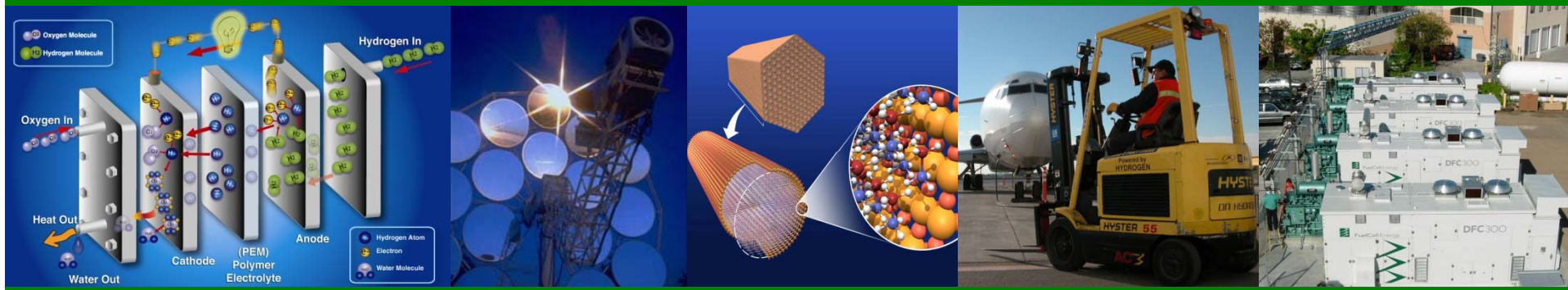




U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY | Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy



Benefits and Challenges of Biogas Resources

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United States Department of Energy

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The **mission** of the Fuel Cell Technologies Program is to enable the widespread commercialization of fuel cells, through applied R&D to overcome technical barriers and through efforts to reduce institutional and market barriers.

→ This mission supports the broad national goals of reducing petroleum use, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution; developing a more diverse and efficient energy infrastructure; and creating high-skilled jobs in emerging technical fields.

The **key objective** is to make fuel cells competitive with incumbent technologies and other advanced technologies in terms of lifecycle cost, performance, and market acceptance.

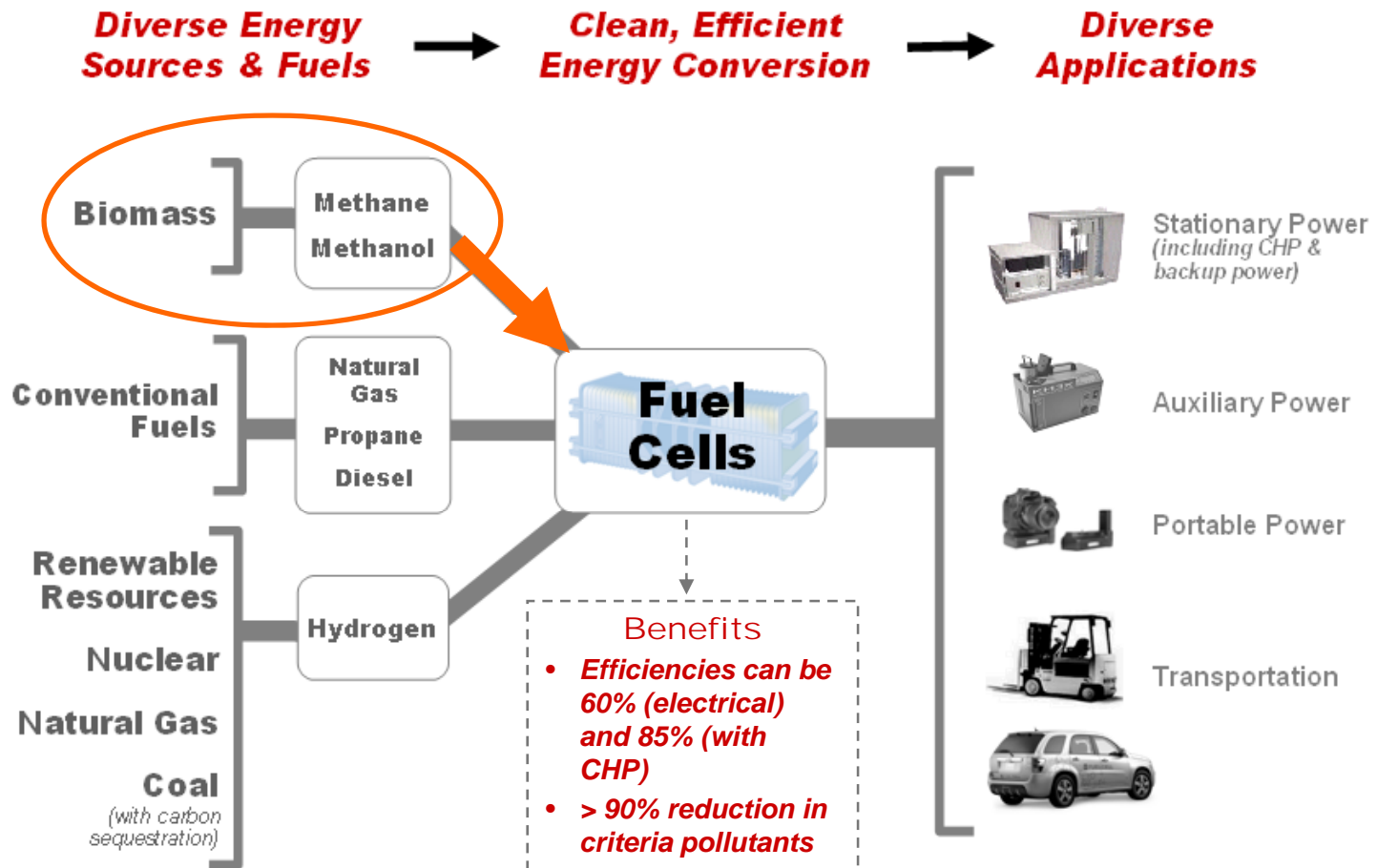
Fuel Cells Technologies (FCT) Program

Energy Efficiency and Resource Diversity

→ **Fuel cells offer a highly efficient way to use diverse fuels and energy sources.**

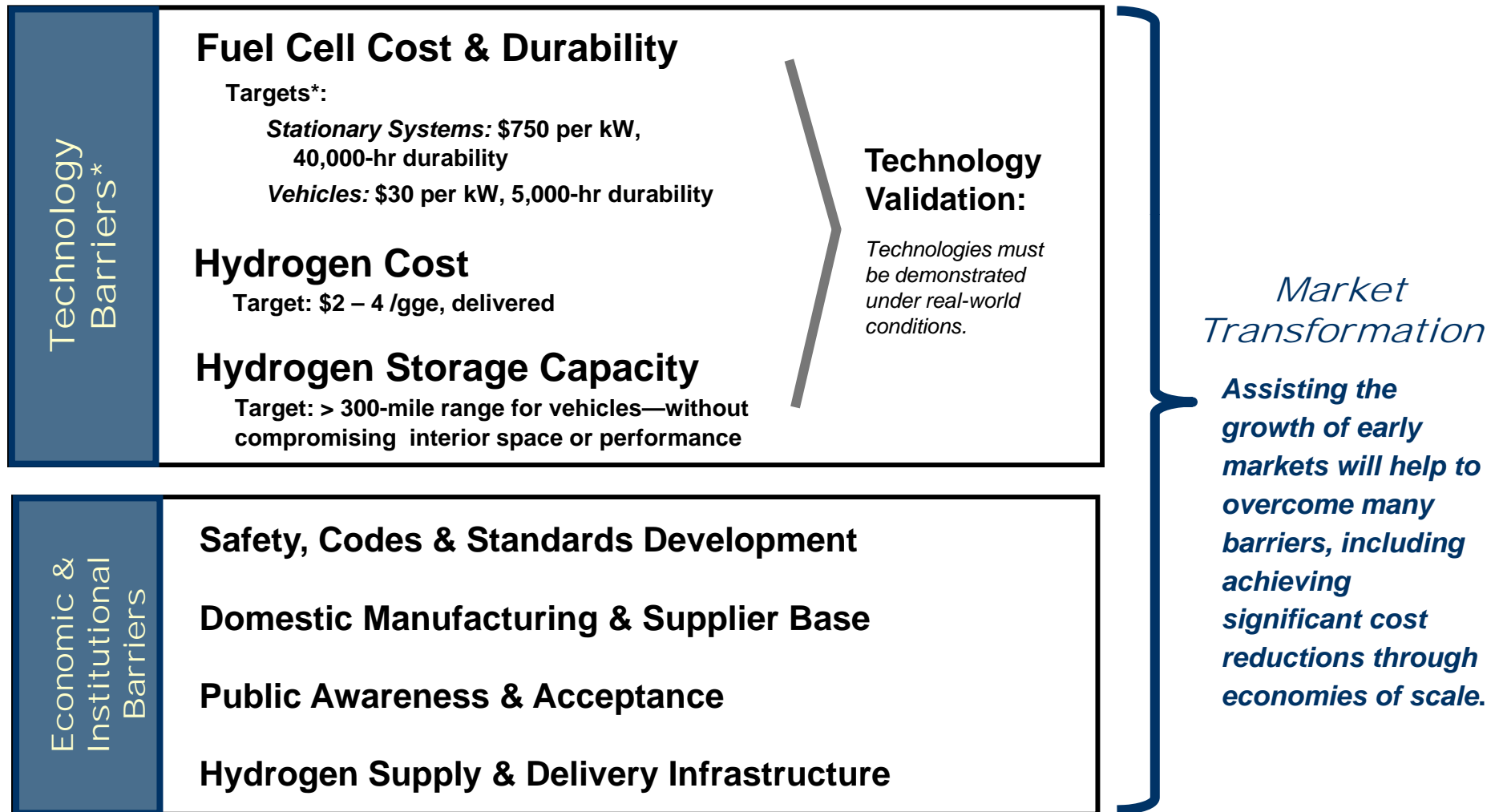
Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Air Pollution:

→ **Fuel cells can be powered by emissions-free fuels that are produced from clean, domestic resources.**



Key Challenges of FCT Program

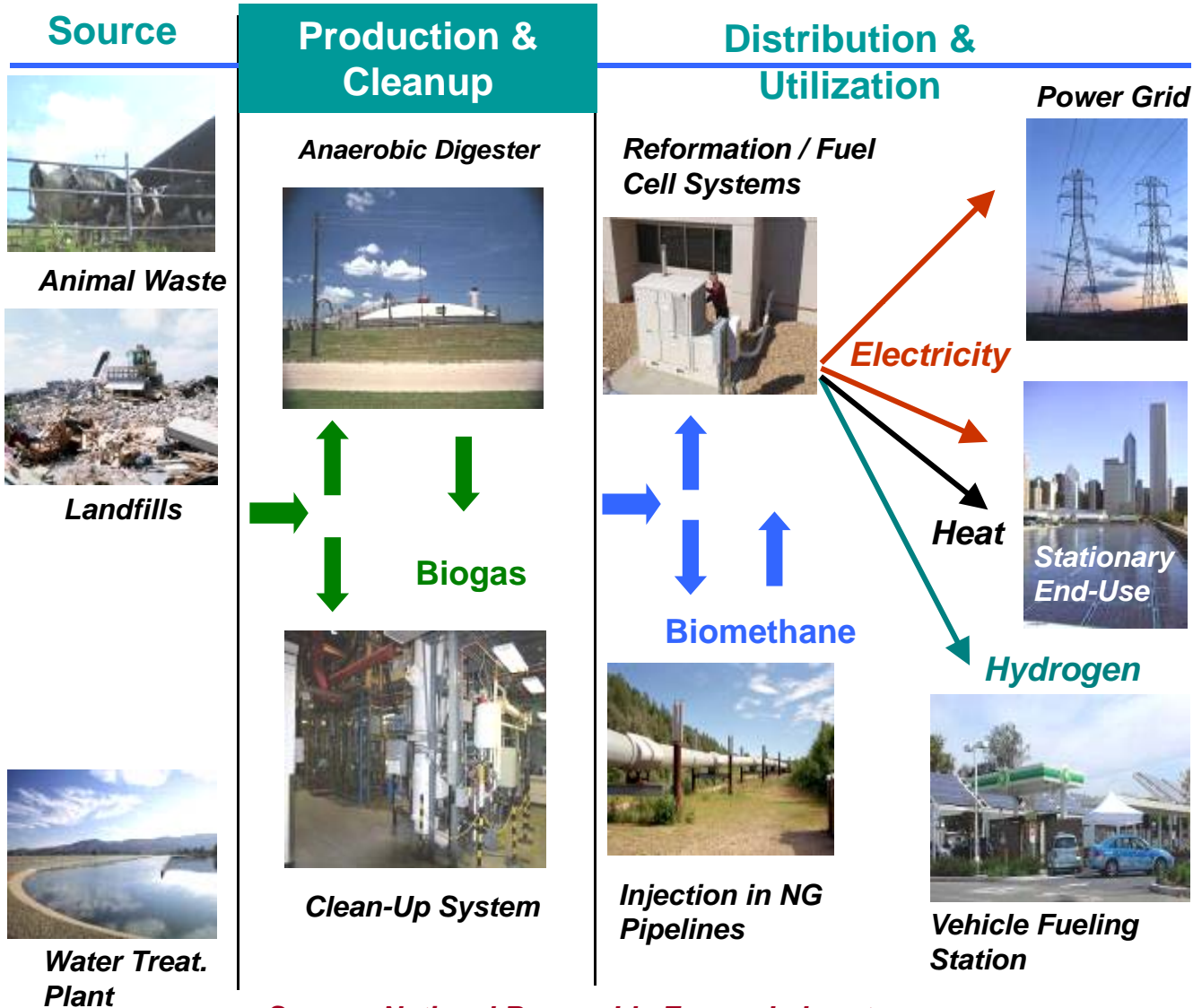
The Program has been addressing the key challenges facing the widespread commercialization of fuel cells.



*Metrics available/under development for various applications

Bio-methane from Biogas

Fuel cells operating on bio-methane or hydrogen derived from bio-methane can mitigate energy and environmental issues and provide an opportunity for their commercialization. Other drivers are: need for fuel diversity/flexibility, evolving policies for renewables, and related incentives.



H2A Production Model
Platform for new cost analysis model aimed at calculating levelized cost of bio-methane (from biogas).

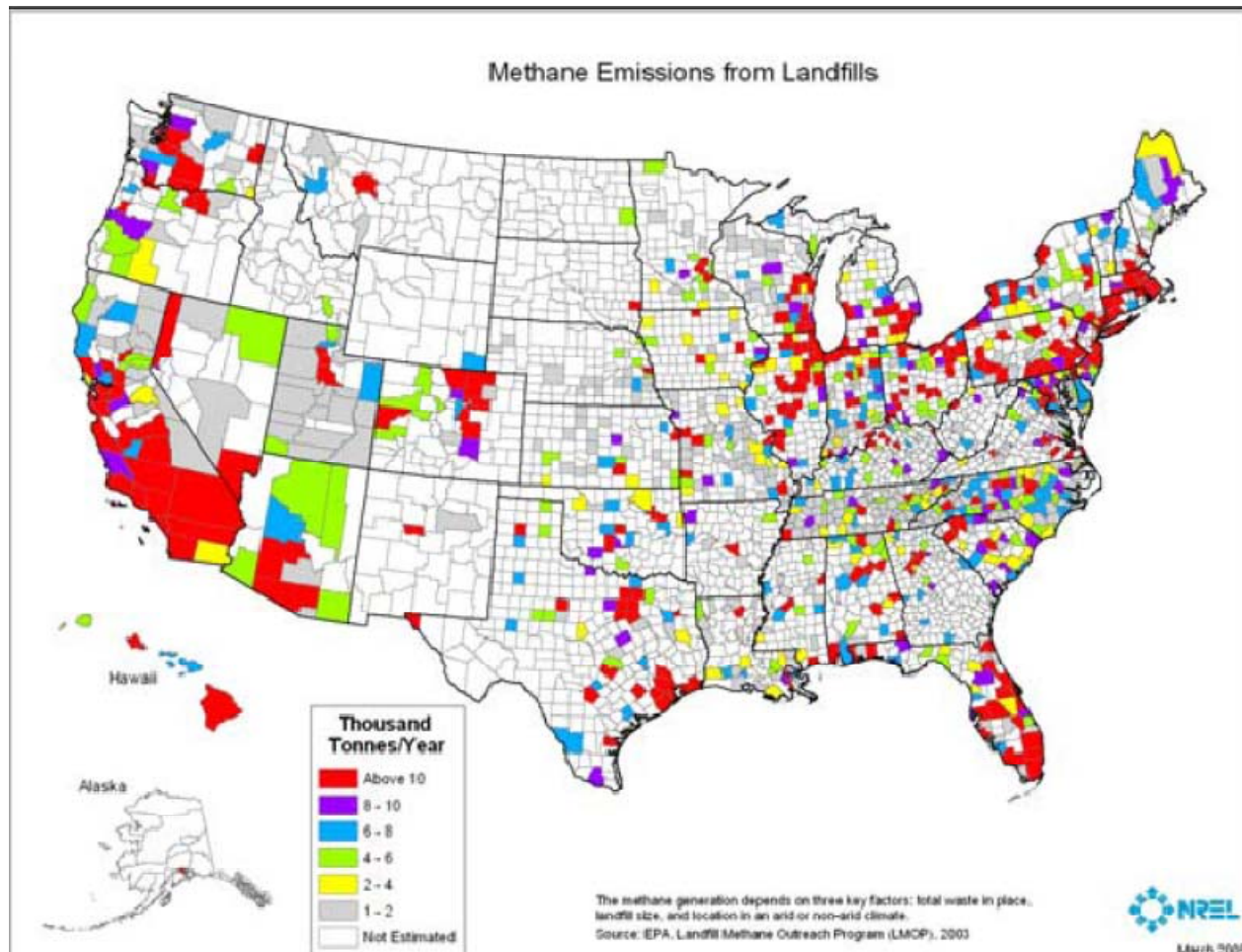
Fuel Cell Power Model
Analysis of stationary fuel cell systems—in standalone and combined heat, hydrogen, and power (CHHP) models.

SERA Model
Optimization tool, may also be used for related infrastructure analysis upon modification.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Biogas Resource: Methane from Landfills

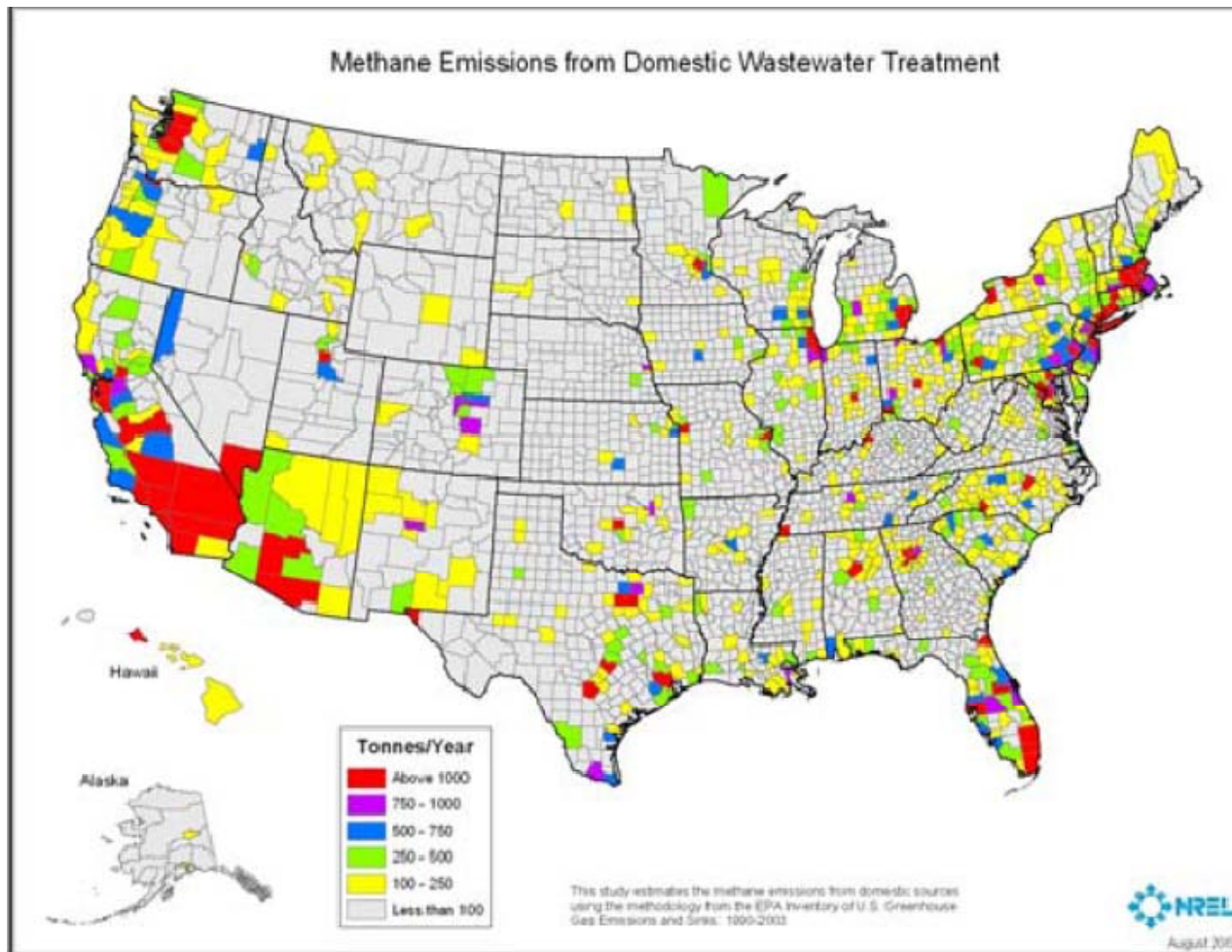
Biogas from landfills are located near large urban centers and provide enough renewable resource to fuel ~17 million fuel cell vehicles per day.



- 12.4 million MT per year of methane available from landfills in U.S.
- Majority of resource located near urban centers.
- Bio-methane could be used to produce ~17 million kg/day of renewable hydrogen from steam methane reforming.
- Renewable hydrogen is enough to fuel ~17 million fuel cell vehicles per day.
- **Potential oil savings of ~1,000,000 B/D.**

Biogas Resource: Methane from Waste Water Treatment Plants

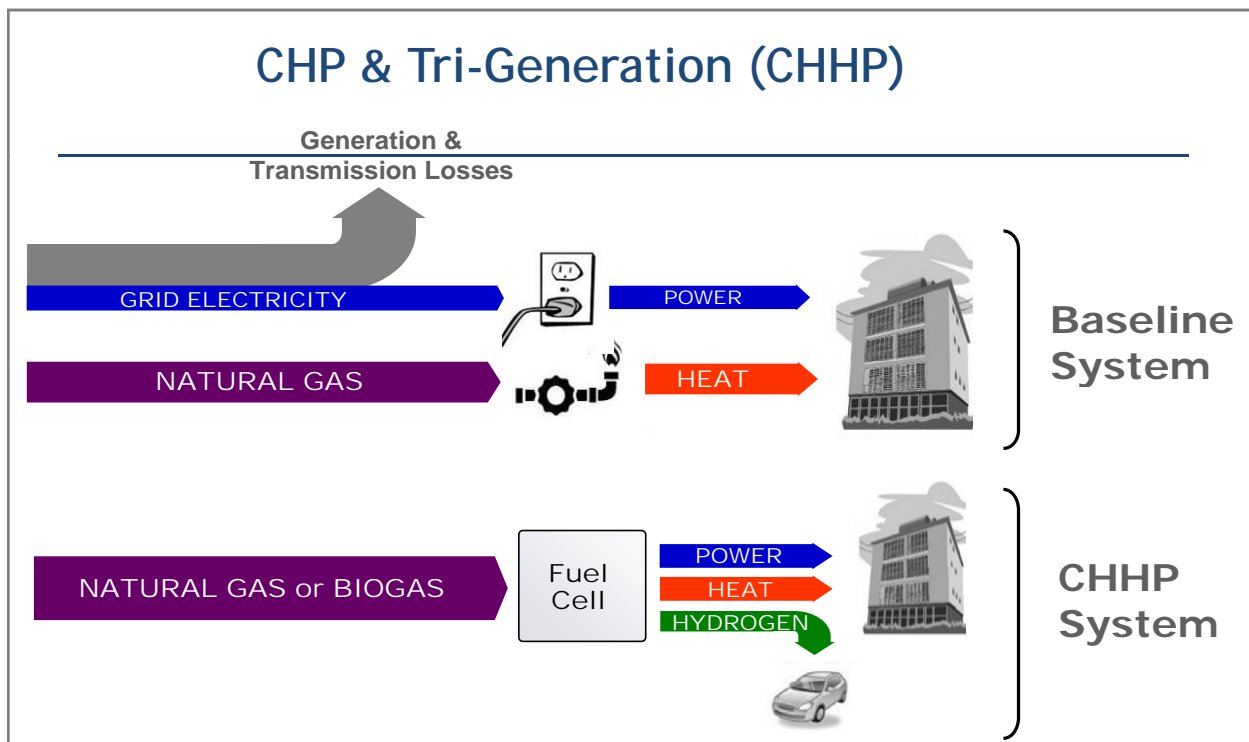
Biogas from waste water treatment plants is ideally located near urban centers to supply hydrogen for fuel cell vehicles.



- 500,000 MT per year of methane available from waste water treatment plants in U.S.
- Majority of resource located near urban centers.
- Bio-methane could be used to produce ~680,000 kg/day of renewable hydrogen from steam methane reforming.
- Renewable hydrogen is enough to fuel ~680,000 fuel cell vehicles per day.
- **Potential oil savings of 40,000 B/D.**

Biogas Application for Combined Heat, Power and Hydrogen

Biogas resource can produce a significant amount of power from Combined Heat and Power units.



Combined heat, hydrogen, and power systems can:

- *Produce clean power and fuel for multiple applications*
- *Provide a potential approach to establishing an initial fueling infrastructure*

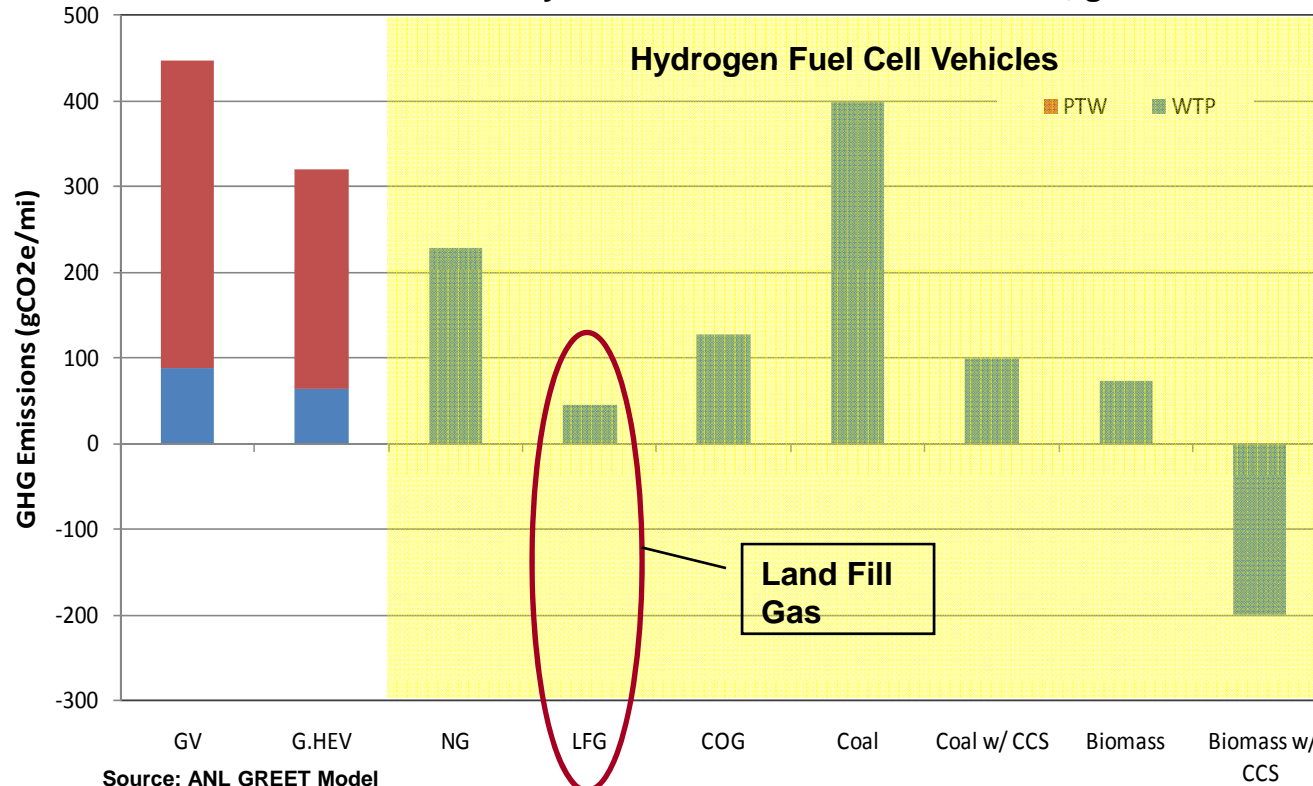
Combined bio-methane resource from landfills and waste water treatment plants could provide enough energy to produce 9.3 Giga Watts of power from Combined Heat and Power Units.

Biogas Benefits

Preliminary Well to Wheels Analysis Results

Fuel cell vehicles utilizing hydrogen produced from landfill gas is a renewable pathway with low carbon emissions.

Well to Wheels Analysis – Greenhouse Gas Emissions, gm/mile



Legend

- GV – Gasoline Vehicle
- GHEV – Gasoline Hybrid Electric Vehicle
- NG – Distributed Natural Gas Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicle
- LFG – Land Fill Gas Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicle
- COG – Coke Oven Gas Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicle
- CCS – Carbon Capture and Sequestration
- WTP – Well to Pump
- PTW – Pump to Wheels

Notes:

- Information for H2FCV with hydrogen from landfill gas is based on ANL GREET model and analysis.
- The landfill gas is assumed to be flared in this scenario.
- For carbon capture and sequestration (CCS), 90% carbon capture rate was assumed; electricity use for capture and transmission of CO2 was considered.

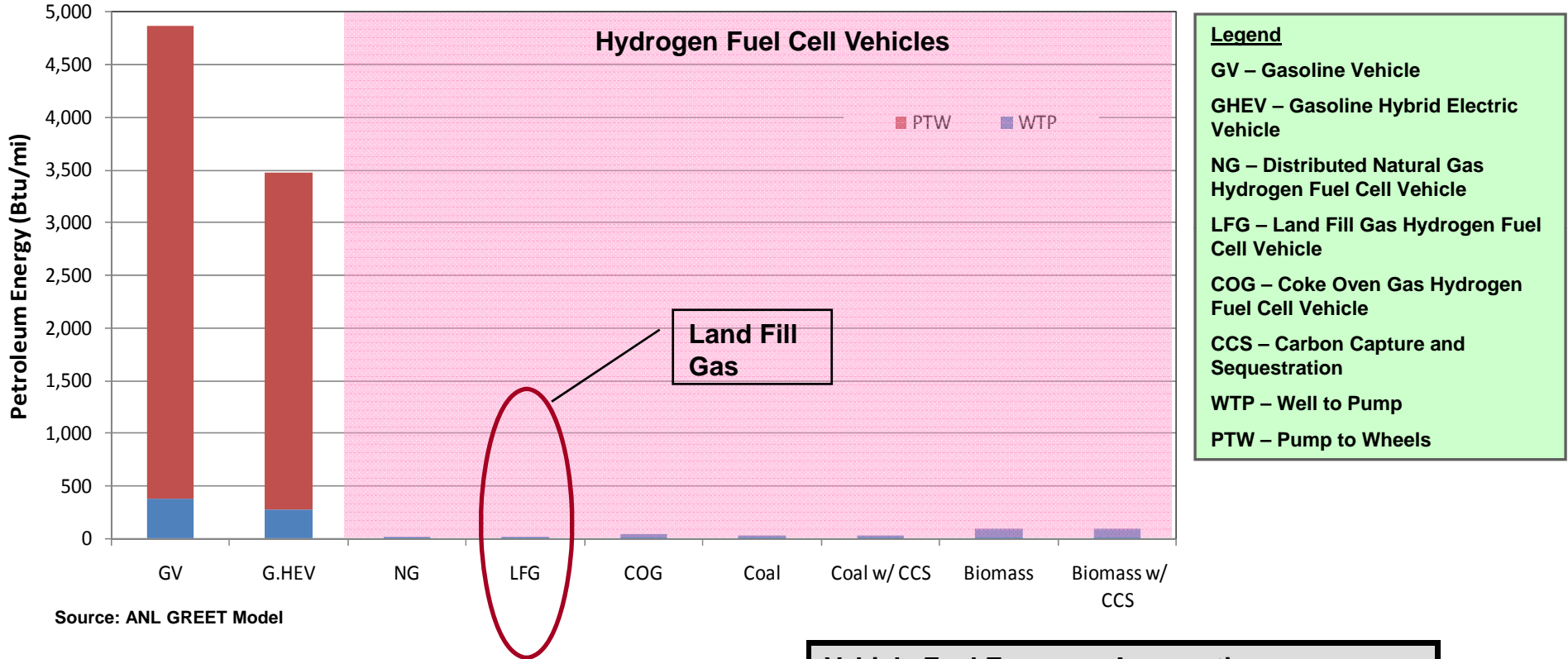
Vehicle Fuel Economy Assumptions			
	Gasoline ICE	Gasoline HEV	Fuel Cell Vehicle
MPGGE	25	34	58

Biogas Benefits

Preliminary Well to Wheels Analysis Results

The fuel cell vehicles fueled with hydrogen produced from landfill gas will reduce light duty vehicle petroleum use.

Well to Wheels Analysis – Petroleum Use, Btu/mile



Source: ANL GREET Model

Notes:

- Information for H2FCV with hydrogen from landfill gas is based on ANL GREET model and analysis.
- The landfill gas is assumed to be flared in this scenario.

Vehicle Fuel Economy Assumptions			
	Gasoline ICE	Gasoline HEV	Fuel Cell Vehicle
MPGGE	25	34	58

Use of biogas for hydrogen production and stationary fuel cells will be impacted by contaminant content and cleanup costs.

Challenges

- High level of contaminants**
- High variability of contaminant concentrations**
- High capital cost for contaminant removal**
- Low experience level with biogas cleanup**
- Location of resources relative to demand centers and understanding cost impacts of transportation**
- Pipeline restrictions for transport of biogas from source to demand center**



Activities to Address Challenges

- Project established with ANL to understand impact of biogas impurities on stationary fuel cell performance**
- Project established with NREL to identify locations of biogas resources and develop biogas H2A model for biogas cost analysis**
- Held workshops to understand gaps for utilizing biogas for hydrogen and power production**

Biogas Contaminant Content

Landfill gas contains a wide variety of species at concentrations of less than 0.05% that vary widely among landfill sites.

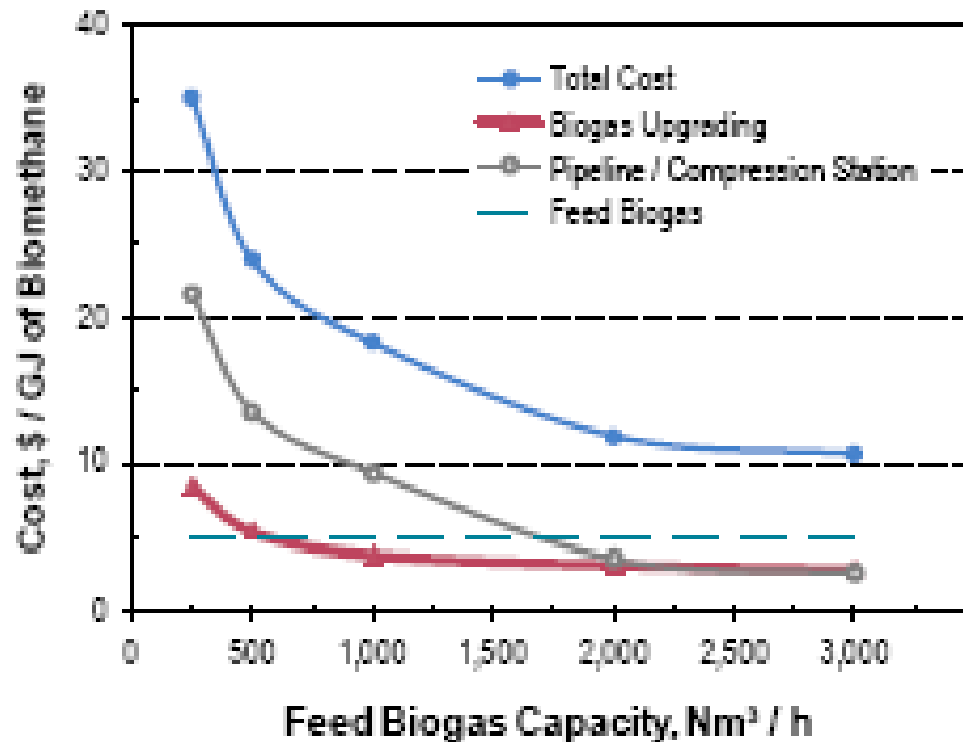
Landfill Gas Analysis

<u>Paraffins</u>	<u>ppm</u>	<u>Aromatics</u>	<u>ppm</u>
• Isobutane	<100	• Isopropylbenzene	<6
• Isopentane	<970	• Benzene	<5
• N-Pentane	<180	• Toluene	<21
• Hexanes	<390	• Xylene (and isomers)	<45
		• Styrene	<0.5
<u>Sulfur</u>		• Ethylbenzene	<13
• Hydrogen Sulfide	<280	• Trimethylbenzene	<14
• Methyl Mercaptan	<0.5		
• Ethyl Mercaptan	<8	<u>Halides</u>	
• Dimethyl Sulfide	<0.02	• Chlorobenzene	<1
• Carbon Disulfide	<0.5	• Dichloroethene	<33
• Methanethiole	<0.5	• Dichloroethane	<0.25
		• Cis-1,2 Dichloroethane	<5
<u>Cyclics</u>		• Methylene Chloride	<12
• Pinene	<86	• Trichloromethane	<0.6
• Limonene	<25	• Trichloroethene	<6.3
		• Vinyl Chloride	<1.4
		<u>Organic Silicon</u>	
		• Siloxane (D3, D4*, D5, L2, L4)	<15*
		• Trimethylsilanol	<12

Source: ANL 2010 Annual Merit Review Presentation

Biogas Cleanup could be ~30% of Biogas Cost

Costs for Biogas from Dairy Farm/s



- Costs reflect upgrading and transport of biogas from a dairy farm/s.
- Cost of biogas upgrading and transport decrease with increase capacity.
- For comparison, natural gas cost is ~\$11/GJ.

Source: NREL report for 2010 Annual Merit Review

- **Biogas from landfills and waste treatment is a domestic, renewable resource strategically located near large urban centers.**
- **Biogas quantities are large enough to produce hydrogen fuel to support fuel cell vehicle rollout strategies.**
- **The hydrogen production pathway utilizing biogas has lower greenhouse gas emissions than conventional gasoline vehicles.**
- **Fuel cell vehicles utilizing hydrogen from biogas will reduce petroleum use for light duty vehicles.**
- **Biogas applications face cleanup challenges of a wide range of contaminants with variable concentrations that could increase the cost of biogas by ~30%.**
- **Fuel Cell Technologies Program is incorporating this feedstock in program benefits modeling and analysis to further understand cost and quality constraints.**

Thank You

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Supporting Slides

- Sulfur is removed by HDS, Adsorption, Absorption, Oxidation
Example of medium used for H₂S and mercaptan removal*

Sulfur Removal Medium	Regeneration	Capacity	\$/kg of H ₂ S
Iron Sponge (Iron Oxide)	2-3 X	2.5 kg-H ₂ S/kg-Fe ₂ O ₃	0.35-1.35
Sulfa Treat® (Iron Oxide)	No	0.5-0.7 kg-H ₂ S/kg-Fe ₂ O ₃	4.85-5.00
Media G2® (Iron Oxide)	15 X	0.5 kg-H ₂ S/kg-Fe ₂ O ₃	2.90-3.00
Impregnated activated carbon	Yes	0.12 g-S/g-C	1.75-2.00

- Pressure swing adsorption is very effective for most impurities
- Membrane permeation (H₂) is effective but the membrane is vulnerable to poisoning by sulfur
- Phase separation is used for the removal of moisture, ammonia, metals

*Zicari, S (2003). M.Sc Thesis - Cornell University; Spiegel et al (2003). Waste Management, 23, 709-717

- Landfill gas contains siloxanes
 - Siloxanes oxidize to form silica that deposits on surfaces
 - Siloxanes can be removed by sorbents (e.g., silica gel, bentonite, etc.)
 - Removal is affected by siloxane type, sorbent used, and the nature of the other impurities (e.g, water)
 - Sorbent beds are often staged
 - Life / capacity are generally low

Siloxane Uptake Capacity of Silica Gel*

Rel. Humidity, %	L2	D5
0	11	10
10	10	8.4
20	6.2	4.6
30	1.8	1.0
50	0.8	0.6

*Schweigkofler et al (2001), *Journal of Hazardous materials B83* 183-196

Source: ANL Presentation at 2010 Annual Merit Review