

## U.S. Department of Energy, Biomass Program

Presentation to Biomass R&D Technical Advisory Committee May 20, 2008 Valri Lightner, Biomass Program

## **Biomass Program Mission**



Develop and transform our renewable and abundant biomass resources into cost-competitive, high-performance biofuels, bioproducts, and biopower.

Focus on targeted research, development, and demonstration

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





## **Ambitious Biofuels Timeline**



## 2008

- -2012 Cost-competitive cellulosic ethanol (goals \$1.33/gallon)
- **2015** U.S. transportation fuels contain 21 billion gallons of renewable fuels including at least 3 billion gallons of cellulosic biofuels\*\*
- **2022** U.S. transportation fuels contain 36 billion gallons of renewable fuels including at least 16 billion gallons cellulosic biofuels\*\*

**2030** Displace **30%** of U.S. gasoline consumption\*

• 60 billion gallons biofuels

\* Basis is 30% of 2004 gasoline consumption

\*\*Renewable Fuel Standards, Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007

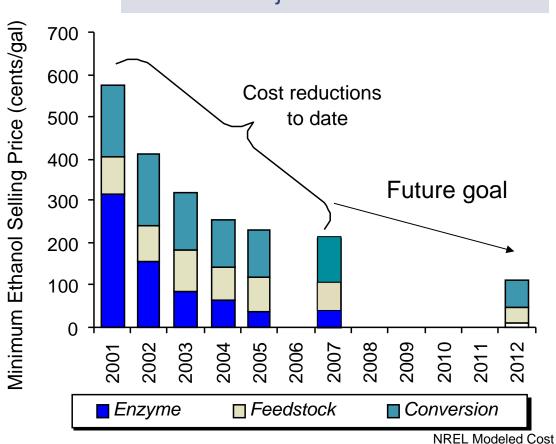
– biofuels constitute 36 billion gallons of U.S. motor fuels by 2022.



# **Cellulosic Ethanol Potential and Status**



#### Cellulosic ethanol anticipated cost competitiveness and sustainability attributes are key to biofuels growth potential



Historical and Projected Cellulosic Ethanol Costs

All Costs are 2007 \$

	2001 (dollars per gallon)	2007 (dollars per gallon)	2012 (dollars per gallon)
Enzymes	3.11	0.32	0.10
Feedstock*	0.82	0.83	0.51
Conversion	2.02	1.28	0.72
Total	5.95	2.43	1.33

\*Feedstock is assumed to be \$60 per dry ton in 2007 and projected at \$46 per dry ton in 2012. N-th plant scenario

Federal research has achieved major reductions in the cost of cellulosic ethanol



## **Leveraging Partnerships to Achieve Goals**

- Commercial-Scale Biorefineries (up to \$385 million)
  - Six cost-shared, integrated biorefinery demonstration projects to annually produce

130 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol in 5 years using variety of conversion technologies and cellulosic feedstocks

#### • 10%-Scale Biorefinery Validation (up to \$200 million)

 Seven cost-shared, integrated biorefinery demonstrations using cellulosic feedstocks to produce renewable fuels; one-tenth of commercial scale

#### • Ethanologen Solicitation (up to \$23 million)

- Five selected research teams working on microorganisms

#### • Enzyme Solicitation (up to \$33.8 million)

 Four teams selected to develop highly effective, inexpensive enzyme systems for commercial biomass hydrolysis; second phase: cellulase development with cost-sharing industry partners

#### • Thermochemical Conversion (up to \$7.75 million)

 Five selected to integrate the technologies for gas clean up and fuel synthesis following biomass gasification

#### • Joint DOE-USDA Solicitation (\$18 million)

 – 21 selected under Biomass R&D Initiative on feedstocks, conversion, products and analysis





## **Commercial Scale Biorefineries Recipients**



DOE investments in cellulosic biofuels will accelerate commercialization and help create a biofuels market based on non-food feedstocks.

Performers	Feedstock Type	Conversion Technology	Status of Project
Range Fuels	Woody Waste	Gasification + Mixed Alcohol synthesis	Phase 1 & 2-Technology Investment Agreement – Signed Nov. 2007 Ground Breaking Nov. 2007
Abengoa	Agricultural Residue	Biochemical	Phase 1-Cooperative Agreement signed Sept. 2007
Bluefire	MSW	Biochemical	Phase 1-Cooperative Agreement signed Sept. 2007.
Poet	Corn Cob Corn Fiber	Biochemical	Phase 1-Cooperative Agreement signed Sept. 2007.
Alico	Vegetative Waste Woody Waste	Gasification + Fermentation	Award pending negotiation.
logen	Baled Barley Wheat Straw	Biochemical	Award pending negotiation.

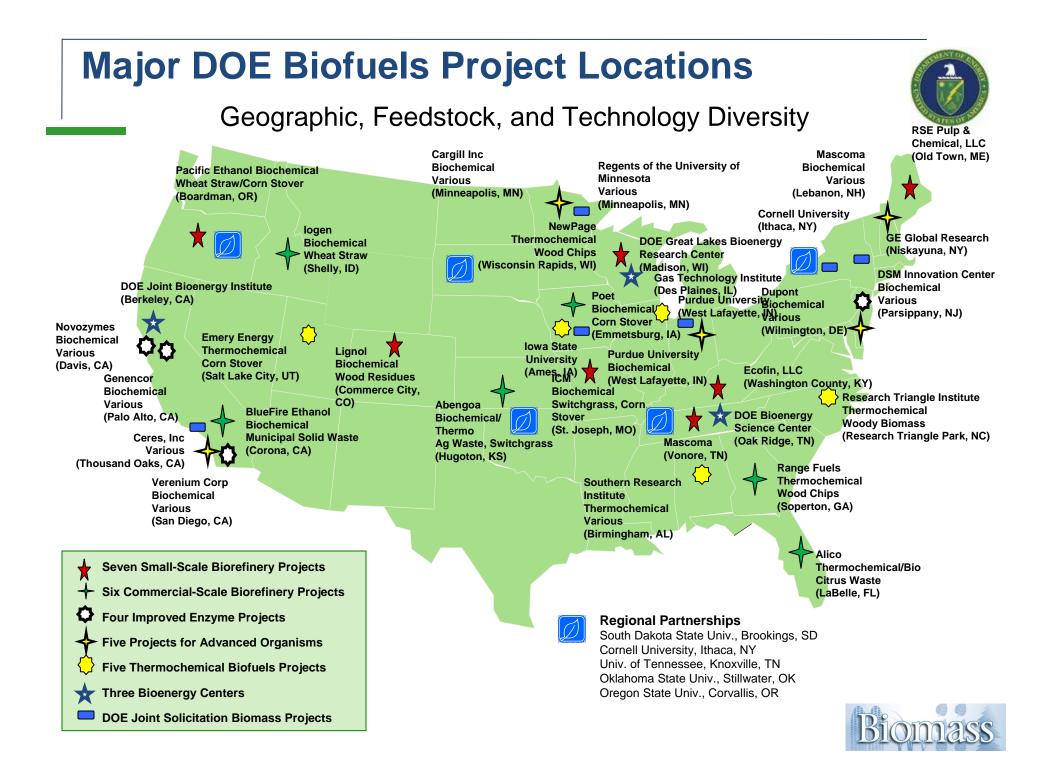


### **10% of Commercial Scale Biorefineries Recipients**



Performers	Feedstock Type	Conversion Technology	Status of Project
ICM Incorporated	Agricultural Residue	Integrated biochemical and thermochemical	Award pending negotiation.
Lignol Innovations	Wood Residue	biochem-organisolve	Award pending negotiation.
Pacific Ethanol	Agricultural and Forest Residues	Biochemical	Award pending negotiation.
NewPage Corporation	Wood Waste	Thermochemical	Award pending negotiation.
RSE Pulp & Chemical	Wood	Thermochemical	Award pending negotiation.
Mascoma	Wood Switchgrass	Biochemical	Award pending negotiation.
Ecofin, LLC	Agricultural Residue	Biochemical	Award pending negotiation.





# **Future Opportunities**



- Pyrolysis Solicitation for \$7M over 2 years closes May 29
- University Solicitation for Conversion R&D for \$4M over 3 years closes June 2
- Loan Guarantees
  - FY2007
    - 143 pre-applications received
    - Funds authorized February 2007
    - 16 full applications requested
      - 6 for biomass
      - Others in fossil, industrial, solar, hydrogen, alt. fuel vehicle electricity delivery and reliability
  - FY2008
    - Plan issued April 11, 2008 for \$38B
      - \$10B for renewable energy and electricity transmission
      - \$18.5B for nuclear; \$2B for uranium enrichment; \$8B for fossil energy





# Intermediate Blends Testing: An Alternative Approach to Market Penetration



- E10 market will be saturated within a few years once ethanol supply reaches 13-14 billion gallons.
- DOE and EPA working together to assess feasibility of intermediate blends in allowing greater penetration of ethanol as part of fulfilling new RFS
- DOE studying intermediate ethanol blends (allocated \$2.1 million in FY07 and \$12.5 million in FY08).
- The DOE test program is evaluating --
  - Vehicle exhaust and evaporative emissions
  - Catalyst durability and aging
  - Cold-start operation and drivability
  - Fuel-system and catalyst materials compatibility
- DOE is also evaluating impacts of higher ethanol blends on small engines
  - Currently testing leaf blowers, line trimmers, pressure washers, and small generator sets
  - Launching expanded test plan for marine engines, all-terrain vehicles, and motorcycles in summer 2008 with input from industry.

Production is Not Enough -- Need Market Penetration



## **Our Commitment to Sustainability**

EERE is committed to developing the resources, technologies, and systems needed for biofuels to grow in a way that enhances the health of our environment and protects our planet. To that end, we are working to...

- Develop diverse, non-food feedstocks (e.g., switchgrass, sorghum) that require little water or fertilizer
- Foster sustainable forestry practices (e.g., advanced harvesting techniques) to enhance forest health
- Selectively harvest biomass components while leaving adequate soil nutrients
- Assess life-cycle impacts of major scaleup in biofuels production, from feedstocks to vehicles, addressing:
  - land use and soil health
  - water use
  - air quality issues
  - impacts on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions







## **Biofuels Beyond Ethanol**



## Today

Ethanol – as a blending agent from either grain or cellulosic material from Ag and/or Forestry industry Biodiesel – Transesterified vegetable oils blended with diesel

**Green Diesel** – fats, algal oils, waste oils, or virgin oils converted to low-sulfur diesel in petroleum refinery

**Higher alcohols** – examples include: butanol, mixed alcohols, higher carbon alcohols (C5- and greater)

**Fischer-Tropsch Liquids** – and other products from syn gas including methanol, dimethyl ether, etc

**Pyrolysis Liquids** – alternative feedstock to petroleum refinery or gasification facility

Future

Methanol derived fuels – Methanol to gasoline technology, dimethyl ether and other products

**Other fuels** – Liquid transportation fuels from sugars/oils refinery not discussed or yet envisioned

