



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 gases 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

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPONSOR



RECEPTION SPONSOR

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SPONSOR



NETWORKING SPONSORS



INDUSTRY SPONSOR



ENDORISING 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 organic waste and surplus renewable electricity to decarbonize the state’s natural gas system, develop cost effective strategies to store renewable power 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, hydrogen-rich syngas, and other renewable molecules
- 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

Table of Contents

- 2 Renewable Methane: Key Sources & Benefits
- 3 Legislation Spurring RNG Market Development
- 4 2019 Agenda: Core Goals & Topics
- 5 Who Attends?
- 6 Travel & Registration Details

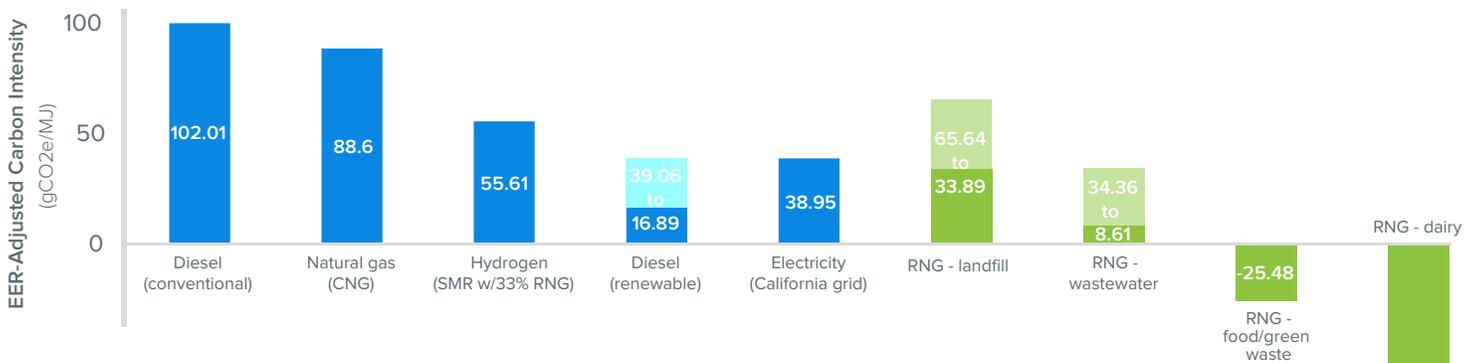
Renewable methane is a core component of renewable natural gas, and is derived by harnessing the methane that naturally cycles through the biosphere. The majority of methane in our atmosphere, particularly in California, comes from the natural decomposition of organic matter—food waste, the treatment of wastewater, agricultural processes, and municipal solid waste. Harnessing renewable methane and other gases creates new opportunities to sustainably manage waste products and store surplus renewable power.



*Source: Coalition of Renewable Natural Gas

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. And now that the ARB has approved changes to the LCFS, electric vehicles charged by power generated from renewable gas creates new and compelling incentives to increase the production of renewable gas from organic waste.

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).
- **SB 100** increases the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) for electric utilities to 60% by 2030, and requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to plan for 100% renewable or carbon free power by 2045. This bill is expected to create powerful new incentives to produce renewable power from renewable gases, including both those generated from organic waste and from surplus renewable electricity.
- **SB 1440** requires the CPUC to consider the adoption of a biomethane procurement program for the state's natural gas utilities. Like the RPS, a procurement requirement would compel utilities to purchase either a percentage or a specific volume of renewable gas for their customers every year.
- **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 CO₂ 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.

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 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 for Policy Makers:

Given the environmental and economic objectives of the state, particularly viewed through the prism of legislation and events of 2018, Rethink Methane will focus on the opportunities to develop and implement policies to accelerate the production of renewable gas from surplus solar and wind power, the linkage between the state's increasingly desperate need to find ways to reduce the intensity of wildfires and California's need for new sources of renewable energy, and the challenges of successfully implementing requirements to divert organic matter from landfills.

With a new governor and legislature, Rethink Methane presents a rare opportunity to explore the strategies, policies and technologies that can harness market-based incentives to help achieve the state's critical climate projection, job growth and even public safety objectives. In addition, Rethink Methane will explore the barriers to increasing the use of organic waste and renewable power to generate renewable gases, and suggest ideas for policymakers to pursue to better enable growth in the critical industry.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

Educational Program:

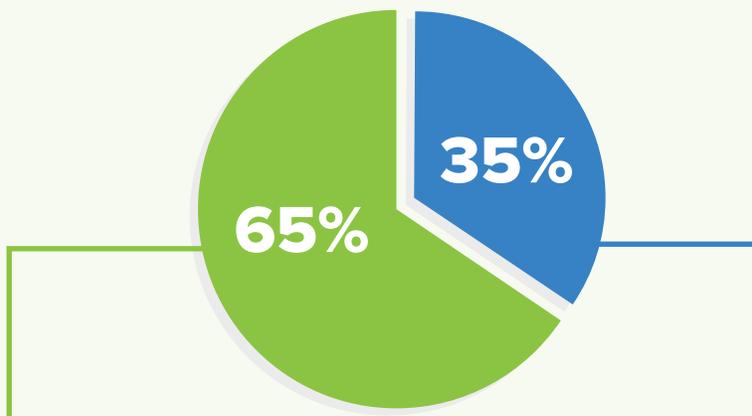
A deep dive into the challenges faced by stakeholders impacted by **AB 1826**, particularly local permitting authorities, including:

- A robust discussion on barriers to successful AB 1826 implementation, including challenges that will be presented by CalRecycle's proposed SB 1383 implementation requirements
- A review of strategies that will enable both local governments and obligated parties (grocery stores, restaurants, special event centers, hospitals and educational institutions) to cost effectively comply with waste food diversion requirements
- 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.

