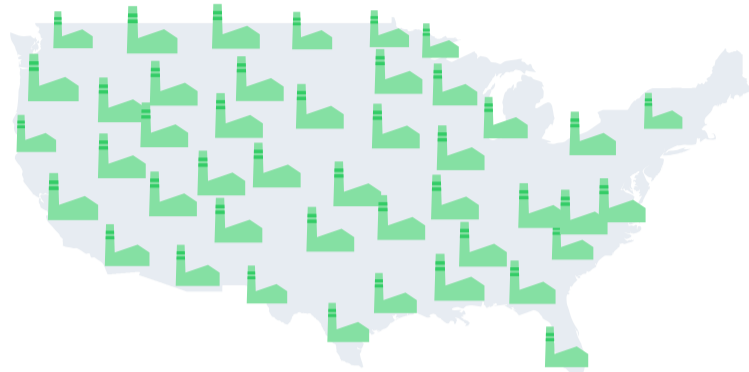


# BIOGAS OPPORTUNITIES ROADMAP PROGRESS REPORT

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Energy (DOE), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), created *the Biogas Opportunities Roadmap* as a response to the White House Climate Action Plan's directive to develop an interagency strategy to reduce methane emissions. Together, the Agencies along with industry partners have formed an Interagency Working Group to help expand the biogas industry. Strategically deployed biogas systems offer the nation a cost-effective and profitable solution to reducing emissions, diverting waste streams, and producing renewable energy.

## POTENTIAL CAPACITY

There are more than  
**2,000 sites**  
across the United States  
that produce biogas,



and there is potential  
for an additional  
**11,000**  
biogas systems.

If fully realized, these biogas systems could produce enough energy to power more than

**3 million**  
American homes



and reduce methane emissions equivalent to up to

**54 million**  
metric tons



of greenhouse gas emissions in **2030**,  
the annual emissions of up to

**11 million**  
passenger vehicles.

## POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

Many government agencies already have programs and policies that are designed to support renewable energy, including biogas. While these efforts are often beneficial for biogas projects as is, there are updates or changes that can be made to the policies or programs in order to maximize their value to the biogas sector.

**JULY 2014**

DOE completed an update to the Resource Assessment on Renewable Hydrogen Potential from Biogas in the United States study, which includes total potential and net availability of methane in raw biogas from wastewater treatment plants, landfills, animal manure, and industrial, institutional, and commercial sources.

**JULY 2014**

EPA published the proposed final rule for Renewable Fuel Standard Pathways II, which specifies that a certain portion of annual renewable fuel volume requirements must come from cellulosic advanced fuels, which can include biogas.

**DECEMBER 2014**

USDA published the final rule for Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), developing a streamlined application and a new scoring criteria for energy generated or saved per REAP dollar requested, under which anaerobic digesters should score well.

**MARCH 2015**

DOE's Bioenergy Technologies Office Multi-Year Program Plan update expanded the definition of "biomass" to explicitly call out "wet waste" (e.g., biosolids), municipal solid waste, urban wood waste, and food waste, which are key resources in biogas production.

**APRIL 2015**

Rural Utility Services updated its website announcing the availability of Federal Financing Bank loan guarantees to project developers of distributed generations projects that produce wholesale and retail electricity (with Power Purchase Agreements) to serve rural areas.

**JUNE 2015**

The Rural Business-Cooperative Service published an interim final rule on 9003 Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program and a funding notice for the program to provide loan guarantees to eligible projects like commercial, municipal, and industrial biogas plant deployment.

