#### Landfill Gas Direct Use



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#### Landfill Gas – Attracts International Attention

Environment News		
International Daily Newsonice II's Cover		
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Eight Nations Join to Reduce Methane Emissions		
WASHINGTON, DC, July 29, 2004 (ENS) – The Bush administration has unveiled a new agreement with seven other nations to reduce and capture methane emissions at landfills, coal mines, and oil and gas systems and utilize the recovered gas for energy. Methane is a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming, one of six gases governed by the Kyoto Protocol.		
The nations joining the United States in the Methane to Markets partnership are Australia, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Ukraine and the United Kingdom, President George W. Bush announced Wednesday.		



# What is Landfill Gas?

- Generated when waste in landfill decomposes
   Smells bad, is an explosion hazard, and
  - a potent greenhouse gas
- Contains about 50% methane the main component of natural gas
- A reliable and renewable fuel source
- If not collected and used, is wasted

# Modern Municipal Solid Waste Landfill





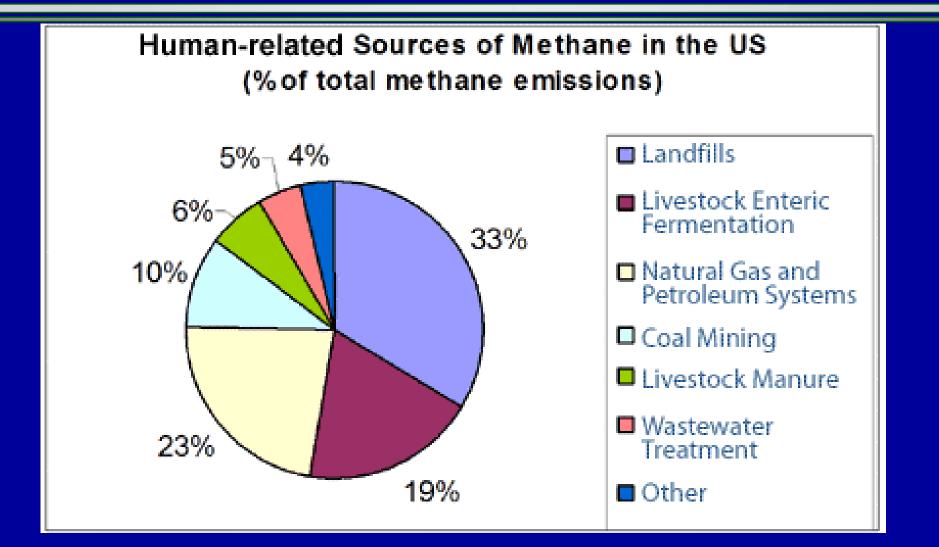


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# Landfill Gas 101 from EPA

- Landfill gas (LFG) is a by-product of the decomposition of municipal solid waste (MSW)
   LFG:
  - » ~ 50% methane (CH<sub>4</sub>).
  - » ~ 50% carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ).
  - » <1% non-methane organic compounds (NMOCs).
- For every 1 million tons of MSW:
  - » ~ 1.0 MW of electricity
  - » ~ 550,000 cubic feet per day of landfill gas
- If uncontrolled, LFG contributes to smog and greenhouse gas, and may cause health and safety concerns

#### **Methane Sources**



#### Source: EPA April 15, 2003

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### **LFG Constituents**

Component	%
Methane	47.4
Carbon dioxide	47
Nitrogen	3.7
Oxygen	0.8
Paraffin hydrocarbons (HC)	0.1
Aromatic-cyclic HC	0.2
Hydrogen	0.1
Hydrogen Sulfite	0.01
Carbon monoxide	0.1
Trace compounds	0.5

Source: O'Leary & Walsh 2002

#### Landfill Gas is Collected



#### ← Gas collection well (Orion)



#### Unused gas is flared



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# Landfill Gas Can Displace Coal, Natural Gas in Boilers

Landfill gas is compressed, piped underground to GM's powerhouse and burned in boilers





#### Compressor

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#### Viable Landfill site screening

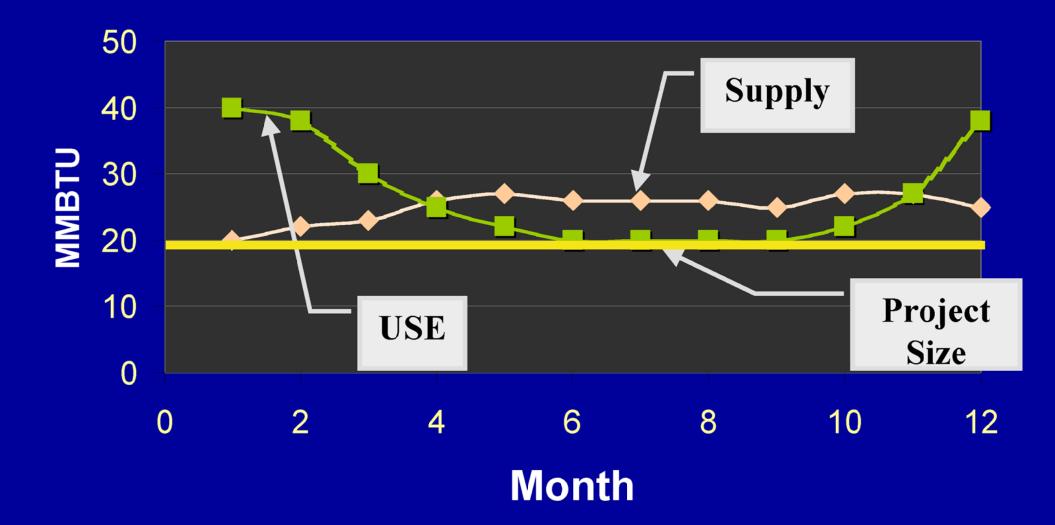
LFG Output determines distance » < 500,000 MMBTU/Yr up to 10 miles » Larger projects – new limit 23 miles Long term available LFG supply » EPA's LandGem estimates supply » Waste in Place equation (EPA, 2003) Match base load to supply

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#### Match Size to base load use



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#### Environmental

#### Benefits

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» NSPS site – Renewable Energy
 » Non-NSPS site – reduce Methane

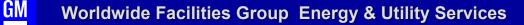
 Methane 21 times Global Warming Potential
 » US – Renewable Energy Use / Carbon Markets
 » Internationally – Certified Emission Reduction credits through CDM

Permitting Requirements

# **Quality of LFG**

Removal of Contaminants
 » Boiler - Refrigerant Drying with filters
 » Process – Siloxane Removal

 Activated Carbon most prevalent use
 » High-BTU Gas or direct-fired use
 Complicated and costly



### **Direct Use Equipment**

 Boilers – require modifications » Retrofit burners and controls » Dual fuel capability with Natural Gas Other combustion sources » Indirect fired heat exchangers » Blend in process heaters » Thermal Oxidizers **Displace natural gas injection >>** 

#### **Business Case Evaluation**

Select a landfill and determine optimum output for sale Estimate supply and infrastructure costs: » Landfill gas purchase » Wells, filtration, compression, piping » Boiler or Equipment conversion Identify Fuel savings basis

### **Schematic of LFG System**

Parties:

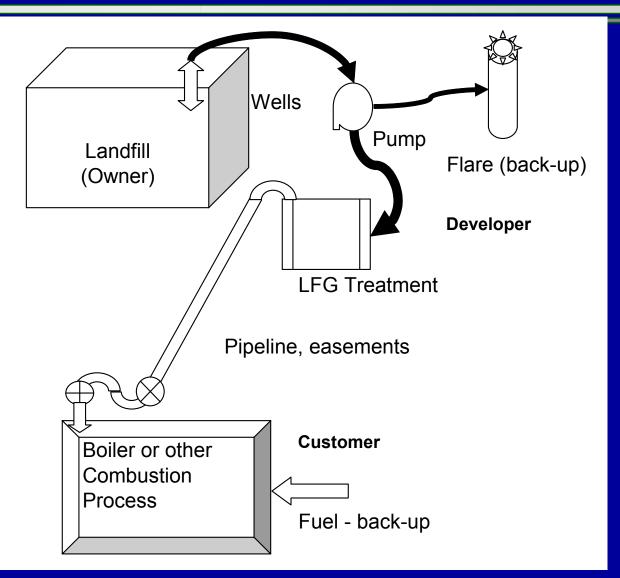
Landfill Gas Owner

Developer (possibly)

-construction-operations

Customer

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### **Example Business Case**

Landfill without collection system

 Non-NSPS site with 1.5 MM Tons
 Facility is 5 miles from site

 Scope of Project

 Landfill is capable of 100,000 MMBTU's per Year

» Facility uses 200,000 MMBTU's with baseload from process boilers

#### **Example Business Case**

Estimate LFG from equation » 395 CFM at 500 BTU/ft<sup>3</sup> Estimate project costs \$ 2.2 M » Infrastructure \$ 0.1 M » Boiler conversion » Supply price LFG \$ 0.51/MMBTU Fossil Fuel Savings S 5.68/MMBTU Worldwide Facilities Group Energy & Utility Services 5/6/05

#### **Business Case Results**

 $\bigcirc$  Environmental Benefit of reduced CO<sub>2</sub> – » 48,600 Tons per Year (Renewable + Methane) Return on Investment » \$ 2.34 M investment » \$568k / Year savings in expense » Yields about 18% ROI based on 15 Yr. Alternative Supply Contract » Purchase price estimate: \$3.85/MMBTU » Annual savings of \$185k / Year

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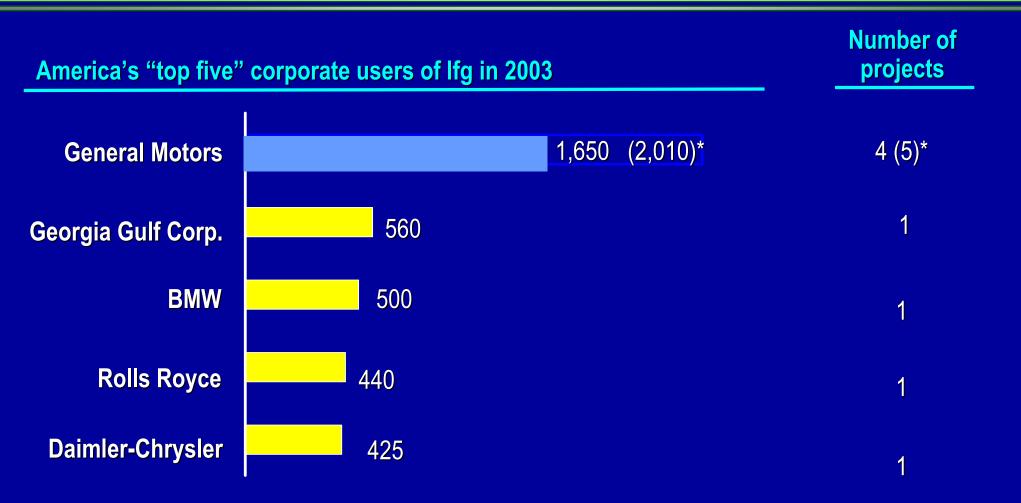
#### Conclusion

Landfill Gas can be a significant **Greenhouse Gas contributor** Optimum use is beneficially as a **Renewable Energy source** Understanding of development process enables implementation Results: Environmental Benefit and economical feasibility create Win-Win

# GM- largest corporate user of landfill gas for Thermal energy in the US in 2003 (WRI)

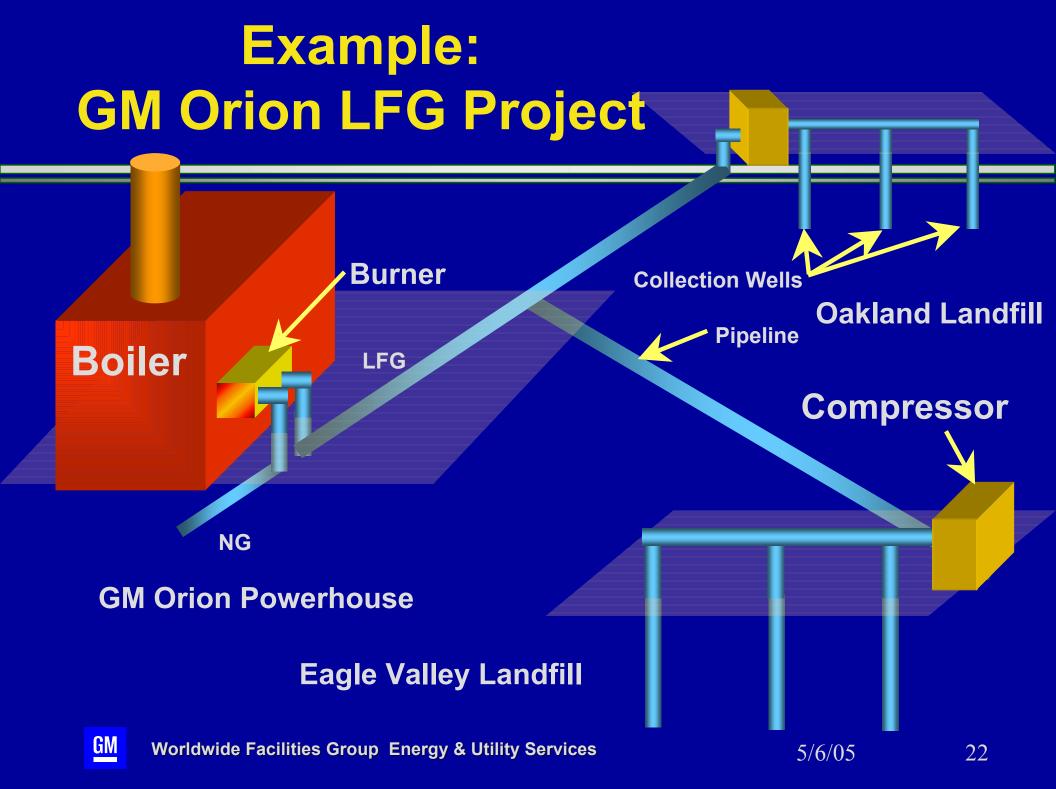
billion Btu/year

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\* Includes Oklahoma City project being announced on September 17, 2003. Operational in 2004 Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Landfill Methane Outreach Program)

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#### Status of Operational LFGE Projects and Candidate Landfills (EPA)

