

# U.S. Department of Energy, Biomass Program

**Growing America's Energy Future** 

Valri Lightner June 3-4, 2009

Develop and transform our renewable and abundant, non-food, biomass resources into sustainable, costcompetitive, high-performance biofuels.

Focus on targeted research, development, and demonstration

- Support through public and private partnerships
- Deploy in integrated biorefineries



# 2009 Program Priorities and Goals

# Advancing Presidential Objectives

## Science & Discovery

- Connecting basic and applied bioscience
- Conducting breakthrough R&D:
  - Advances in enzymes and catalysis
  - Engineering of new microorganisms
  - Novel sustainability indicators

# Clean, Secure Energy

 Developing & demonstrating cellulosic and advanced biofuels to meet RFS

# **Economic Prosperity**

- Creating 50 to 75 jobs per new biorefinery
- Creating major new energy crop markets
- Reinvigorating rural economies

## **Climate Change**

 Reducing GHG emissions by up to 90% with advanced biofuels (relative to gasoline)

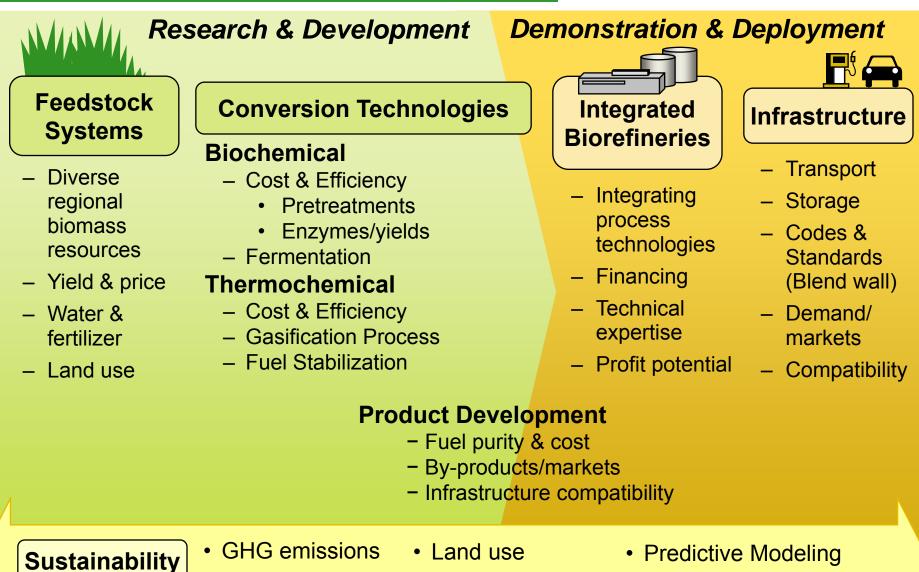




# **Program Areas & Challenges**

Water quality





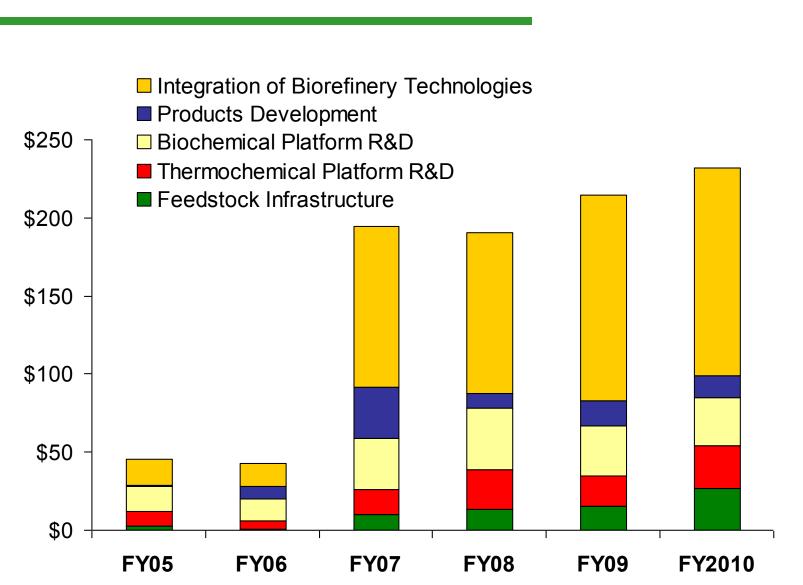
Socioeconomics

International

# **Critical Near-Term Market Hurdles**



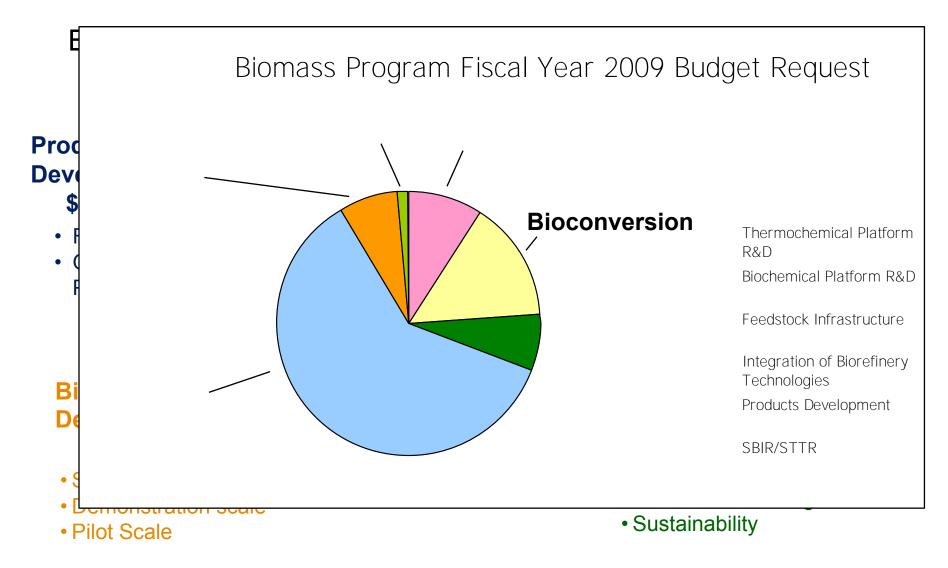
- Blend wall
  - E10 likely to saturate current markets by 2010
- Cost-effective commercial production of cellulosic biofuels
  - Cost of enzymes
  - Cost of pretreatment
  - Demonstration of thermochemical conversion
- Delivery and end-use infrastructure limitations
  - Infrastructure (rail, truck, pipeline, blending, storage) for non-compatible biofuels (e.g., ethanol)
  - Infrastructure to meet ramped up production of biofuels
  - UL approved E85 pumps



# Biomass Program Budgets, FY05-10



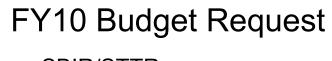


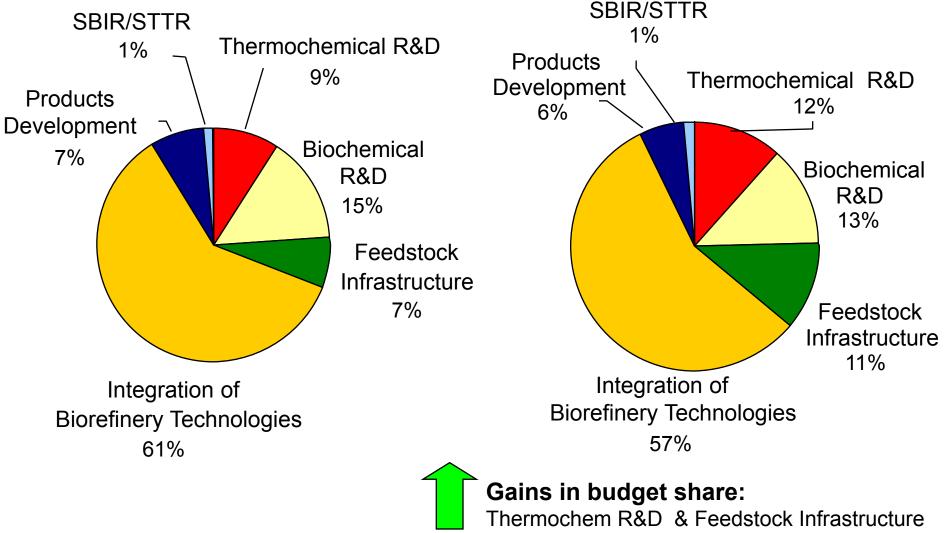


**Biomass Program: Comparative Budgets** 









# **Biomass Program Performance Goals**



**Program Performance Goals** 

- Make cellulosic ethanol cost competitive at a modeled cost for mature technology: \$1.76/gallon by 2012\*
- Help create an environment conducive to maximizing production and use of biofuels, 36 billion gallons per year by 2022

#### Feedstocks

Supply 2012: 130 M TPY 2017: 250 M TPY Logistics 2012: \$0.39/gal EtOH 2017: \$0.33/gal EtOH

#### Biochemical Conversion Reduce the modeled processing cost of converting feedstocks to ethanol to \$0.92/gal by 2012.

#### Thermochem. Conversion

Reduce the processing cost of converting woody feedstocks to ethanol to \$0.86/gal by 2012.

#### Integrated Biorefineries

Demonstrate and validate integrated biorefineries across various pathways with at least 3 plants in successful operation by 2012. Validate modeled ethanol production cost and compare to targets.

#### Biofuels Infrastructure

Complete testing of E15 & E20 distribution systems and engines. Support E85 on regional basis.

\* All costs are in 2007 dollars, based on EIA's Annual Energy Outlook and corrected for the energy density of ethanol

# Feedstocks: Priorities & Activities

#### FY2010 Request: \$27M (includes sustainability)



## Analysis

- Billion Ton update
- Economic Interagency Working Group Report
- Bioenergy Knowledge Discovery Framework

#### Plans

- Landscapelevel analysis
- Collaboration with the Office of Science

# Production

 Feedstock trials with Regional Biomass Energy Feedstock Partnerships

# Sustainability

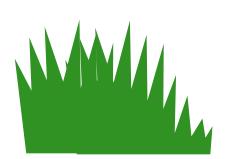
- Land use studies and lifecycle assessments
- International efforts

## Plans

- Establish more trials (woody & herbaceous)
- Develop synthesis reports
- Collect watershedscale data

## Leveraging

 Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center Partners (ARRA \$5M, FY09-11)



# Logistics

- INL lead
  - Process demo unit (PDU)
- Industrial Projects implemented

#### Plans

- Deploy PDU
- Support IBR partners

# **Biochemical Conversion:** Priorities & Activities

#### FY2010 Request: \$31M



#### Enzyme Conversion

- Conduct R&D to improve effectiveness and reduce the costs of enzymatic conversion
- Validate integrated pretreatment and enzymatic hydrolysis of corn stover (dry and wet) at pilot scale

# Activities

- Enzyme solicitation
- Advanced Biofuels University solicitation

#### C5 Sugars Conversion

 Conduct R&D on advanced microorganisms for fermentation of sugars

#### Activities

 Ethanologen solicitation

# **Process Integration**

- Validate/optimize integrated production of ethanol from corn stover derived sugars at pilot scale
- Validate integrated pretreatment and enzymatic hydrolysis of switchgrass at pilot scale

# Leveraging

Fund loan guarantees, commercial and demonstrations scale validation projects

Future efforts address obstacles to biochemical routes to biofuels, support demonstrations, and resolve infrastructure issues

# Thermochemical Conversion: Priorities & Activities

#### FY2010 Request: \$27M



# Gasification

- Conduct process integration & modeling
- Syngas cleanup & conditioning
- Fuel synthesis

#### Activities

- Thermochemical conversion solicitation (up to \$7.75 M)
- Core R&D at National Labs

# **Pyrolysis**

- Improve bio-oil quality
- Stabilize bio-oils for transport

#### Activities

- Pyrolysis Oil Stabilization (up to \$7.5 M)
- Core R&D at National Labs

#### Advanced Biofuels (thru Recovery \$)

• Explore pathways to green gasoline, green diesel, cellulosic biobutanol, algalbased hydrocarbons

#### Leveraging

- Advanced Biofuels University Solicitation
- 1-Ton/day Pilot or 50-Ton/day Demonstration of advanced biofuels
- Core R&D at National Labs

Commercial-Scale Biorefineries, 10% Scale Validations, Joint DOE-USDA Solicitations

Developing technology to enable cost-effective biofuels and researching ways to Improve the quality of biofuels and intermediates

# **Related Activities**

# Integrated Biorefineries: Priorities & Activities

FY2010 Request: \$132M (includes infrastructure)

# Demonstration & Deployment

- Initiate construction of at least one additional commercial-scale IBR project
- Approve engineering design of one additional commercialscale IBR (two in total)
- Approve prelim. engineering design, market analysis for at least 4 demo-scale IBRs selected in 2008

# Leveraging

- Major partnerships with private companies
- Loan guarantees

#### Technical Assistance

 Conduct smaller R&D projects critical to improving biorefinery operations

#### Leveraging

 Expertise of National Laboratories and DOE Bioenergy Research Centers

# Analysis

- Conduct technical, economic, and environmental analyses to assess progress of individual IBRs and collective status
- Verify that unit operations operate as designed and meet all performance metrics

Wider scope potentially opens IBRs to additional feedstocks and biofuels.



# **Biofuels Infrastructure:** Priorities & Activities

FY2010 Request: about \$5M (part of integrated biorefineries)



## Strategic Analyses

- Cost and feasibility analysis
- Regional Plot distribution networks

#### Plans

- Establish cost goals for biofuel distribution
- Feed and tap Bioenergy Knowledge Discovery Framework to inform infra-structure planning

# Policy & Regulation

 Conduct test program on intermediate ethanol bends

#### Leveraging

- Coordinating closely with EPA
- Joint initiative with Vehicle Technologies Program
- Working with Coordinating Research Council, other stakeholders

## Communications & Outreach

 Conduct scoping study to identify gaps and needs for standards development

## Leveraging

- Collaborate on Clean Cities solicitation
- Coordinate with State Energy Offices

#### Strategic Partnerships

- National Commission on Energy Policy
- BRDI Distribution Infrastructure Interagency Working Group
- Governors' Biofuels Coalition
- Standards organizations

Fostering systematic development of cost-effective competitive distribution networks and end use applications.

# Sustainability: Priorities & Activities

## FY2010 Request: about \$1M (part of feedstocks)



#### Feedstocks

#### Leveraging

 Through Sun Grant Initiative, use field trials to collect data on sustainability

## Land Use

- Quantify future land use impacts for various scenarios using Purdue's GTAP, ANL's GREET models
- Incorporate land use data and yield assumptions

# Leveraging

Tap expertise of Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center

# Water

- Conduct LCA of water use in production
- Analyze regional variations due to climate & soil

#### International Efforts

- Work with Conservation International to identify land and preserve best production locations
- Participate in Council for Sustainable Biofuels Production to develop standards
- Provide data and analysis to Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels, Global Bioenergy Partnership, others
- Contribute to International Biofuels Forum

Building understanding to reduce the potential impacts of biofuels production on the environment.