Turning Our Waste Into Fuel: Introductory Comments
Energy Vision/Climate Smart Communities Webinar

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The KEY Questions in this Webinar:

1. Why are so many communities in New York State and across the U.S. throwing away a valuable energy resource for making a Clean Vehicle Fuel, and what Vehicles can use it?

2. What is Renewable Natural Gas?

3. What will it take to reap the environmental and economic benefits of getting on this path?
U.S. TRUCKS & BUSES ARE SHIFTING AWAY FROM DIESEL TODAY

- Natural Gas, after 20 years, is fully commercial for heavy duty fleets
- 80% cleaner and 20-25% lower in GHGs
- Healthier for workers & communities
- Domestic & secure for essential "workhorse" fleets
- Could fuel all urban bus & truck fleets (6.7 million vehicles) with small % of U.S. natural gas production

NATURAL GAS REFUSE TRUCKS
FLEETS & Communities Love them
First 3 East Coast CNG fleets: NYC, Metro Paper, Garofolo
THE GREEN FUELS REVOLUTION
“Frack-Free” Renewable Natural Gas

- Fossil and Renewable Natural Gas: both chemically CH4- but RNG is made from waste
- RNG has lowest carbon footprint of any commercially viable fuel
- Can be mixed with natural gas
- Can be pumped through same pipelines & dispensed at same fueling stations
- Can power the same vehicles.

NY STATE: RIPE FOR “RNG”
Clean Fuel – Less Waste

- FOURTH LARGEST DAIRY HERD IN THE U.S.
- $3 BILLION /yr FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY
- 27 LARGE LANDFILLS
- 600 SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

Communities can be the game changers:
- Mandate use of “natural gas” trucks
- Inventory rural, residential, and local business wastes
- Assess costs and savings of conversion to fuel
- Potential to become fuel producers/sellers
- Support federal and state economic incentives
RNG used in Transportation: a Priority for NYS in reducing Greenhouse Gases

Figure 1. NYS Carbon Dioxide emissions by sector, 2009

Figure 2. Carbon dioxide emissions from petroleum products in the transportation sector between 1980 and 2010.