

# **EPA METHANE VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS** RNG Overview, EPA Resources



# Where does methane come from?



Source: Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2018

# EPA targets the four main methane emitting sectors with voluntary partnership





### **Success Stories**

- Project profiles
- Interviews with operators

### Market Trends

- National data for anaerobic digester projects
- Opportunities

### **Technical Information**

- Guidelines and permitting
- Project Development Handbook
- Operators guidebook (coming soon)

### Collaboration

- Webinars
- Industry events



# Agstar

Information for the

**Agriculture Sector** 

www.epa.gov/agstar

### Information for the Landfill & LFG Energy Sector

www.epa.gov/lmop



### Tools

- LFGcost-Web
- RNG Flow Rate Tool
- LFG Energy Benefits Calculator
- Conversion Tool

### **Technical Publications**

- Project Development Handbook
- Fact sheets

### Data

- Excel files and GIS map
- LFG energy projects
- Candidate landfills

### Network

- · Webinars and other events
- 1,000+ LMOP Partners
- Listserv messages









### Information for the Oil and Natural Gas Sector

www.epa.gov/gasstar





### **Recommended Technologies**

- Lessons Learned Studies
- Technology fact sheets
- Organized by equipment type

### **Technical Presentations**

- Links to hundreds of presentations from industry experts, program partners, and stakeholders
- Searchable by title, speaker, and event

### **Outreach and Events**

- Webinars
- Technology Transfer Workshops
- Partnership Workshops

### **Methane Emissions Videos**

- Remote sensing leak detection
- Infrared methane videos









# Highlights from the Waste and Agricultural Sectors

# Dairy Hog Beef Poultry Mixed

Anaerobic Digester Projects on Livestock Farms in the United States

255 operational projects in the United States (March 2020)



Source: <u>AgSTAR Digester Database</u>, March 2020

The size of the circle indicates the number of animals that feed the digester.

# Farm Digester Market is Growing



Source: AgSTAR Digester Database, AgSTAR Market Opportunities Report

# 565 Total Landfill Gas Energy Projects in the United States



LFG energy project count from LMOP's Landfill and Landfill Gas Energy Database as of August 2020

# **Candidate Landfills**



### ~ 475 Candidate Landfills

(898 MW or 499 mmscfd, 45 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e/year Potential)

#### What is a candidate landfill?

- •Landfill is accepting waste or has been closed for five years or less
- •Has at least one million tons of waste
- Does not have an operational, under-construction or planned project
- •Can be designated based on interest by the site

LFG energy project count from LMOP's Landfill and Landfill Gas Energy Database as of August 2020

# **RNG Trends and EPA Resources**



# What is RNG?

RNG is a term used to describe anaerobicallygenerated biogas that has been upgraded (or refined) for use in place of fossil natural gas

### Waste Types Used to Make RNG **Municipal Solid** Yard and Crop Food and Food Processing Wastes Waste Sewage Sludge Wastes Manure Biogas made from organic sources through anaerobic processes contains 45-65% methane. Biogas is treated to remove moisture, particulates, contaminants, and other gases $(CO_2, O_2, N_2$ and VOCs), resulting in a methane content of 90% or greater (typically 96-98% for pipeline injection). The resulting product is renewable natural gas (RNG) Landfills Anaerobic Digesters

# Trends in RNG Project Development



# Resources: RNG webpage

- Centralized information from all voluntary methane programs
- Webinars and presentations
- Data files and RNG projects map

### Available at:

https://www.epa.gov/Imop/renewablenatural-gas



# **RNG Overview Paper**

- Resource paper intended to promote and potentially assist in the development of RNG projects
  - Developed by AgSTAR, LMOP, & Natural Gas STAR
  - Includes appendix of NG companies that have accepted RNG interconnections

### Available at:

https://www.epa.gov/Imop/overview-renewable-naturalgas-biogas



# LFG Energy Project Feasibility Tool

- LFGcost-Web is an Excel based model for initial feasibility analysis of 12 types of LFG energy projects
  - Start with known LFG flow rate or have model calculate based on landfill parameters
  - Option to include incentive prices, e.g., renewable fuel credits
  - Outputs include installed capital cost & O&M, internal rate of return, and years to payback

- RNG (High Btu) module update coming soon with refreshed and updated price data
- Available at: <u>https://www.epa.gov/Imop/Ifgcost-web-landfill-</u> gas-energy-cost-model



# **RNG Project Profile**

### **Ruckman Farm Digester**

- Nation's first project that converts biogas derived from hog manure into pipelinequality renewable natural gas (RNG)
- Largest manure-to-energy project of its kind
- Restores native prairie grasses that are harvested to double biogas production



Learn more: https://www.epa.gov/agstar/project-profile-ruckman-farm

# RNG Project Profile

### **SWACO** Renewable Natural Gas Project

- Public-private partnership between the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio and Aria Energy
- Landfill gas to RNG project at the Franklin County Landfill in Grove City, Ohio.
- The RNG is injected into a Columbia Gas of Ohio (a NiSource company) pipeline for sale in the vehicle fuel markets.



Learn more: <u>https://www.epa.gov/lmop/landfill-gas-energy-project-data#swaco</u>

Webinar recording: https://www.epa.gov/Imop/webinar-franklin-county-landfill-gas-pipeline-renewable-natural-gas-energy-project

# EPA Biogas Toolkit

- A web-based toolkit with over 30 tools and resources to facilitate biogas project development
- Roadmap for planning and implementing biogas projects and quantifying economic and environmental impacts
- Audience: Project implementers, developers, financiers, and policymakers

### Helps answer project development questions:

- Where do I start?
- Is my city or firm a good candidate for biogas systems?
- Can I afford to build the system?
- How much biogas can I produce?
- What incentives are available?
- What about permitting and regulations?
- How do I maintain the system?
- What business relationships do I need to make?
- What environmental improvement will my project achieve?

## www.epa.gov/biogastoolkit



## EPA Biogas Toolkit Makes It Easier to Develop Successful Projects

### Highlights of Toolkit:

- •Centralized location for all EPA biogas tools
- •Filter categories help users find exactly what they need
- Intended for U.S. and international audience
- •Usable by all knowledge levels (getting started to advanced)
- •Cross-agency collaboration (AgSTAR, LMOP, GMI, OLEM, OW)

	Biogas Toolkit			
	The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Biogas Toolkit serves as a centralized knowledge hub for biogas project stakeholders. The toolkit is designed to allow stakeholders to search and browse for information and resources that meet their specific project needs. The toolkit includes information and resources compiled from across several EPA programs, including <u>AgSTAR</u> , the <u>Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP</u> ), and the <u>Global Methane Initiative (GMI</u> ).			
Where do I start?	Using the Biogas Toolkit: Use the filter panel to customize the list of biogas resources. Alternatively, click the "Guided Search" button to answer three questions and retrieve your results. Have questions? Please <u>contact us</u> .			
Guided Search	Links to non-EPA websites include this label: EXIT. Be aware that the privacy protection provided on the EPA.gov domain (see <u>Privacy and Security Notice</u> ) may not be available at the external link.			
Eiltere				
riiters	Displaying 34 of 34 resources.			
roject Phase Getting Started Pre-Feasibility Feasibility Assessment	CHECKLIST       10 Keys to Digester Success         Many factors are required to successfully implement and operate an anaerobic digestion/biogas system.         This resource lists 10 key factors essential for a successful farm-based digester project.			
Development and Construction	AgSTAR Initial Project Checklist			

## www.epa.gov/biogastoolkit

**Biogas Toolkit** 

# What can you do now?

Browse our	Contact us	Become a	Join our
websites	with questions	Partner	listservs
<ul> <li><u>LMOP</u></li> <li><u>AgSTAR</u></li> <li><u>Natural Gas</u> <u>STAR</u></li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>LMOP</u></li> <li><u>AgSTAR</u></li> <li><u>Natural Gas</u></li> <li><u>STAR</u></li> </ul>	<ul> <li><u>LMOP</u></li> <li><u>AgSTAR</u></li> <li><u>Natural Gas</u> <u>STAR</u></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Indicate you'd like to receive our emails via the "contact us" form</li> </ul>

# Contact Us

- LMOP: <a href="mailto:lmop@epa.gov">lmop@epa.gov</a>
- AgSTAR: <u>agstar@epa.gov</u>
- Natural Gas STAR: gasstar@epa.gov