



Rethink

# METHANE

removing the fossil from the fuel

FEBRUARY 26-27, 2019 | SACRAMENTO, CA  
SACRAMENTO CONVENTION CENTER



## EVENT OVERVIEW

### High in Benefits, Low in Emissions.

Join stakeholders from the bioenergy, solar, wind, hydrogen, fuel cell and natural gas industries to gain insight into how renewable gas can help California immediately and cost effectively meet its air quality, climate protection, and economic development objectives:



GHG/SLCP Reduction



Sustainable Waste Management



Vehicle Emission Reduction & Diesel Displacement



Economic Growth in Disadvantaged Communities



Wildfire Prevention



Surplus Renewable Energy Storage/Transport

PLATINUM SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSOR



RECEPTION SPONSOR



CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SPONSOR



NETWORKING SPONSORS



INDUSTRY SPONSOR



ENDORING ORGANIZATIONS



# Introduction

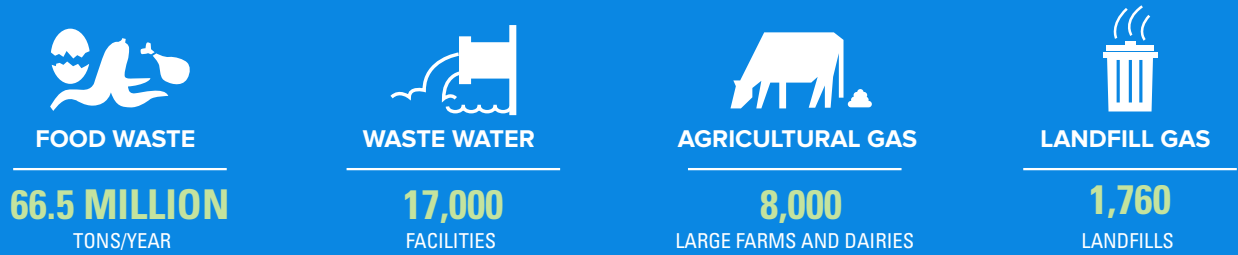
The Rethink Methane Symposium, now in its fifth year, gathers leading experts to educate California’s policymakers on the important opportunity presented by harnessing fugitive methane to both decarbonize the state’s natural gas system and provide a low-to-negative carbon fuel to displace dirty diesel in heavy-duty transportation. Symposium attendees will:

- Learn about the many ways to recover, recycle, and reuse organic waste to produce renewable methane
- Identify and address barriers that are preventing the development of a robust, successful, and ultimately economically sustainable renewable gas industry
- Discuss strategies to successfully implement the policies passed by the legislature to increase the use of renewable gas

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Renewable methane, the core component of renewable natural gas, is derived by harnessing the methane that naturally cycles through the biosphere. The majority of methane in our atmosphere, particularly in California, comes from the natural decomposition of organic matter—food waste, the treatment of wastewater, agricultural processes, and municipal solid waste.

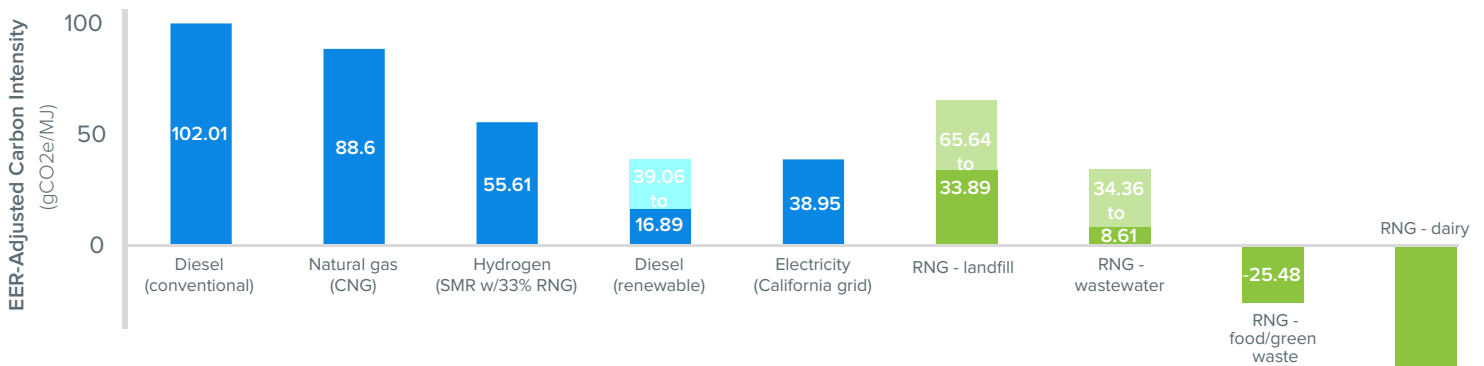


\*Source: Coalition of Renewable Natural Gas

Harnessing renewable methane creates the opportunity to sustainably manage waste products, and poses the possibility of developing whole new industries to grow, harvest, and harness new biological feedstocks for anaerobic digestion, such as switch grasses and algae, not dependent on using arable land or potable water.

Renewable methane can also be derived from the gasification of organic waste, which creates new opportunities to manage dead trees in our forests caused by years of drought and insect infestation, and help prevent forest fires, the largest source of the worst climate pollutant, black carbon.

## How Does RNG's Carbon Intensity Rating Compare to Other Transportation Fuels?



**2/3**  
of natural gas fuel

used in California for transportation come from renewable sources

### Renewable Gas for Transportation

Some sources of biogas produce transportation fuels with the lowest carbon content under the California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard, as shown in the chart above. In some instances, biogas achieves a negative carbon intensity, meaning that using the organically-derived fuel actually removes carbon from the atmosphere.

1: The carbon intensities in the above table, sourced from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), compare the well-to-wheels GHG emissions of various fuels in heavy-duty trucking applications. Carbon intensities are adjusted to reflect the efficiency of vehicle/fuel combinations as compared to a heavy-duty diesel engine by using CARB's approved Energy Economy Ratios (EER).



**New opportunities lay ahead for companies in the renewable gas sector—from feedstock providers to producers and infrastructure developers—as the California legislature has passed several bills meant to make it easier to produce renewable gas and incentivize its consumption, including:**

- **SB 32** and its companion, **AB 197**, recommitted the state to the goal of reducing emissions of harmful GHGs. The two bills increased the target GHG reduction to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and directs the state to concentrate its efforts to ensure that the environmental, public health and economic development benefits of this policy accrue to residents in the state’s most disproportionately impacted communities.
- **SB 1383** elevated the urgency of short-lived climate pollutant (SLCP) reduction in the state’s climate protection efforts. SB 1383 requires that California reduce emissions of these powerful climate-altering pollutants by 40% by 2030, a strategy intended to advance the state’s GHG reduction goals by focusing on the contaminants that have the greatest near-term impacts (fugitive methane makes up 10% of California’s GHG inventory).
- **AB 2313** increased the California Public Utilities Commission’s incentive for pipeline interconnection from \$1.5 million to \$3 million per project, and up to \$5 million of dairy digester cluster projects.
- **AB 1826** requires public and private entities that produce more than four cubic yards of food waste a week to divert that organic material away from landfill disposal and make it available for recycling activities. The law has multiple benefits, most notably mitigating the volume of organic materials (food, green waste) that ends up in landfills and decomposes, creating the methane and CO<sub>2</sub> that make up the bulk of landfill gas. Beyond the solid waste management and climate protection advantages, it can also spur the development of a new business opportunities in recycling, recovery, and reuse of a valuable organics resource.
- **AB 1613** appropriates over \$900 million to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to programs that will directly impact the production and consumption of renewable gases.
- **SB 840** addressed issues related to the standards for the injection of biogas in to the state’s natural gas pipeline system and removed barriers to the development of small scale forest bioenergy projects.

**Unfortunately, as many of these laws are being implemented, there is often little understanding of their requirements among the entities that must comply. Additionally, many of the impacted stakeholders are discovering is that administrators at the state and local level are not always keeping up with the development of strategies to cost effectively and efficiently meet these new obligations.**



Since its inception, Rethink Methane has grown larger and has become better attended every year, driven both by policymakers expanding interest in the economic and environmental potential of exploiting the state's organic waste, as well as the steady growth in the importance of reducing short lived climate pollutants to the state's climate protection efforts. To enhance the dialogue, organizers are expanding the Rethink Methane Symposium into a two-day event.

## Tuesday, February 26, 2019

### Educational Program:

A discussion on the strategies, technologies and policies that can increase the use of methane from organic waste feedstocks, as well as promote the production of renewable hydrogen from both organic material and from power-to-gas energy storage strategies, including:

- Highlighting the role the state's organic resource base can play in providing steady supplies of renewable gas to displace diesel and accelerate the introduction of renewable hydrogen
- Spotlighting ongoing barriers to connecting both power and gas from organic feedstocks to California's electrical and natural gas grids
- Creating a sustainable strategy for the state to develop and implement a utility portfolio standard that promotes the development of renewable gas resources while protecting energy consumers from unreasonable price hikes
- Exploring ways to optimize the incentives that exist in state and federal law to enhance the prospects for dramatic economic and job growth in California from a successful renewable gas industry

## Wednesday, February 27, 2019

### Educational Program:

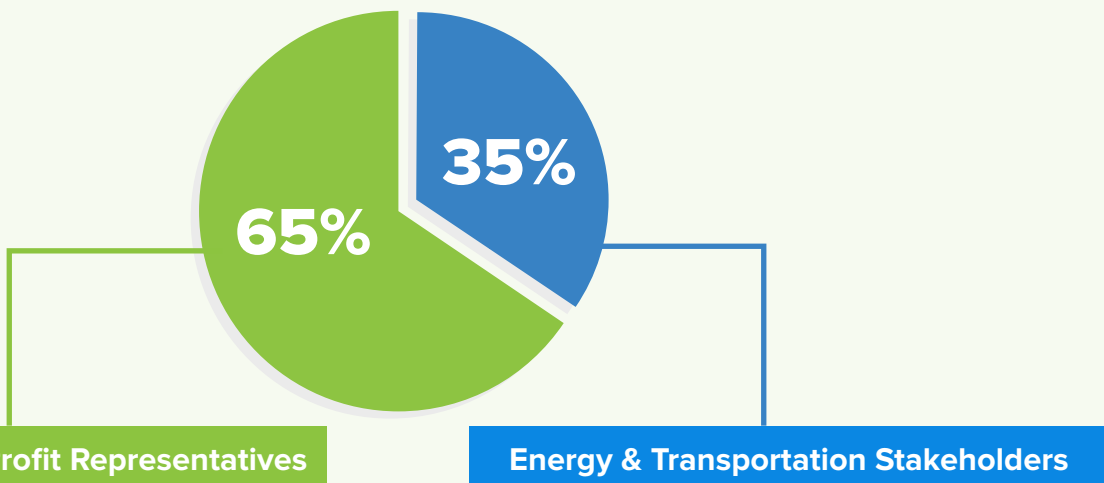
A deep dive into the challenges faced by stakeholders impacted by **AB 1826**, including:

- A discussion on strategies that will enable both local governments and obligated parties (grocery stores, restaurants, special event centers, hospitals and educational institutions) to cost effectively comply
- Opportunities to enhance the state's implementation of its diversion strategy for municipal solid waste, which should both facilitate and accelerate reduction of SLCP as well as provide more feedstocks for the production of renewable energy

### Tradeshow:

Enables attendees to connect with a variety of product and service providers, including bioenergy application technologies and equipment; renewable energy developers, producers and suppliers; project financiers; natural gas and electric utilities; and more.

The Rethink Methane Symposium draws 350+ representatives from California state government, including many of the legislative and administrative staff responsible for implementing our climate change, air quality, and energy diversity and conservation policies. The audience is typically made up of:



## Government & Non-Profit Representatives

### Sample organizations:

- California State Senate & Staff
- California State Assembly Members & Staff
- Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown
- California Energy Commission
- California Air Resources Board
- California Department of Food & Agriculture
- California Department of Resources & Recycling
- California Public Utilities Commission
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
- South Coast Air Quality Management District
- Sacramento Air Quality Management District
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Energy & Transportation Stakeholders

### Sample business categories:

- Bioenergy Application Technologies
- Biomethane Producers
- Design/Build Engineers
- Environmental Advocates
- Natural Gas & Electric Utilities
- Natural Gas Engine & Equipment Manufacturers
- Power-to-Gas Technologies
- Renewable Energy Developers
- Renewable Natural Gas Producers/Suppliers
- Renewable Solar Producers/ Suppliers
- Renewable Wind Producers/ Suppliers
- Technology Manufacturers
- Waste Collection/Waste Management
- Waste Conversion Solutions



## Venue



### Sacramento Convention Center

1400 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Room 202, located on the second floor through the West Lobby entrance on 13th & K Street

## Hotel



### Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel

1230 J Street, 13th and J St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814

## Registration

Registration will open in December 2018. To join our mailing list and receive updates, visit [www.rethinkmethane.org](http://www.rethinkmethane.org).

