

# *LMOP Workshop: LFGE Status Update & Technology Trends*

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# ***Presentation Overview***

- State of LFG industry
- Electricity project trends & case studies
- Direct use project trends & case studies



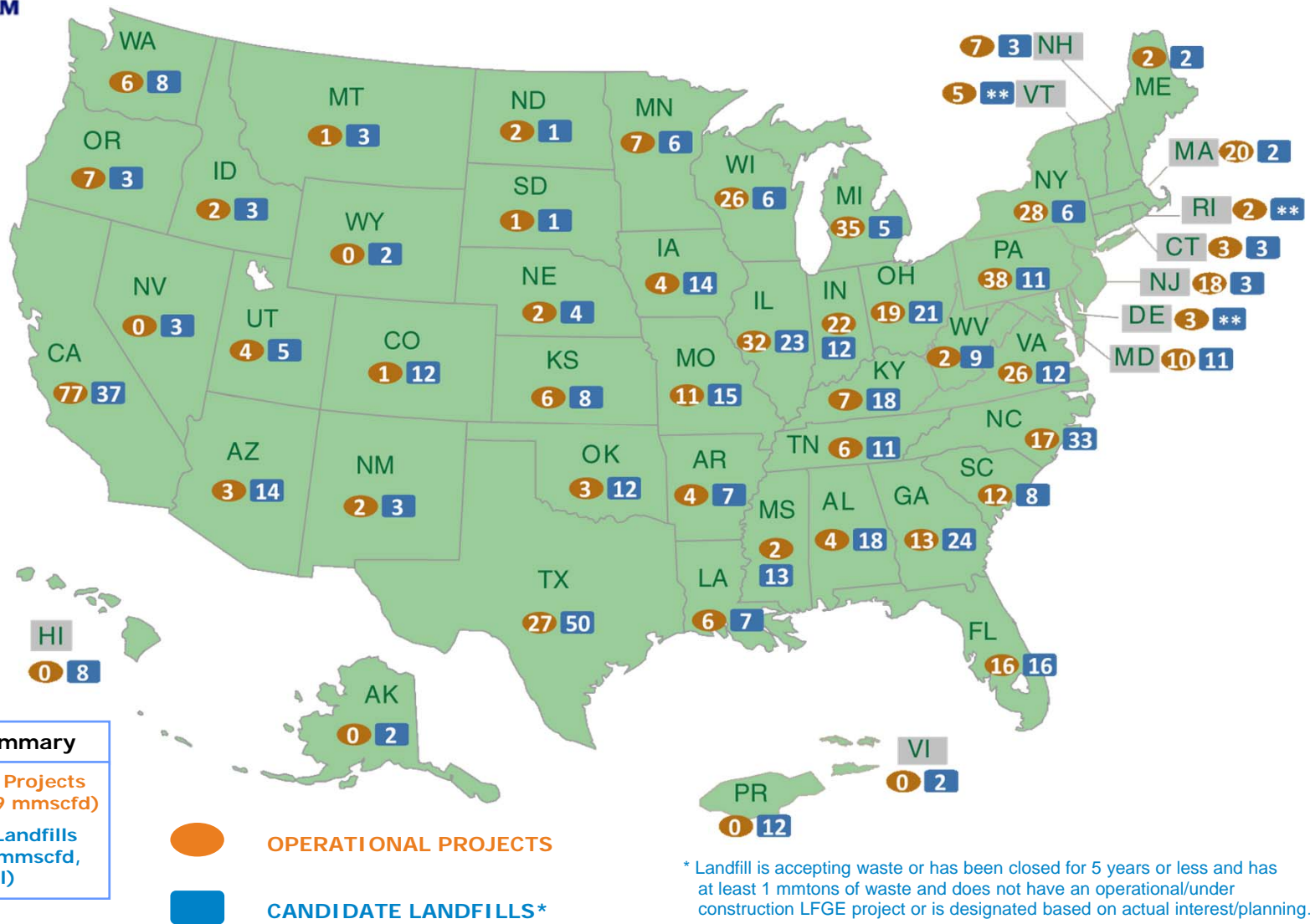
# ***State of the National LFG Industry***

- Over 550 operational projects in 46 states annually supplying:
  - 13 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity and 100 billion cubic feet of LFG to direct-use applications
- Currently ~510 candidate landfills
  - Total gas generation potential of these sites:
    - ◆ 215 billion cubic feet per year (~12,500 MMBtu/hr) OR
    - ◆ total electric potential of 1,160 MW (~9.5 million MWh/yr)





# LFG Energy Projects and Candidate Landfills



**Nationwide Summary**  
 551 OPERATIONAL Projects  
 (1,697 MW and 309 mmscfd)  
 ~510 CANDIDATE Landfills  
 (1,165 MW or 580 mmscfd,  
 13 MMTCE Potential)

● OPERATIONAL PROJECTS  
 ■ CANDIDATE LANDFILLS\*

\* Landfill is accepting waste or has been closed for 5 years or less and has at least 1 mmtons of waste and does not have an operational/under construction LFG project or is designated based on actual interest/planning.

\*\* LMOP does not have any information on candidate landfills in this state.

These data are from LMOP's database as of April 12, 2011.



# ***Many Untapped LFG Resources*** (cont.)

- ~510 landfills have a gas collection system but no energy project
  - Potential of 300,000 MMBtu/day or 1,070 MW
- ~110 landfills have an energy project and excess LFG available
  - Potential of 78,000 MMBtu/day or 280 MW
- ~950 landfills do not have a gas collection system
  - Potential of 220,000 MMBtu/day or 800 MW

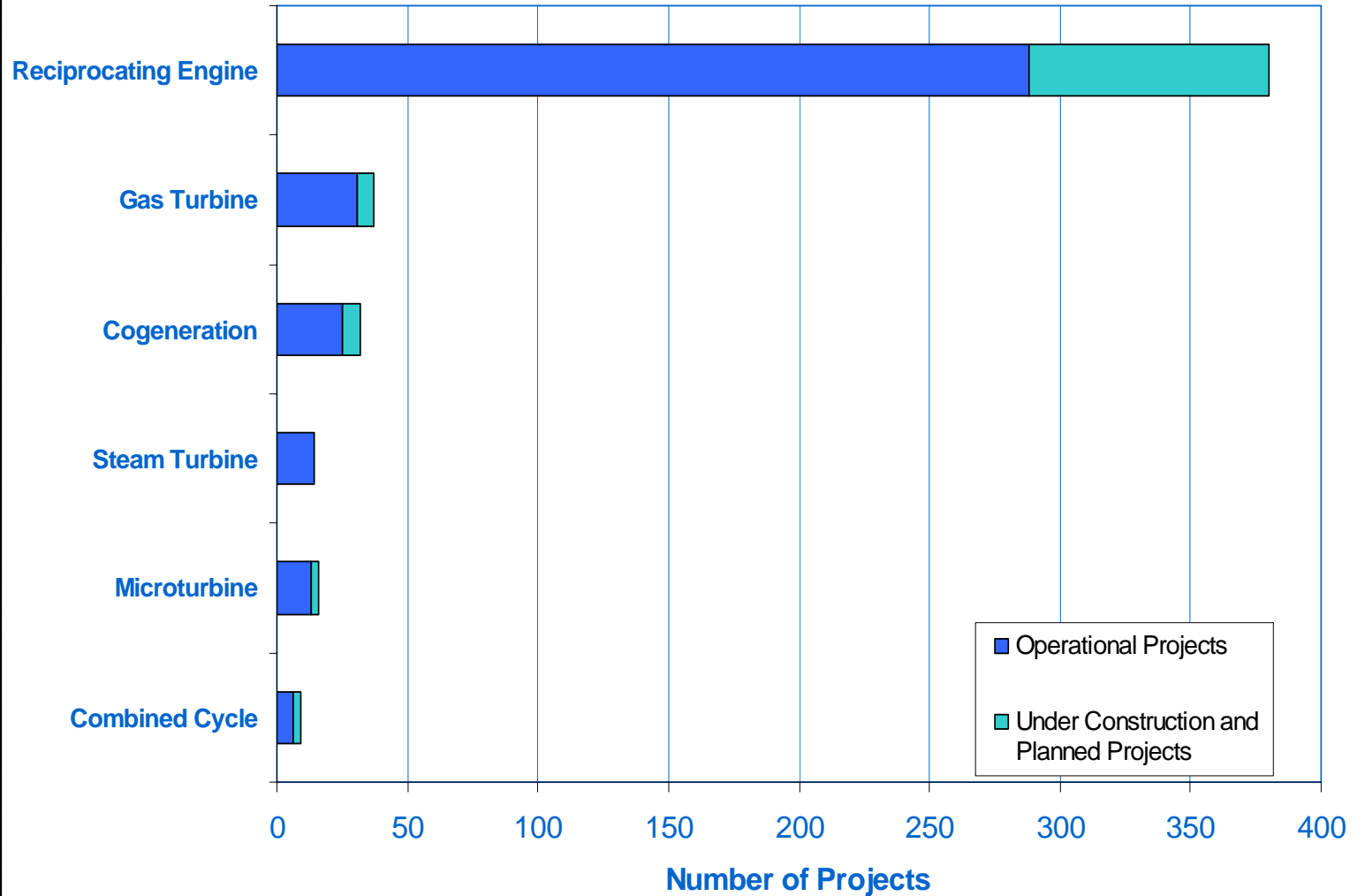


# ***Electricity Generation***

- **Most prevalent type of project in the US – accounting for about 2/3 of operational projects**
  - In US, 1100 MW of capacity from over 300 operational projects
- **Electricity sold to utility, cooperative or nearby customer**
- **Average project size: 4 MW (500 kW - 50 MW)**



# Technology Trends Electricity Projects





# *Diversity of Project Types Electricity Generation*

**Internal  
Combustion Engine  
(range from 100 kW  
to 3 MW)**



**Gas Turbine  
(range from 800 kW  
to 10.5 MW)**



**Microturbine  
(range from 30 kW  
to 250 kW)**





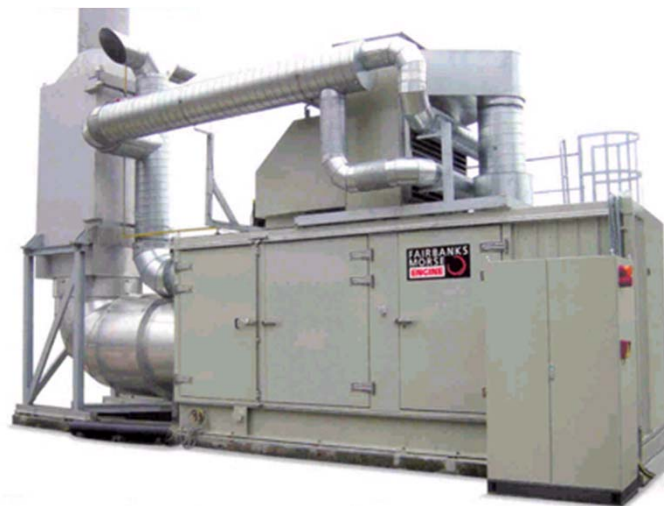
# *Internal Combustion Engine*

- Most common technology
- Ideal for projects 800 kW to 3 MW
- Characteristics:
  - Relatively low cost
  - High efficiency
  - Fit gas output of most landfills



# Gas Turbines

- Technology suitable for larger gas flows – capable of 3-5 MW
- Significant economies of scale
- Disadvantage:
  - Turbines require high gas compression, causing high parasitic load loss
- Turbines are more corrosion resistant, fairly compact and have lower O&M costs
- May require siloxane removal which will increase project costs



# Microturbines

- **Sizing:** 30-250 kW
- **Why select technology?**
  - Small LFG quantities required
  - % CH<sub>4</sub> composition of gas can be as low as 35%
  - Add and remove fairly easily
  - Easier interconnection to grid
  - Low NO<sub>2</sub> emissions





## *Electricity Case Study* **Coffin Butte Landfill Corvallis, Oregon**

- The Coffin Butte Landfill LFG facility
  - 2007 expansion project from 2.4 MWs to 5.66 MWs
  - Electricity is sold to Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative
  - Expansion project removes emissions equivalent of:
    - ◆ 3,200 vehicles,
    - ◆ 38,000 barrels of oil, or
    - ◆ Planting 4,500 acres of forest





## *Reciprocating Engine Case Study* **Ox Mountain Landfill, Half Moon Bay, CA**



- At 11.4 MW, one of the largest LFG electricity projects in the country
- Using new temperature swing adsorber (TSA) activated carbon technology to clean LFG

*LMOP 2009  
Project of the  
Year*

- Overcame air quality permitting & threatened species hurdles
- Alameda Municipal Power & City of Palo Alto Utilities aggressively surpassing renewable energy requirements





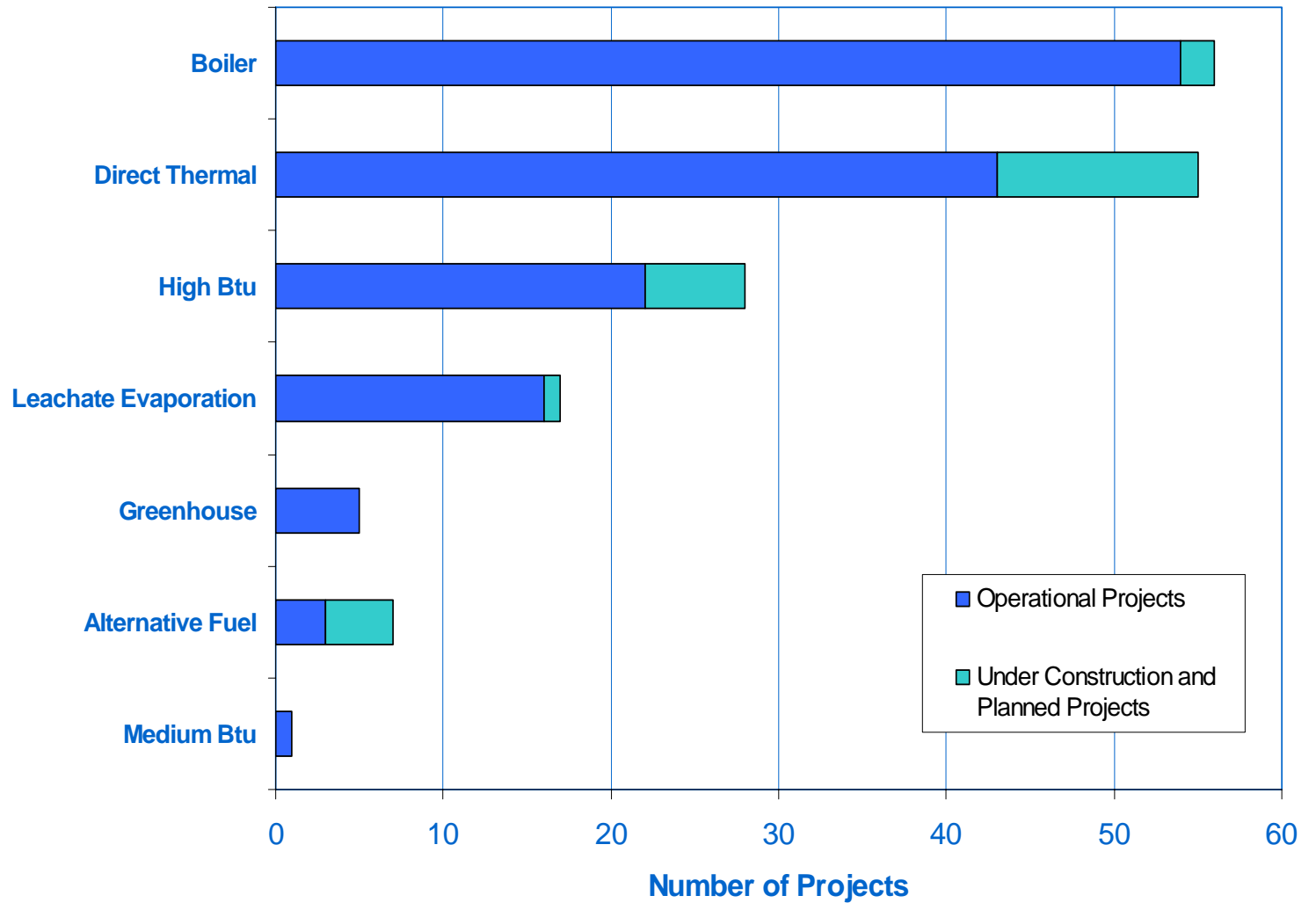
# ***Direct Gas Utilization***

- Gas piped to a nearby customer for use in boiler, furnace, kiln or other combustion device
- About 100 projects in the US
- Pipeline length range from .3 to 10 miles
  - less than 3 miles is most feasible
- Gas used at off-site end user



# Technology Trends

## Direct-Use Projects



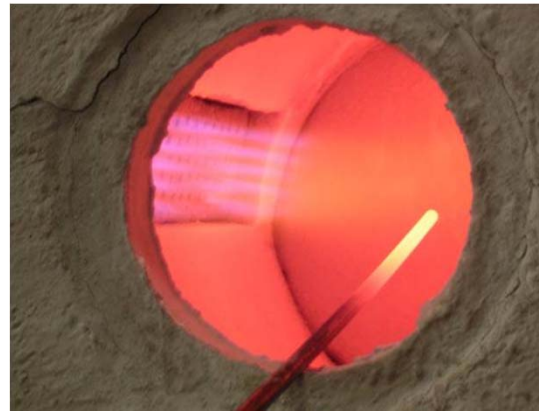


# *Diversity of Project Types*

## *Direct Use of LFG*

- Direct-use projects are growing!
  - Boiler applications – replace natural gas, coal, fuel oil
  - Direct thermal (dryers, kilns)
  - Natural gas pipeline injection (medium- & high-Btu)
  - Ethanol production
  - Greenhouses
  - Infrared heaters
  - Leachate evaporation
  - Vehicle fuel (LNG, CNG)
  - Glassblowing & pottery
  - Blacksmithing
  - Hydroponics
  - Aquaculture (fish farming)

Greenhouse  
Jackson County, NC



Glassblowing  
Jackson County, NC



Infrared heater - Lorton, VA





# *Direct Use Applications*



# Greenhouses

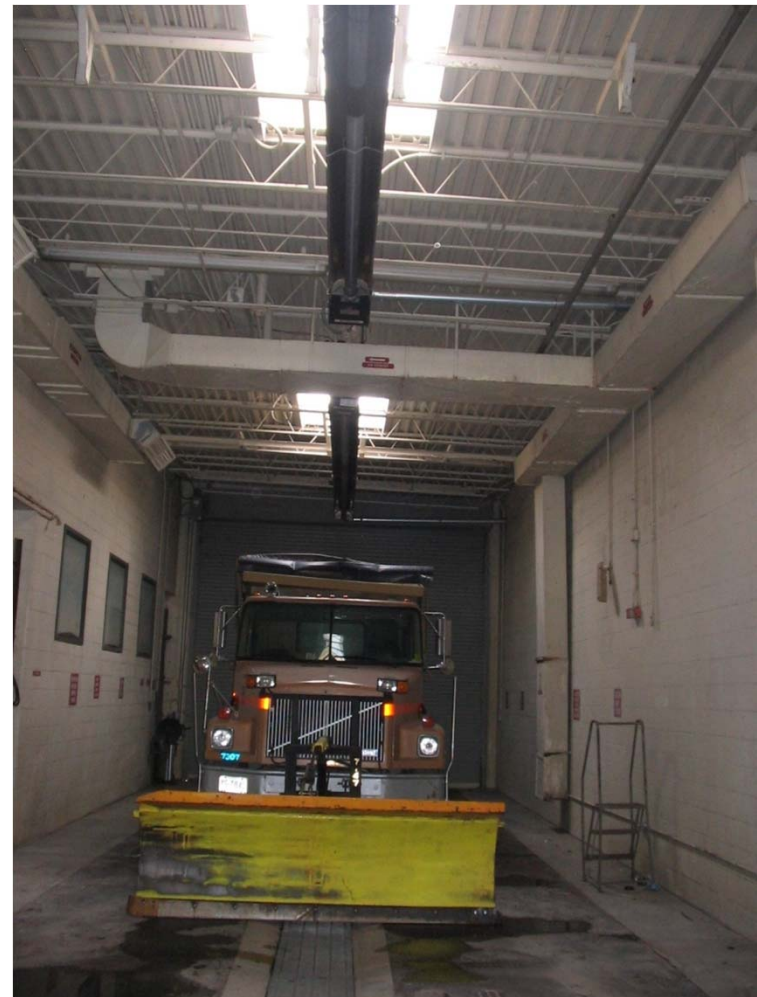
- Use both electricity and heat
- Carbon dioxide can be used to grow greenhouse plants
- 6 operational greenhouse projects in the U.S.





# *Infrared Heaters*

- Used to heat storage and maintenance facilities
- Excellent application for small amount of gas and minimal energy requirements
- No gas pre-treatment required (unless siloxanes are found)





# *Leachate Evaporation*

- Utilize LFG to treat leachate
- Commercially available technology
- Projects can typically treat 10-20 thousand gallons of leachate per day
- Popular technology where leachate disposal is unavailable or expensive
- Units operate in the U.S. and internationally
  - 14 operational in the U.S.





## *Direct Use/CHP Case Study* **H<sub>2</sub>Gro Greenhouses** **Lewiston, NY**

- 11 engine-generator sets produce a total of 12 MW of electricity
- Provides all electrical & heating requirements for H<sub>2</sub>Gro's Greenhouse
- Excess electricity sold to grid
- Test so successful, expanded to 7½ acres and produces 3.5 million lb tomatoes/yr





LANDFILL METHANE  
OUTREACH PROGRAM

# Direct-Use Case Study

## Jackson County Green Energy Park

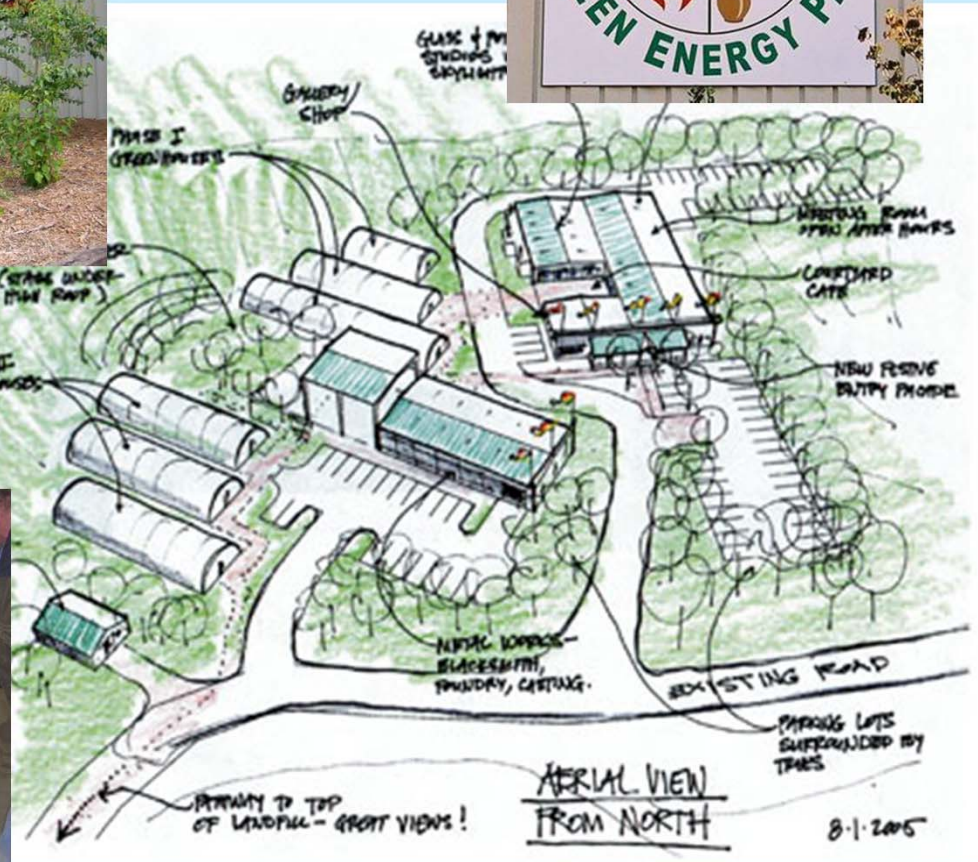
Sylva, NC



LMOP 2006  
Project of the  
Year



04.19.2007





## Direct-Use Case Study Seward County Landfill (KS)



- Project is a public/private partnership with National Beef
- 70 scfm of LFG is piped 1,500 feet to wastewater lagoon

- LFG and gas from covered lagoon is captured and used to fuel boilers at National Beef





## *Direct-Use Case Study* **City of Sioux Falls Regional Landfill & POET Landfill Gas Energy Project (SD)**



- 1,250 scfm of gas is transported via an 11-mile pipeline to POET's 105-million gallons/year ethanol plant
- LFG reduces the plant's natural gas usage by 2/3
- Landfill is currently expanding LFG wellfield to further offset the plant's natural gas use
- City takes advantage of the sale of carbon credits from the project, in addition to the sale of the LFG







# ***Combined Heat and Power***

- **Advantages**

- Greater overall energy recovery efficiency from waste heat recovery - up to 80%
  - Specialized CHP systems available
  - Flexible - hot water or steam generation from recovered heat
- Systems are usually more costly to implement



# *CHP and Direct-Use Case Study* **BMW Manufacturing Greer, SC**

**LMOP 2003  
Project of  
the Year**

- 9.5-mile pipeline from Palmetto Landfill to BMW
- 2003 – 4 gas turbines retrofitted to burn LFG
- 2006 – Converted paint shop to utilize LFG in oven burners & for indirect heating
- LFG accounts for nearly 70% of BMW's energy needs
- To date, LFG has saved BMW an annual average of \$5 million in energy costs



**LMOP 2006  
Energy End User  
Partner of  
the Year**





# ***Conversion to High-Btu Gas***

- Gas is purified from 50% to 97- 99% methane
- Removal of carbon dioxide is primary step
- Three main technologies to do this
- Uses include:
  - Inject treated product into natural gas pipeline
  - CNG and LNG can be used to fuel landfill equipment, refuse trucks and general commercial vehicles



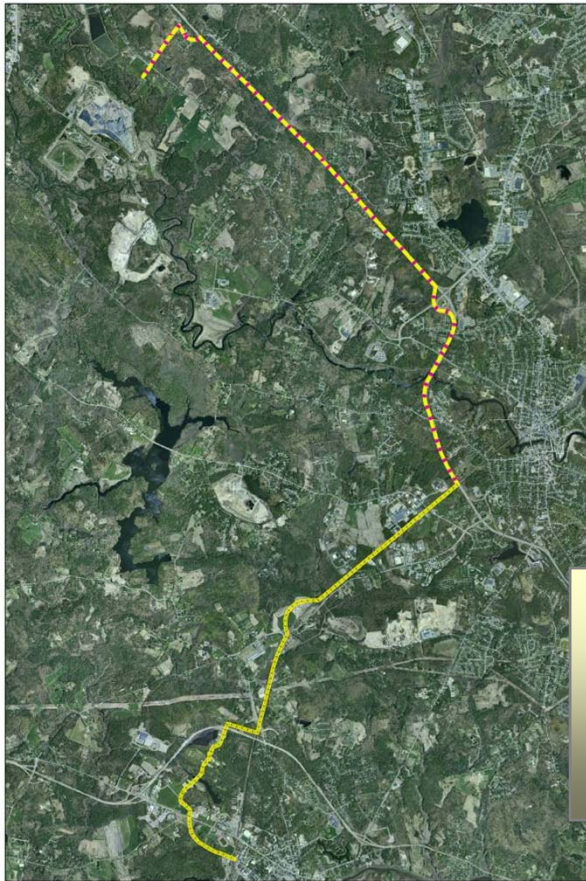
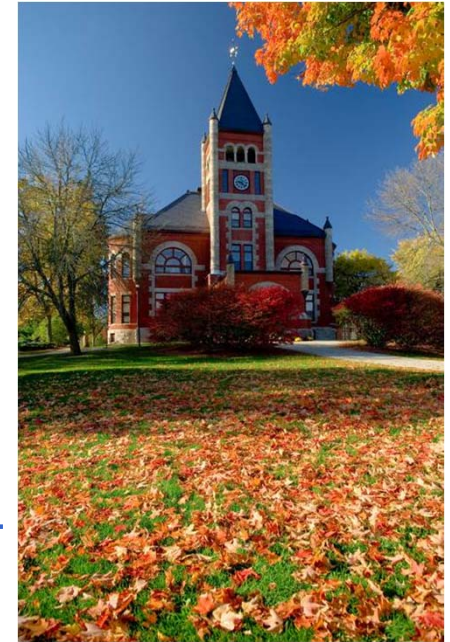
# ***Conversion to High-Btu Gas***

- **Disadvantages**
  - Must meet strict standards of pipeline
  - Costly technology
  - Economical for large scale only





# High-Btu Case Study Univ. of New Hampshire EcoLine™ - Rochester, NH



- LFG provides up to 85% of campus electric & heat needs
- 12.7-mile pipeline from Turnkey Recycling & Environmental Enterprises LF
- Cleaned LFG fuels existing CHP gas turbine & new turbine

LMOP 2009  
Project  
of the Year





# High Btu Case Study

## **Veolia ES Greentree LF Kersey, PA**

- Largest designed high Btu LFGE project in U.S.
- Significant cleaning of the gas required
- 7-mile pipeline from landfill to processing



- Volume of LFG flared reduced by >90%
- Expect ~2 billion cf/yr product quality gas

*LMOP 2007  
Project of the  
Year*



# ***LFG for Vehicle Fuel***

- Biodiesel production facility
- CNG to fuel landfill equipment and fleet vehicles or transit buses
- Offsets need for diesel fuel
- Methanol to biodiesel
- Ethanol production





# Alternative Fuel Case Study **Altamont Landfill, Livermore, CA**



- Provides fuel for nearly 300 garbage trucks
- Received state grants from 4 entities: \$2.3 million total

- Project co-developed by Waste Management and Linde, LLC
- Converts about 2,000 -2,500 scfm of LFG into ~13,000 gallons of LNG

