

# **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 "Liquid Biofuels"**

BioEconomy 2017 Arlington, Virginia, USA July 12, 2017

## James D. (Jim) McMillan, Ph.D.

Chief Engineer, National Bioenergy Center, NREL Task leader, IEA Bioenergy Task 39

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Golden, Colorado, USA

## **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 – Objectives**

- <u>Facilitate</u> commercialization of conventional and <u>advanced</u> liquid biofuels. Website: <u>http://task39.ieabioenergy.com/</u>
- An international collaboration between participating countries
  - Analyze policy, markets and sustainable biofuel implementation
  - Focus on technical and policy issues
  - Catalyze cooperative research and development
  - Ensure information dissemination & outreach with stakeholders
    - 3 newsletters per year; see website to subscribe

**TECHNOLOGY AND COMMERCIALIZATION** 

POLICY, MARKETS, SUSTAINABILITY & IMPLEMENTATION

Catalyze Cooperative Research State of Technology & Trends Analysis

Policy, Market and Deployment Analysis Biofuel
Deployment
and Information
Sharing

## **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 - Membership**

**European Commission -** Luisa Marelli\*, Jacopo Giuntoli



Finland, Italy and Norway are former members; may rejoin in the future/next triennium.

Also actively inviting other key countries to join IEA Bioenergy TCP, e.g., China, India, Mexico.

http://task39.ieabioenergy.com/

\* National Team Leader / Lead country representative

## IEA Bioenergy Task 39 – Recent Task Meetings

- Rotterdam/Delft, the Netherlands, March 2016
  - In conjunction w/ ECO-BIO 2016 conference
  - Task 39 organized 2 sessions within this conference (presentations from Brazil, Canada, European Commission, New Zealand, Sweden, USA members)
- Rotorua, New Zealand, Nov., 2016
  - In conjunction w/ ExCo78 meeting and NZ's ABRN Science Symposium
- Gothenburg, Sweden, May 2017
  - In conjunction with ExCo79 meeting and Advanced Biofuels Conference (ABC) 2017
  - Task 39 organized session within ABC conference (presentations from Brazil, Canada, New Zealand, USA members)



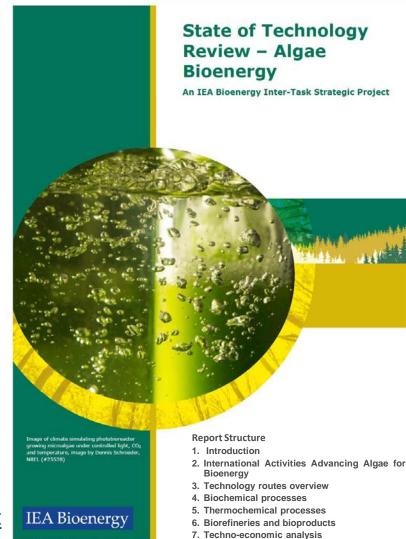
Task 39 group at Chalmers House Gothenburg, Sweden, May 15, 2017





## Recent Accomplishment – Algae Report Update

- An Inter-Task strategic project to update the status and prospects for algal-based liquid biofuels / bioenergy production
- Scope broadened from Task 39's 2010 report published to also include macroalgae, thermochemical pathways, non-liquid fuel biorefinery products and sustainability
- Task 39-led collaboration between five (5) IEA Bioenergy tasks: Tasks 34 (pyrolysis), 37 (biogas), 38 (LCA), 39 and 42 (biorefineries)
- Project leader: Dr. Lieve Laurens (NREL)
- <u>Critical review of recent literature</u>, >150 pp, 11 ch., >475 references, summarizes global research operations and >400 companies focused on commercial applications
- IEA Bioenergy webinar launch Jan. 25, 2017
- http://www.ieabioenergy.com/publications/st ate-of-technology-review-algae-bioenergy/



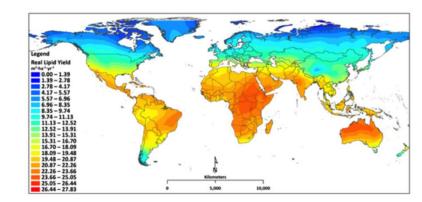
Sustainability/life cycle analysis
 Biogas from macroalgae
 Other products from macroalgae
 Conclusions & recommendations
 Appendix A: Suggested std LCA input metrics
 Appendix B: R&D and Commercial Groups

Published by IEA Bioenergy: Task 39: January 201.

## Algae Bioenergy – 2017 State of Technology Review

#### **Key Message 1 (of 11)**

- The on-going decline in petroleum and natural gas prices coupled with a lack of carbon pricing are challenging the ability for algal routes to be cost-competitive for production of liquid fuels and other bioenergy products
- Macroeconomic conditions will prohibit economically viable production of algae-based fuel(s) as a primary product in the nearto mid-term







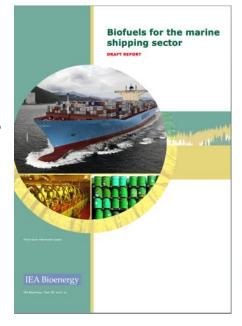


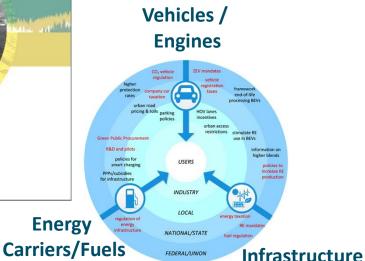


## **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 – On-going Projects**

- Comparison of leading LCA models for evaluating GHG reduction and environmental performance of biofuels
  - Led by Antonio Bonomi et al.,
     CTBE, Brazil
  - Phase 1 complete; journal articles submitted (1 published, 1 in review)
- Assess commercial opportunity for marine biofuels
  - Led by Prof. Claus Felby et al., U.
     Copenhagen, Denmark
- Survey of advanced biofuels for advanced engines
  - Led by Dr. Franziska Mueller-Langer et al., DBFZ, Germany
  - Build collaboration with IEA
     Advanced Motor Vehicles TCP
  - Leverage developments coming out of USDOE's Co-Optima initiative

GHG impacts [g CO2eq per MJ of fuel]				
		0	*	СТВЕ
	GREET	BioGrace	GHGenius	VSB
Gasoline	90.2	83.8	95.0	87.5
Sugarcane ethanol	25.3	24.0	43.3	16.0
GHG savings	72%	71%	54%	82%



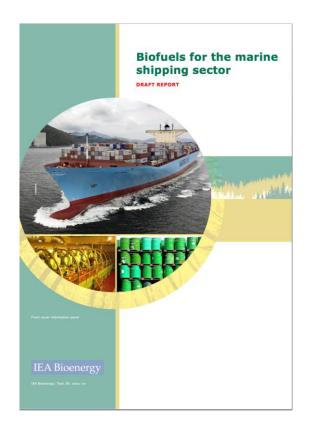


## **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 – Future Plans**

- Next business meetings:
  - September, 2017 in Brussels, Belgium
    - Member country reports
    - Project updates
    - To be held in conjunction with 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Lignocellulosic Ethanol (6ICLE)
  - April, 2018 in Beijing, China (tentative)
    - China hosts, Chinese attendees participate, and we identify / convince policy makers / government officials to get China to join
- Technical focus: Progressing projects/completing reports
  - Marine Biofuels report (2017)
  - Advanced Biofuels for Advanced Engines Survey Report (2017)
  - Implementation Agendas report (early 2018)
  - Phase 2 of LCA model comparison project (early 2018)
- Planning focus: Propose priorities for continuing in 2019-2021 triennium
  - Anticipate increased focus on aviation and maritime biofuels
  - Continued improvement in understanding of environmental and socio-economic sustainability, how best to grow biofuels

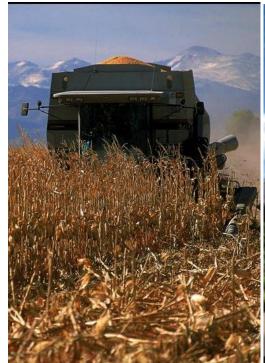
#### Sixth INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LIGNOCELLULOSIC ETHANOL

Brussels, Belgium, 27-28 September 2017



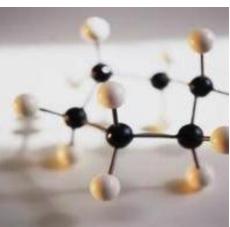
## **IEA Bioenergy Task 39 – Final Remarks**

- IEA Bioenergy provides a forum for international information exchange and research collaborations
- IEA Bioenergy Task 39 helps its members work smarter and more efficiently to develop and deploy liquid biofuels
- Members benefit and learn from each others' related biofuels research, development, demonstration and deployment (RDD&D) history, both successes and areas of difficulty
- Many feedstocks x pathways x biofuels combinations are under study globally; more technical routes and implementation policies are being funded/researched/evaluated than is possible in one country; enables more/faster learnings and progress to identify/verify viable, scalable solutions
- → Drop-in biofuels remain economically challenged by low oil prices, hampered by unclear moderate/long-term policy regarding biofuels. Greater policy certainty is needed, e.g., a meaningful price on carbon (GHG) pollution mitigation, to achieve aggressive growth/deployment of advanced biofuels.









## Acknowledgements



- IEA Bioenergy Task 38 and 39 colleagues, especially Jack Saddler, Task 39 co-task leader, and Susan van Dyk, Task 39 coordinator (University of British Columbia), and Helena Chum (NREL), Task 38 senior contributor to T38-T39 collaboration
- Jim Spaeth (DOE EERE BioEnergy Technologies Office), USA's lead executive committee member for the IEA Bioenergy TCP