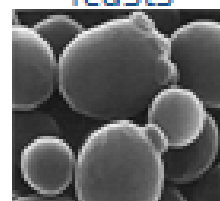
*Spirulina*  
*Synechocystis* sp.  
*Synechococcus* sp.

Bacteria



*Zymomonas* sp.  
*Clostridium* sp.  
*Escherichia coli*

Yeasts



*Saccharomyces* sp.  
*Pichia* sp.  
*Kluyveromyces* sp.

bio-conversion

H<sub>2</sub>

Fatty acids, Isoprenoids, Alkanes

C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>

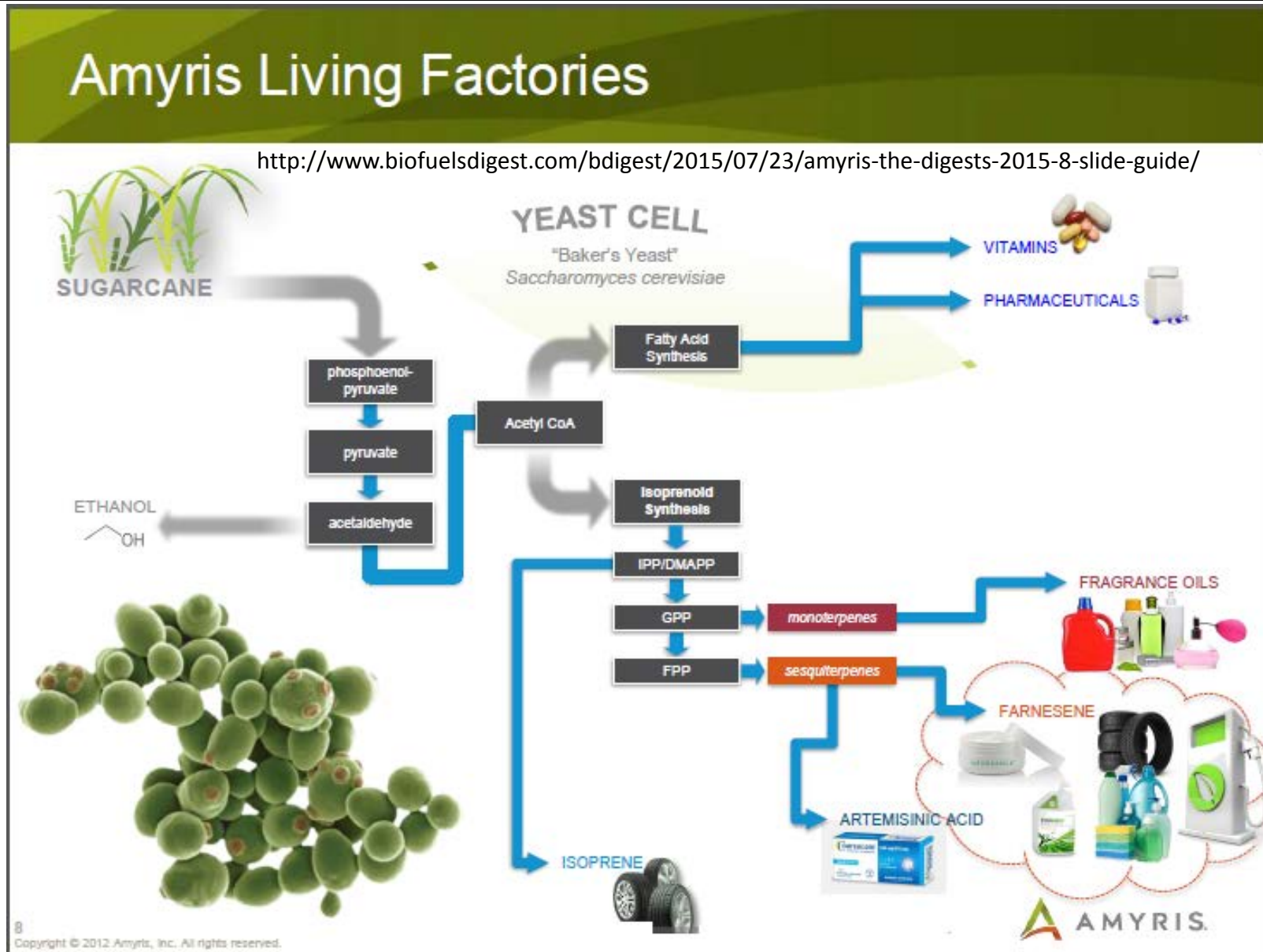
Ethanol, Butanols, higher Alcohols

Gasoline, diesel, jet, maritime fuels and many other products

With R&D we learn to design organisms (or plants) to grow specific products and engineer organisms to perform industrial new processes

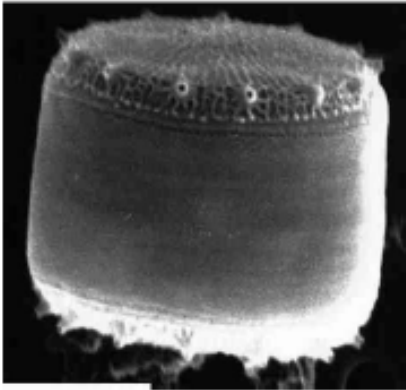
# Global RD&D and commercialization – Using synthetic biology and unlocking value

U.S. DOE/  
Office of  
Sciences;  
Bioenergy  
Technologies  
Office.  
Brazilian  
BNDES,  
multiple  
global  
companies



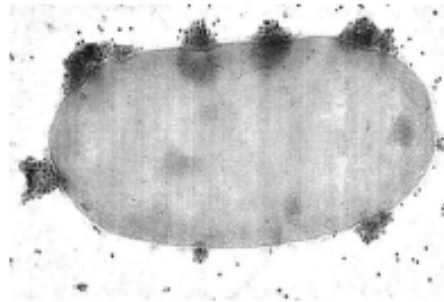
# Nature's solutions to energy challenges

*Thalassiosira pseudonana*



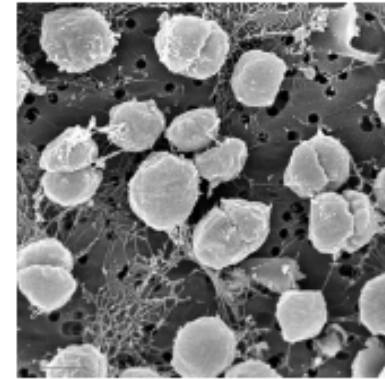
Ocean carbon pumping

*Microbulbifer 2-40*



Biomass conversion

*Methanococcus jannaschii*

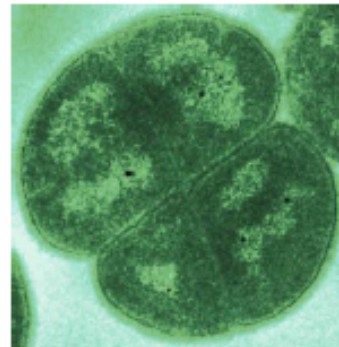


Methane production

*Rhodospseudomonas palustris* *Deinococcus radiodurans*



Hydrogen production /  
Carbon sequestration



Radiation resistance -  
bioremediation

Found useful for  
consolidated  
bioprocessing  
(France)Deinove



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

See presentation on Genomes to life at

[https://ec.europa.eu/research/biotechnology/eu-us-task-force/pdf/thomassen\\_19\\_july\\_9-45\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/biotechnology/eu-us-task-force/pdf/thomassen_19_july_9-45_en.pdf)

Office of Science



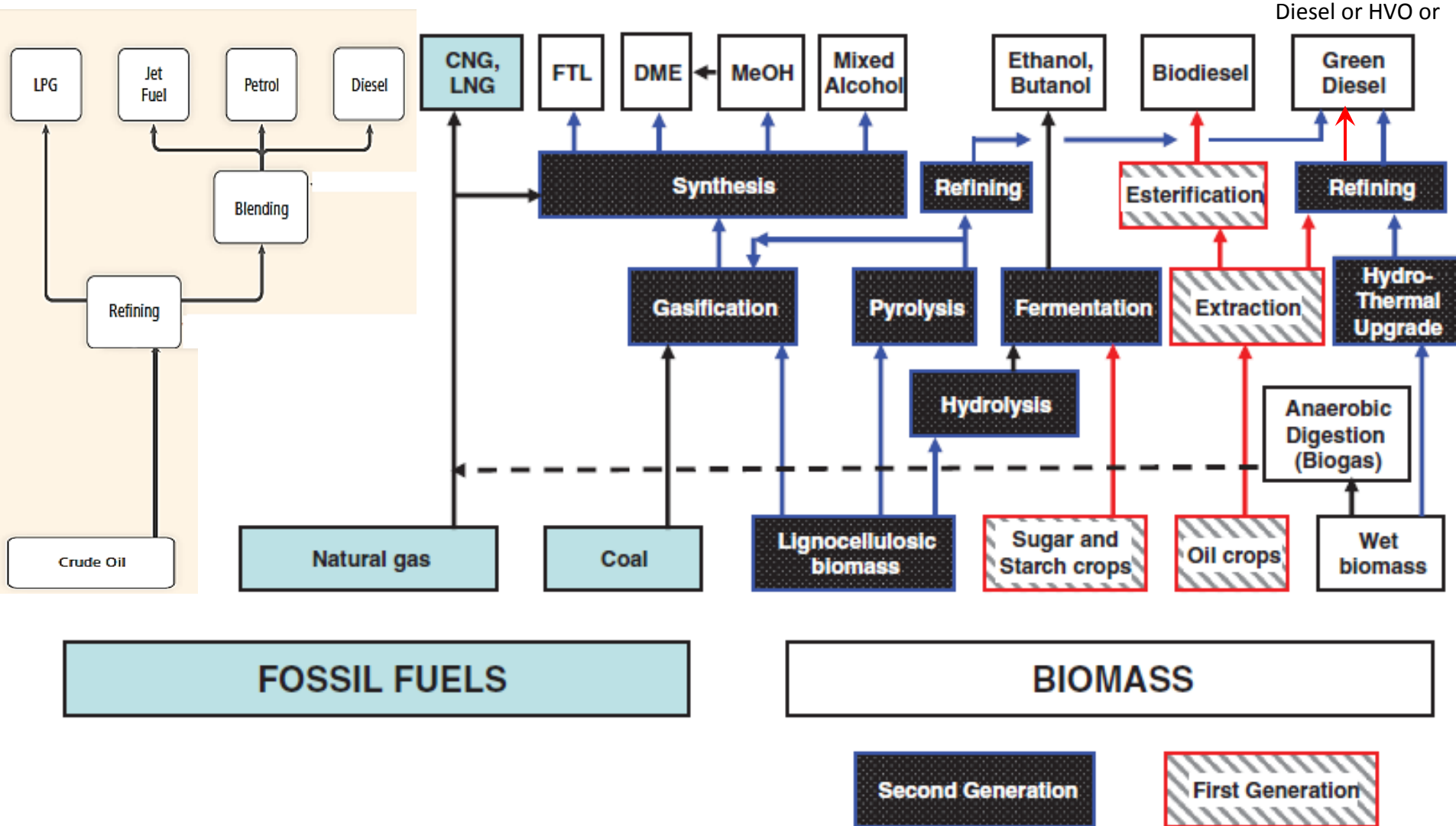
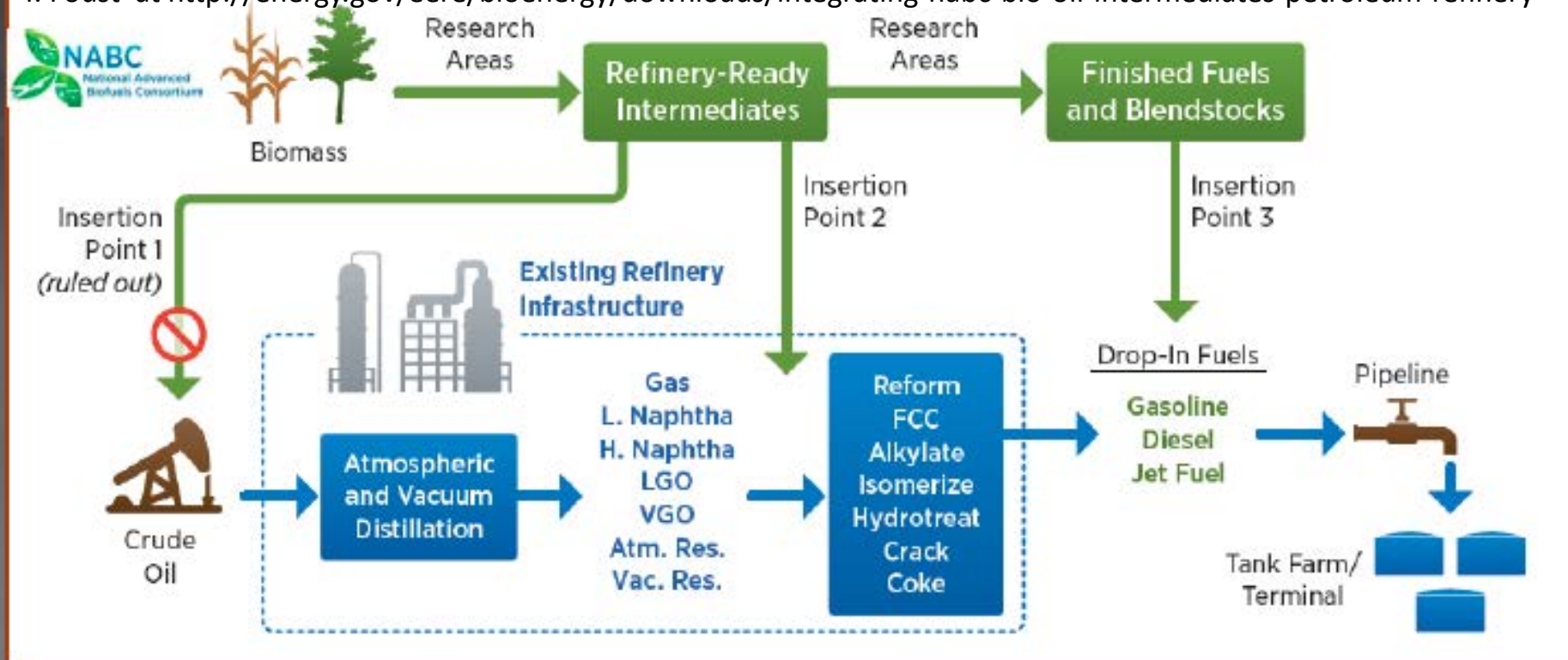
Renewable  
Diesel or HVO or

Figure 11.14 | Production paths to liquid fuels from biomass and, for comparison, from fossil fuels.



# Refinery insertion points

T. Foust at <http://energy.gov/eere/bioenergy/downloads/integrating-nabc-bio-oil-intermediates-petroleum-refinery>



- ❖ Renewables may be added to petroleum refineries at different locations.
- ❖ The easiest is as a blendstock (insertion point 3),
- ❖ Greater capital savings may occur if the renewables use refinery unit operations for processing (Insertion 2)

# America's RD&D development

## Refinery Coprocessing



RFO Coprocessing leverages on existing refinery infrastructure

- ▶ Lowers total CAPEX & OPEX
- ▶ Facilitates implementation

## Coprocessing Yields

NREL

PETROBRAS ENSYN

Weight %	100% VGO	95% VGO + 5% RFO	90% VGO + 10% RFO
Dry Gas	3.5	2.8	2.8
LPG (C3-C4)	13.8	13.8	12.5
Gasoline (C5-220°C)	39.9	40.6	38.8
Diesel (220-344°C)	20.3	19.6	19.2
Bottoms (+ 344°C)	16.1	14.4	14.4
Coke	6.4	6.0	6.5
CO	0.0	1.0	1.7
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.4	0.6
Water	0.0	1.4	3.5

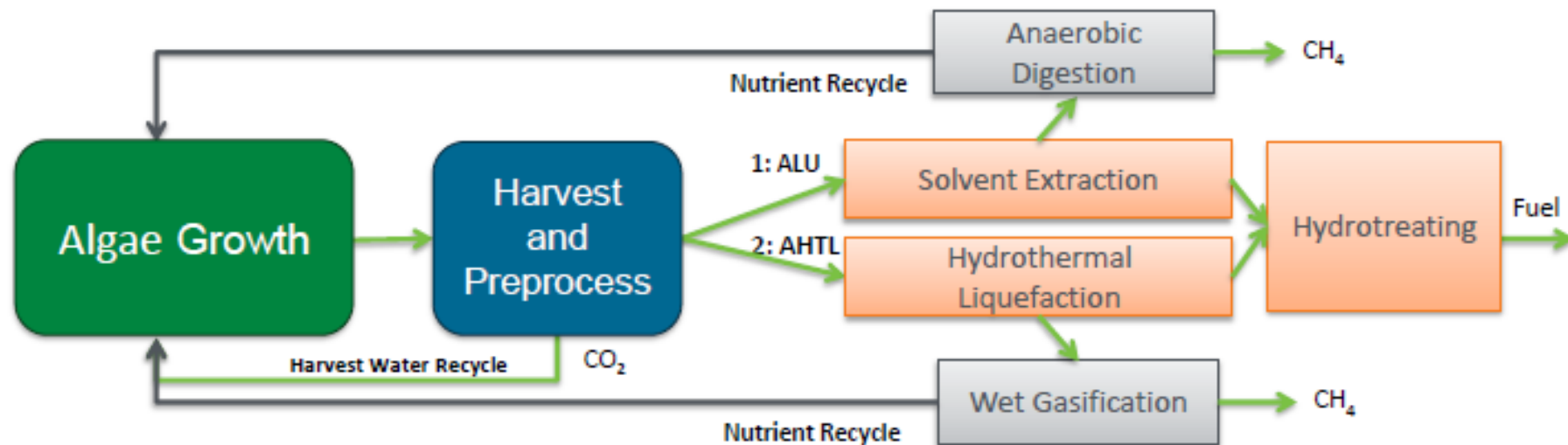
ENSYN

Chum et al. 2015. Helena Chum (NREL), Andrea Pinho (Petrobras), Barry Freel (Ensyn Corporation). "DOE Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) 2015 Project Peer Review, 2.4.2.303 Brazil Bilateral: Petrobras-NREL CRADA." March 15, 2015.

[http://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2015/04/f21/thermochemical\\_conversion\\_chum\\_242303.pdf](http://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2015/04/f21/thermochemical_conversion_chum_242303.pdf)

## Two Baseline Pathways for Conversion of Algae to Fuels:

1. Algal Lipid Upgrading (ALU)
2. Algae Hydrothermal Liquefaction (AHTL)



<http://energyoutlook.naseo.org/Data/Sites/6/media/presentations/Male.pdf>

Jonathan Male at <https://www.biorenew.iastate.edu/mbo/energymfgworkshop/>

# Closest to Commercial for Aviation Biofuels

Airlines Support of Alternative Fuels Development

Limited Feedstock Supply

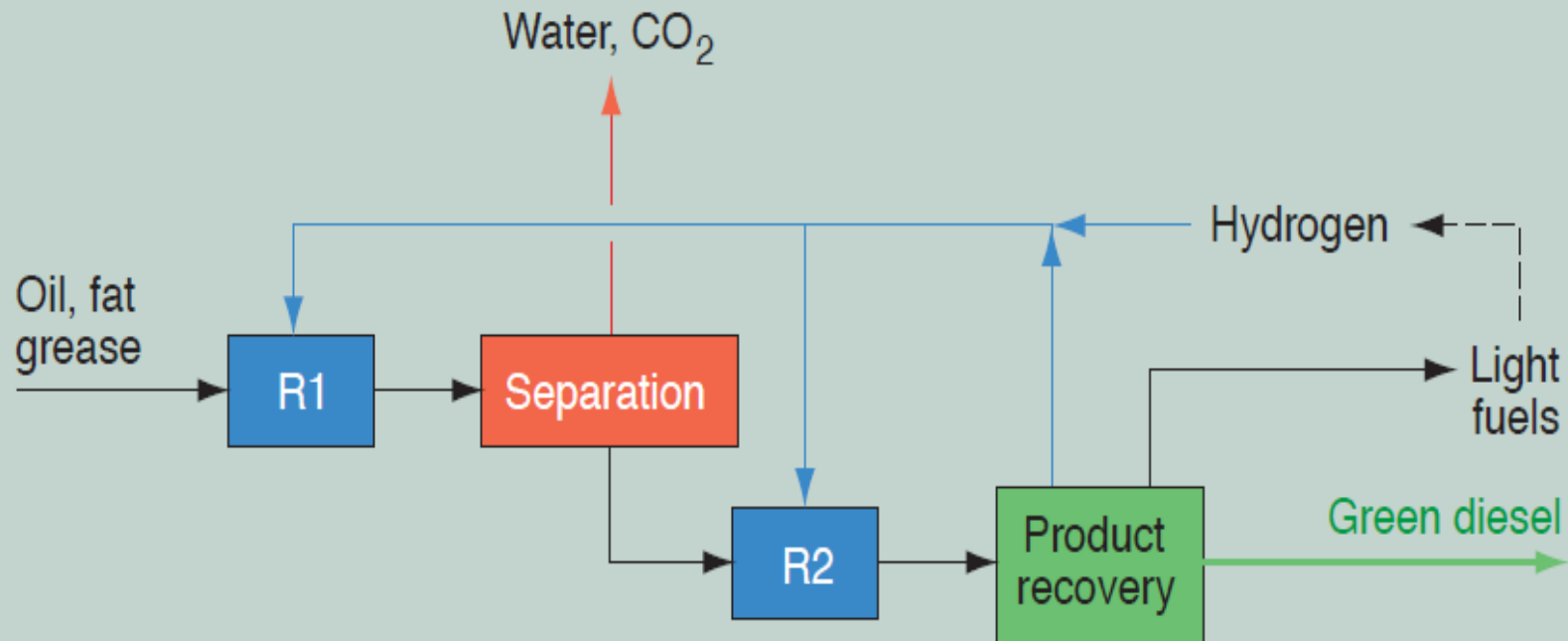
**HEFA-Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids**

**-2011**

Up to 50% blend

- Plant and Animal Oils/Tallow

Neste  
UOP/ENI  
And others



Honeywell UOP, Controlling Production of Transportation Fuels from Renewable Feedstocks. Patent: WO 2009/151692 A2, 2009.



# Defense Production Act (DPA) Initiative




In July 2011, the Secretaries of Agriculture, Energy, and Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding to commit \$510M (\$170M from each agency) to produce hydrocarbon jet and diesel biofuels in the near term. This initiative sought to achieve:

- Multiple, commercial-scale integrated biorefineries
- Cost-competitive biofuel with conventional petroleum (w/o subsidies).
- Domestically produced fuels from non-food feedstocks.
- Drop-in, fully compatible, MILSPEC fuels (F-76, JP-5, JP8).
- Help meet the Navy's demand for 1.26 billion gallons of fuel per year.
- Contribute to Navy's goal of launching "Great Green Fleet" in 2016.
- Demonstration of the production and use of more than 100 million gallons per year will dramatically reduce risk for drop-in biofuels production and adoption.



The four projects selected under DPA are:

DOE has a \$45M appropriation for DPA in FY14

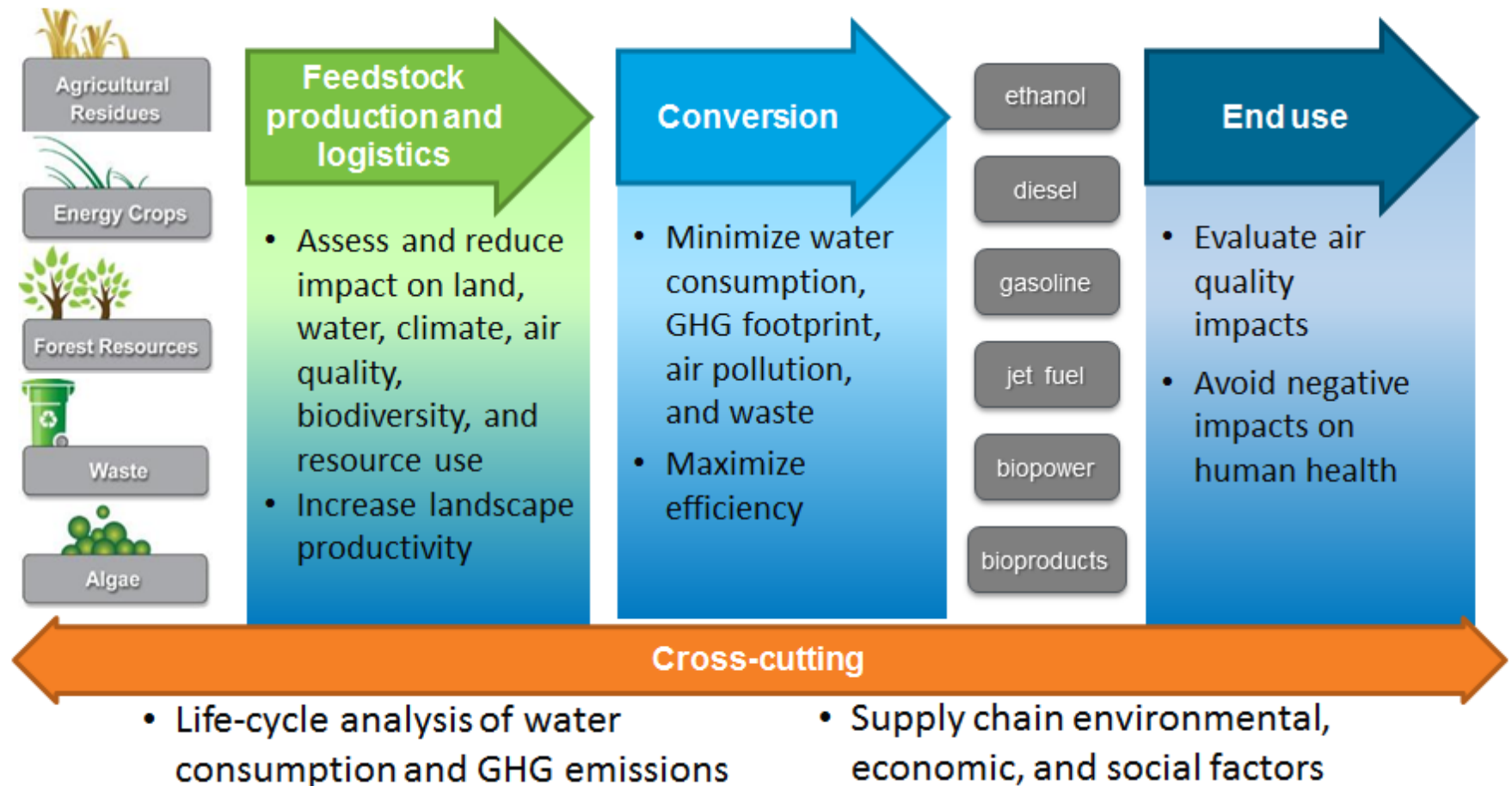
Company	Location	Feedstock	Conversion Pathway	Capacity (MMgpy)
<b>EMERALD BIOFUELS</b>	Port Arthur, TX	Fats, Oils, and Greases	Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA)	94.0
 <b>Natures</b> BioReserve <sup>®</sup>	South Sioux City, NE	Fats, Oils, and Greases	Hydroprocessed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA)	65.8
 <b>Fulcrum</b> BIOENERGY	McCarran, NV	Municipal Solid Waste	Gasification – Fischer Tröpsch (FT)	17.0
 <b>Red Rock Biofuels</b>	Lakeview, OR	Woody Biomass	Gasification – Fischer Tröpsch (FT)	16.0

<http://energyoutlook.naseo.org/Data/Sites/6/media/presentations/Male.pdf>



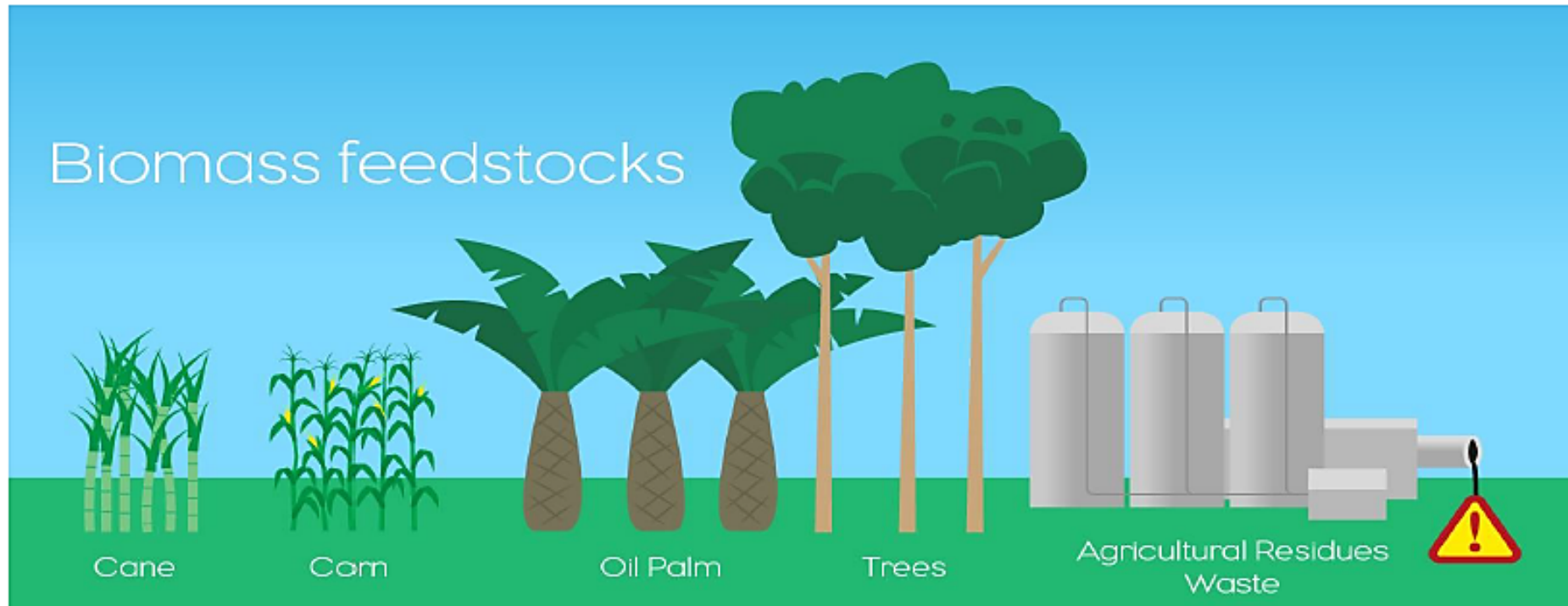
# Sustainability Activities

Identifying and addressing the challenges for sustainable bioenergy production through field trials, applied research, capacity building, modeling, and analysis.



# Agroforestry integration

<http://bioenfapesp.org/scopebioenergy/>



Integrated food/forest/energy systems, i.e. growing energy crops and food or fiber crops in synergy, can be accomplished with:

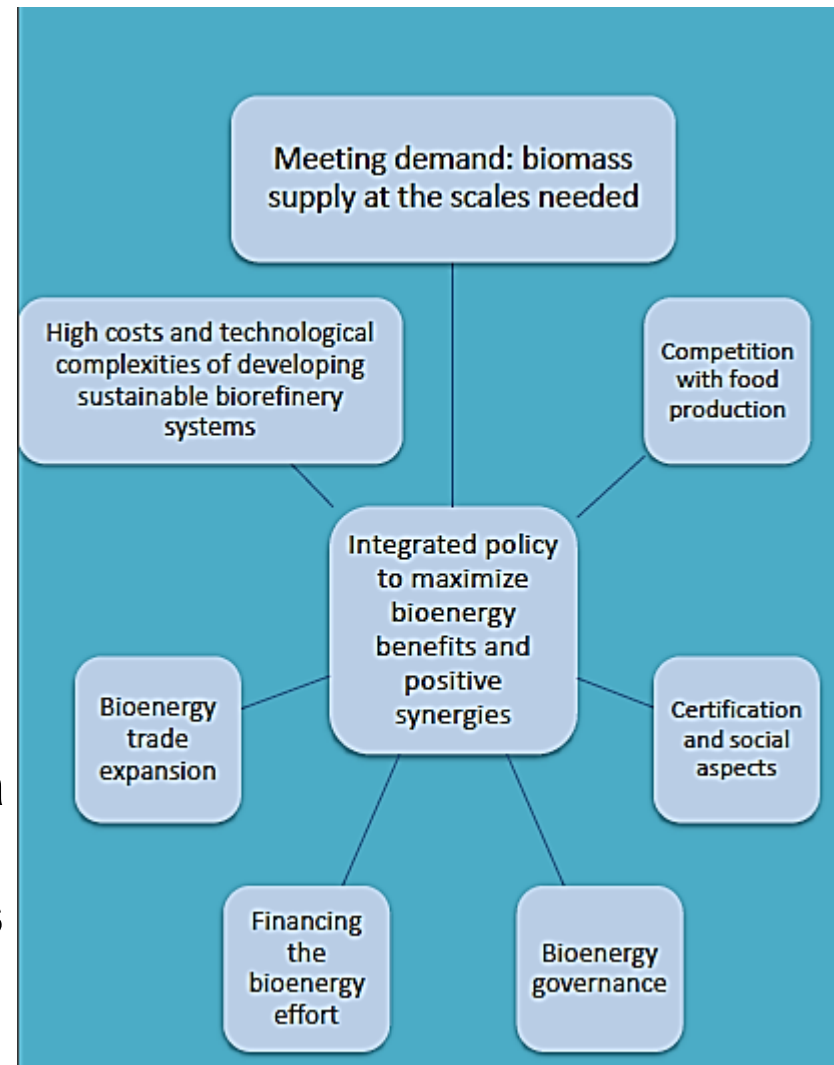
- spatial approaches (strategic placement on the landscape)
- temporal approaches (crop rotations and succession plantings)
- at a system level, with residue recovery, nutrient and energy recycling and waste reduction addressing sustainability challenges of our conventional food and energy systems.

**Harmonizing forestry and agriculture policies is fundamental for the implementation of integrated approaches to sustainable production and supply of bioenergy.**

# Summary

- Development of bioenergy can replenish a community's food supply by improving management practices and land soil quality
- New technologies can provide communities with food security, fuel, economic and social development while effectively using water, nutrients and other resources
- The use of bioenergy, if done thoughtfully, can actually help lower air and water pollution
- Bioenergy initiatives monitored and implemented, hand in hand with good governance, can protect biodiversity, and provide ecosystems services
- Efficiency gains and sustainable practices of recent bioenergy systems can help contribute to a low-carbon economy by decreasing greenhouse gas emissions and assist carbon mitigation efforts
- With current knowledge and projected improvements 30% of the world's fuel supply could be biobased by 2050

**To address issues Integrated policies and deployment are needed**



**SCOPE Bioenergy and Sustainability**

# Acknowledgments

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- IRENA and INER for the invitation
- U.S. Department of Energy, Bioenergy Technologies Office (Kristen Johnson and Alison Goss Eng)
  - <https://www.bioenergykdf.net/>
- State of Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) Glaucia Souza and SCOPE colleagues
  - Souza, G. M., Victoria, R., Joly, C., & Verdade, L. (Eds.). (2015). *Bioenergy & Sustainability: Bridging the gaps* (Vol. 72, p. 779). Paris: SCOPE. ISBN 978-2-9545557-0-6 <http://bioenfapesp.org/scopebioenergy/>
- International Energy Agency Bioenergy Agreement, Kees Kwant, Netherlands, Jim Spaeth, U.S. and tasks 38, 39, 40, 43, 42
- Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials, Barbara Bramble, Rolf Hogan, Matt Rudolf, Arthur Barrit
  - <http://rsb.org>
- Gerry Ostheimer (SE4ALL, Novozymes)
- Some presentation slides from Dr. Jonathan Male, BETO, USDOE
- Some presentation slides from Tom Foust, NREL (NABC)