



# Energy Efficiency and CHP Opportunities at WWTPs

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*In Partnership with the US DOE*





# Presentation Outline

- Energy Efficiency and CHP
- CHP the Concept
- Biogas CHP Applications
- Market Potential & Michigan Status
- Summary



# Energy Efficiency and CHP

- First things first... increase plant efficiency before pursuing a CHP project
- WWTPs are the largest energy users in a municipality
- Know where the energy is consumed in a WWTP
  - Aeration usually accounts for 50% of electric power
  - Influent Lift Pumps account for about 15-20% of electricity
  - Lighting and HVAC account for 5-15% of electricity consumed



# Initial Steps towards Energy Efficiency

- Understand Rate Schedule(s) in use
  - Base Charge(s)
  - Consumption charge (kWh)
  - Time of use charges
  - Method of computing demand charges
  - Alternative Rate Schedule(s)
  - Power Factor Correction
  
- Many operators never see the monthly bill



# Typical Energy Efficiency Measures in WWTPs

- Aeration upgrades
- Water Meters/AMR
- Digester Gas Utilization
- Leak Detection Systems
- Boilers
- SCADA
- Pumps
- Motors and Drives
- Building Envelope
- Lighting



# Distributed Generation (DG)

DG is ...

- An Electric Generator
- Located At a Substation or Near a Building / Facility
- Generates at least a portion of the Electric Load

DG Technologies .....

- Solar Photovoltaic
- Wind Turbines
- Engine Generator Sets
  - Turbine Generator Sets
    - Combustion Turbines
    - Micro-Turbines
    - Steam Turbines
- Fuel Cells





# Combined Heat & Power (CHP)

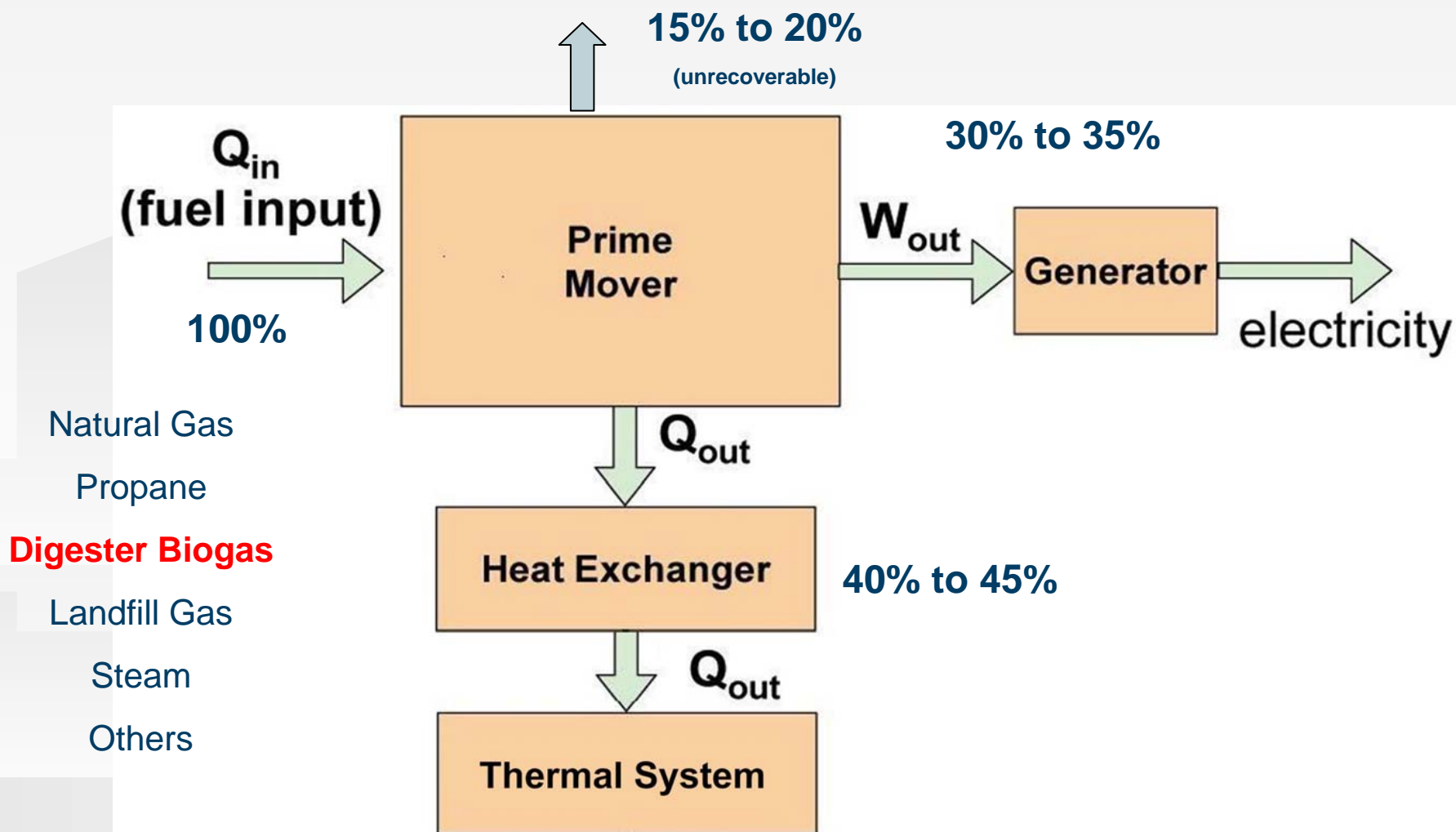
## A Form of Distributed Generation



CHP is ...

- An Integrated System
- A Suite of Technologies
- Located At or Near a Building/Facility
- Provides at Least a Portion of the Electrical Load and
- Recycles the Thermal Energy for
  - Space Heating / Cooling
  - Process Heating / Cooling
  - Dehumidification
  - Domestic Hot Water

# Combined Heat and Power







# Normal CHP Configuration

- CHP Systems are Normally Installed in Parallel with the Electric Grid (CHP does not replace the grid)
- Both the CHP and Grid Supply Electricity to the Customer
- Recycled Heat From the Prime Mover Used for
  - Space Heating (Steam or Hot Water Loop)
  - Space Cooling (Absorption Chiller)
  - Process Heating and/or Cooling
  - Dehumidification (Desiccant Regeneration)



# Generators and Inverters

## Two Types of Generators

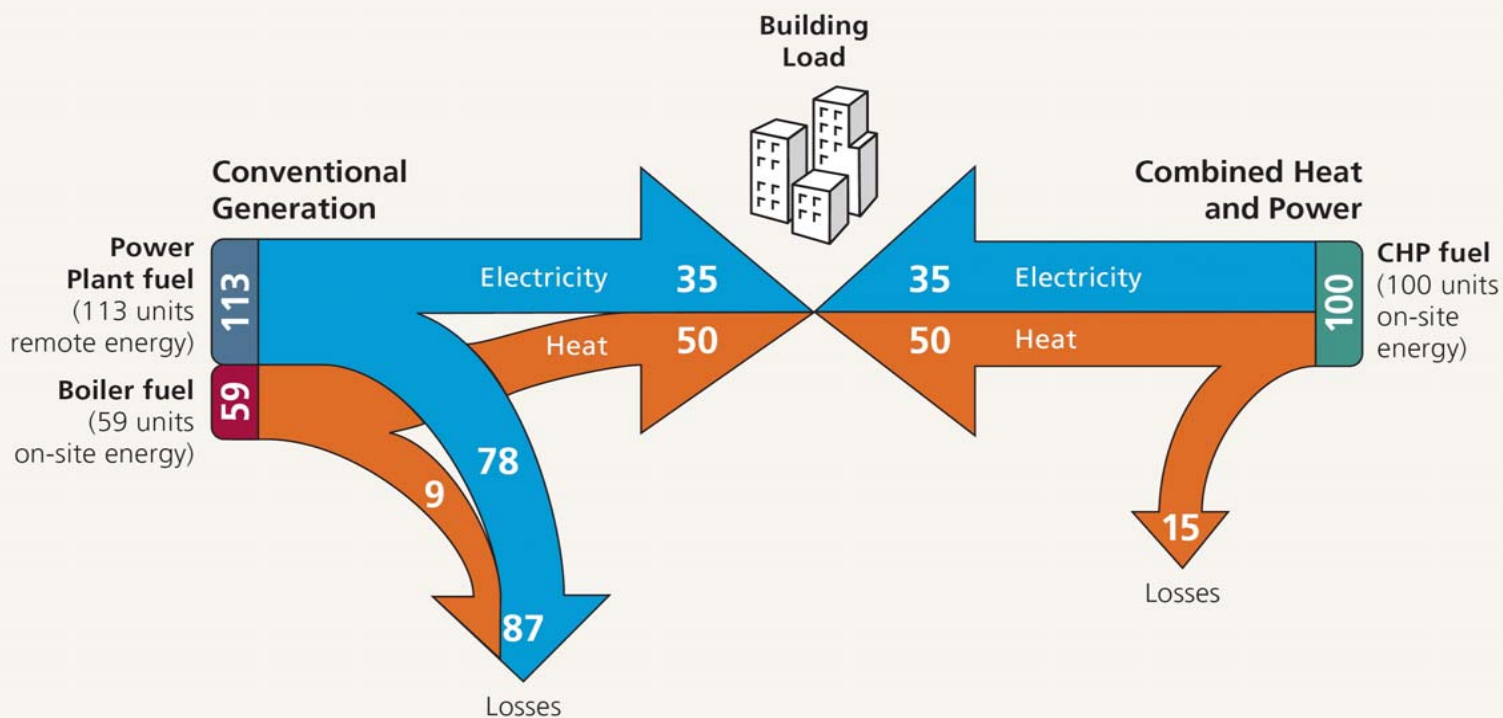
### Induction

- Requires External Power Source to Operate (Grid)
- When Grid Goes Down, CHP System Goes Down
- Less Complicated & Less Costly to Interconnect
- Preferred by Utilities

### Synchronous

- Self Excited (Does Not Need Grid to Operate)
- CHP System can Continue to Operate thru Grid Outages
- More Complicated & Costly to Interconnect (Safety)
- Preferred by CHP Customers

# Conventional Energy System vs. CHP



| Energy System              | Baseline (Conventional)           | Alternative (CHP)                    |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Electric Efficiency        | 35 units ÷ 113 units = 31%        | 35 units ÷ 100 units = 35%           |
| Heating Efficiency         | 50 units ÷ 59 units = 85%         | No Additional Fuel for Recycled Heat |
| <b>Combined Efficiency</b> | <b>85 units ÷ 172 units = 49%</b> | <b>85 units ÷ 100 units = 85%</b>    |



# What are the Customer Benefits of CHP?

CHP does not make sense in all applications, but where it does make technical and economical sense, it will provide

- Lower energy costs
- Reduced energy consumption
- Increased electric reliability
- Standby power
- Improved environmental quality





# CHP is a Proven Technology

## National CHP Status (2009)

- ~85,000 MW installed at 3,500 sites (nationally)
  - Average capacity is 25.2 MW
  - Median capacity is 1.3 MW
- Represents almost 9% of total U.S. generating capacity, and over 12% of U.S. generation
- *Saves over 3 quads of fuel each year!*
- *Eliminates over 400 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions each year!*
- **~2,860 MW installed at 87 Sites (Michigan)**



# Candidate Applications for CHP

- Hospitals
- Colleges / Universities
- High Schools
- Residential Confinement
- High Rise Hotels
- Fitness Centers
- Landfill Sites
- Pulp & Paper Mills
- Chemicals Manufacturing
- Metal Fabrication
- Ethanol / Biodiesel Plants
- Food Processing Waste
- Farm Livestock Waste
- Waste Water Treatment

## Anaerobic Digester Applications

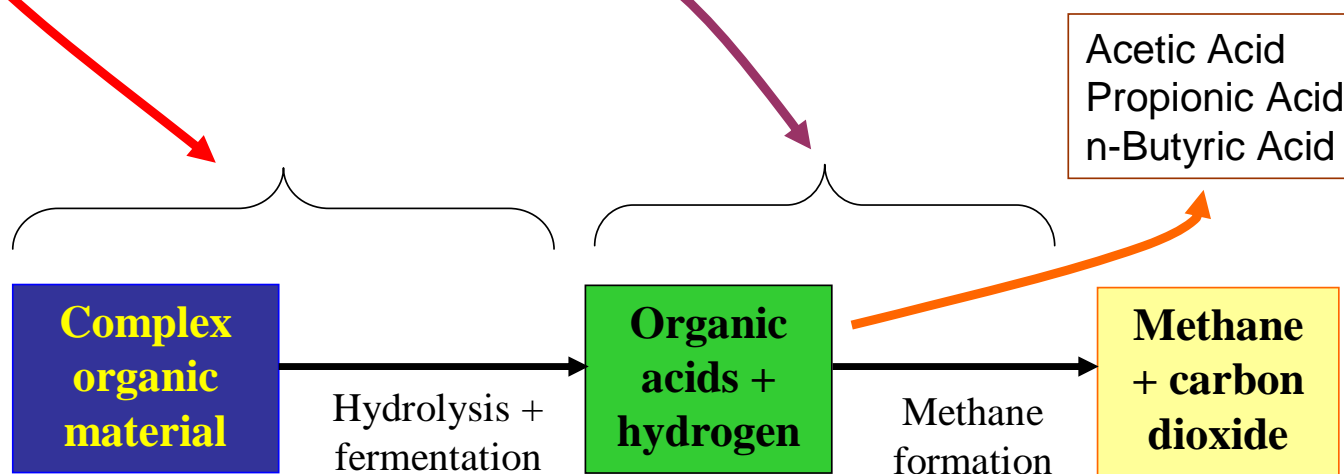


# Anaerobic Digesters

- Natural biological (bacterial) process that occurs when organic material decomposes biologically in the absence of oxygen
- When properly applied, digester technology can effectively assist in:
  - Sustainable
  - Economical
  - Environmentally balanced
  - Neighbor friendly practices

# Anaerobic Digestion Process Overview

- Bacteria ferment and convert complex organic materials into acetate and hydrogen, and then-
- Methanogens convert the acetate and hydrogen into methane.







# Anaerobic Digesters in Municipal WWTPs

- One of the primary steps used in a wastewater treatment plant is “stabilization”
  - Less odorous (make it quit stinking)
  - Pathogen organism reduction (kill the bugs that could cause a disease)
  - Reduce volume of sludge
- Many WWTPs use two stages of digestion treatment which are typically called
  - Stage 1 (primary digestion)
  - Stage 2 (secondary digestion)

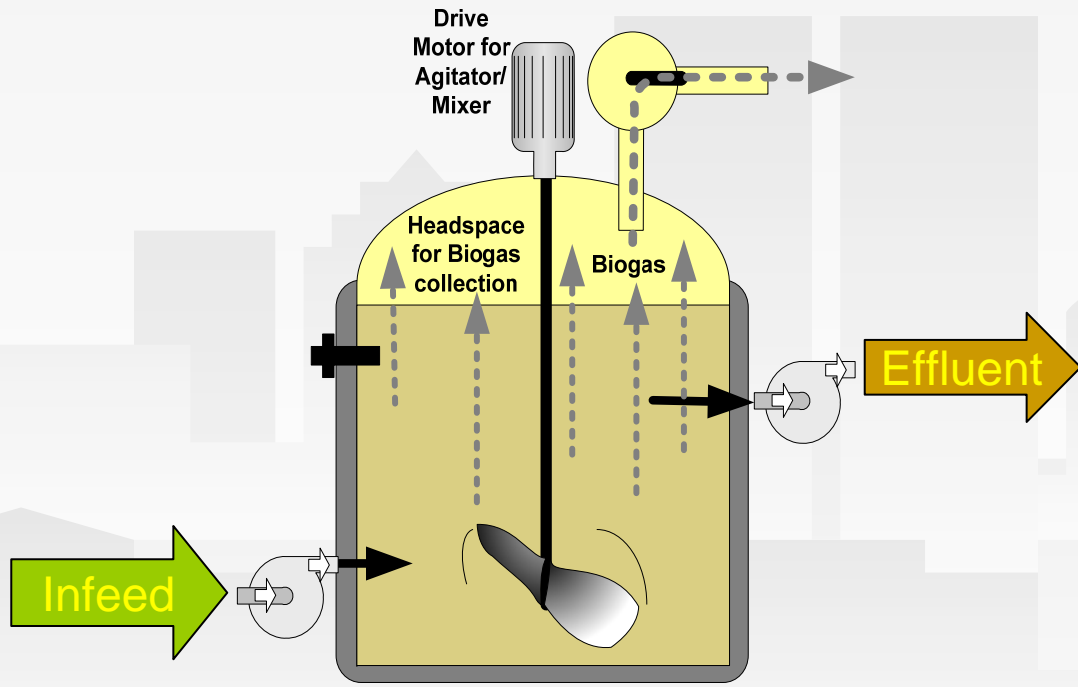


# Two Phases of Digestion

- Phase I (primary) Digestion
  - Majority of methane is generated during this phase
  - Bacteria in Phase I tank(s) thrive in a temperature range between 86°F and 100°F (Mesophilic)
  - Phase I digester tanks typically have a “fixed” stationary cover
  - Material is typically actively stirred by either a mechanical mixer or compressed biogas
  
- Phase II (secondary) Digestion
  - Not heated or mixed
  - Primary purpose is to allow digested solids/sludge to settle and to remove the “supernatant liquor”



# Diagram of Complete Mix Digester





# Typical Digester Gas Composition

- Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) 60% to 70%
- Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) 30% to 40%
- Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) 2,000 to 3,000 ppm
- Ammonia 3 to 4 ppm
- Moisture considered a saturated fuel
- Other trace amounts

## Contaminants of Most Concern:

- Water
- Hydrogen Sulfide
- Carbon Dioxide (for gas injection option)

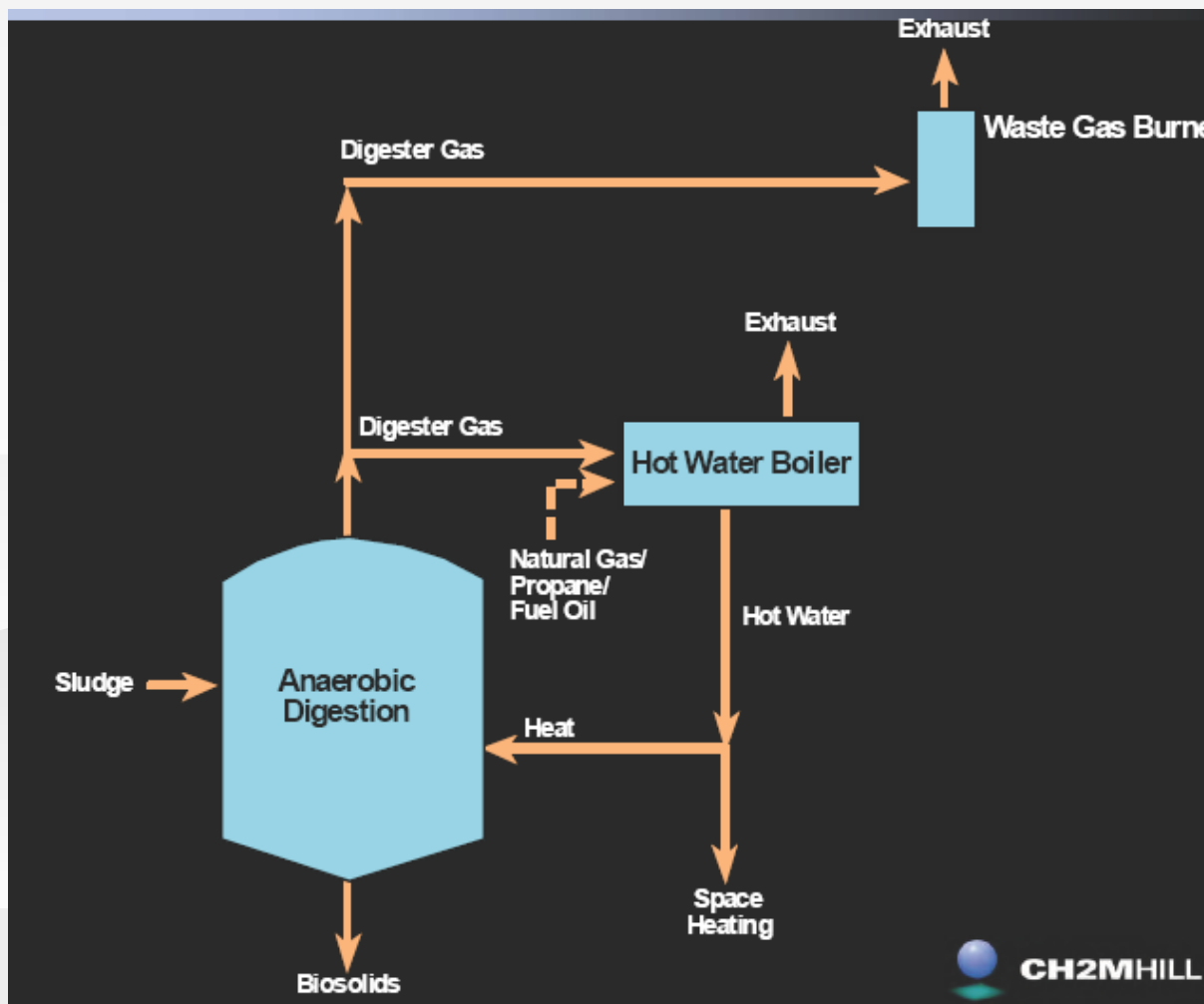


# Energy Recovery – Biogas (60% to 70% Methane)

- Flare it
- Use it for heating
  - Displace natural gas / propane
- Use it for electric generation (CHP)
  - Displace purchased electricity
  - Displace natural gas (or other heating fuel)
- Clean it up for pipeline use

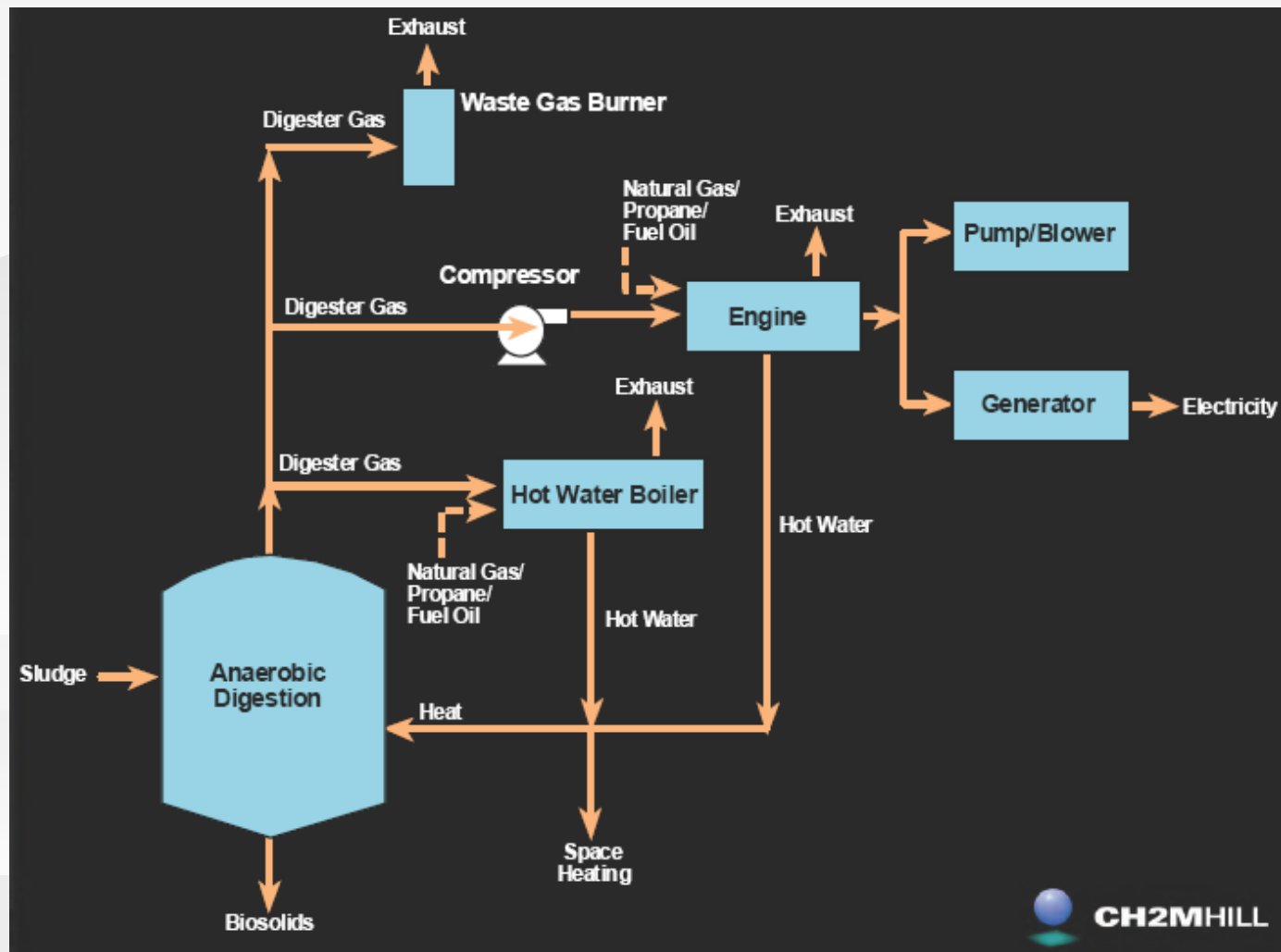


# Biogas Boiler Heating Application Diagram

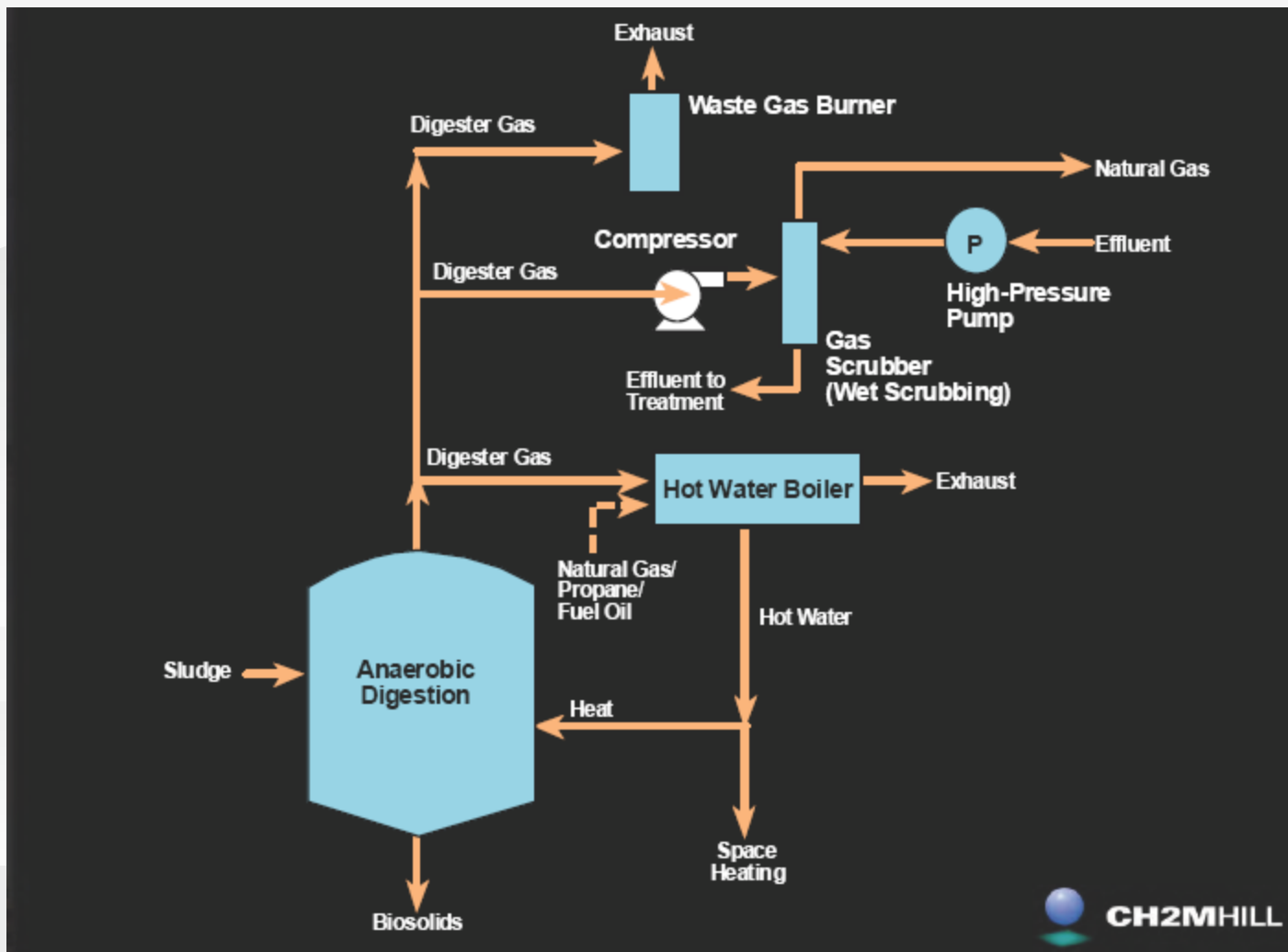


Source: Designing a Project - Rules of Thumb & Questions to Ask, Ron Sieger & Dru Whitlock, CH2MHill, August 11, 2005, <http://www.intermountainchp.org/events/landfills/050811/presentations/sieger.pdf>

# Biogas **CHP** Application Diagram

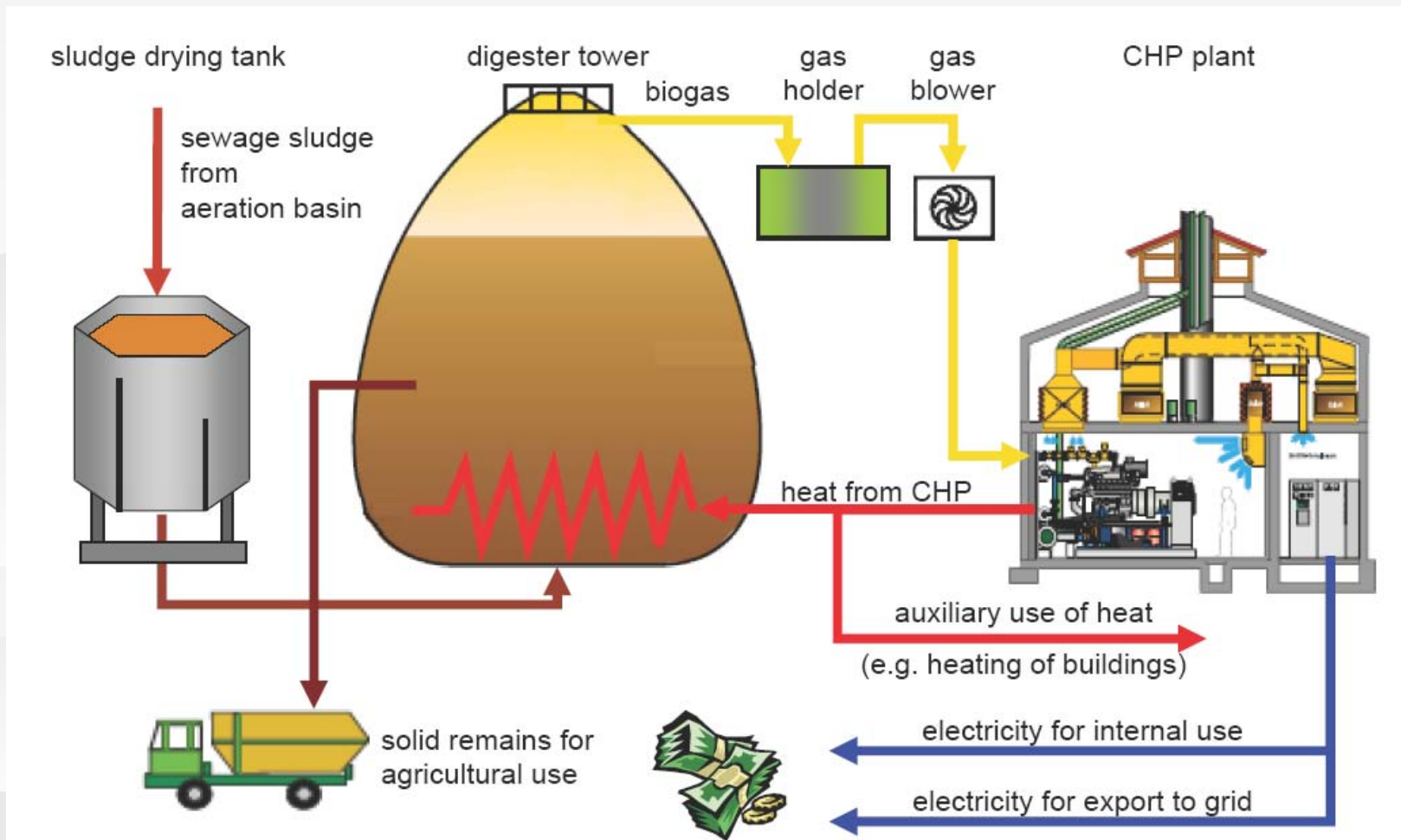


# Biogas to Natural Gas Pipeline Application Diagram





# Full Anaerobic Digester / CHP System WWTP Diagram



Source: Energy from Biogas CHP Systems with Gas Engines, Stefan Kohler (MDE), October 24, 2007, [www.cogeneration.org](http://www.cogeneration.org)



## Electric & Thermal Coincidence Needed for CHP

- Steady Use of Recovered Thermal Energy
  - Heat the digester
  - Heat the sludge entering digester (pre-heating)
  - Heat facility (building heat)
  - Cool facility through an absorption chiller
  - Heat potable water
- Steady Use for the Electricity
  - Displace electricity utilized by the WWTF
  - Possibly sell excess electricity to utility



# CHP Technologies (Biogas Applications)

- Prime Movers:
  - Combustion turbines
  - Reciprocating engines
  - Microturbines
  - Fuel Cells
- Gas clean up ( $H_2S$ )
- Gas compression (turbines and microturbines)
- Generator / heat recovery
- Grid interconnect hardware



# Advantages & Disadvantages CHP and Anaerobic Digesters

## Advantages

- Odor mitigation
- Pathogen reduction
- Energy savings
- Heating fuel savings
- Reduced electric bills
- Qualified for net metering
- Qualified for renewable energy

## Disadvantages

- Adding complexity to WWTF facility
- Commitment to digester system management (labor & maintenance)
- Commitment to CHP system maintenance
- Capital costs
- Electric utility interconnect can be tedious



# Installed CHP Status in WWTFs

- 16,000+ municipal wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) in U.S.
  - ~ 1,000 WWTFs with a total effluent flow rate greater than 5 MGD
  - ~ 544 WWTFs with anaerobic digesters
  - ~ 106 WWTFs utilize biogas to generate electricity and/or thermal energy
- 
- Don't forget about industrial wastewater treatment facilities
  - 50,000+ industrial WWTFs

Source: Opportunities for and Benefits of Combined Heat and Power at Wastewater Treatment Facilities, EPA CHP Partnership, December 2006, [http://www.epa.gov/chp/documents/wwtf\\_opportunities.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/chp/documents/wwtf_opportunities.pdf)

Source: Combined Heat and Power Market Potential for Opportunity Fuels, Resource Dynamics Corporation, December 2004, <http://files.harc.edu/Sites/GulfCoastCHP/MarketAssessments/CHPPotentialOpportunityFuels.pdf>



## Rules of Thumb for Considering CHP at a WWTF

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| # of gallons a typical WWTF processes per day for every person served       | 100 gallons             |
| Heating value of WWTF biogas  | 600 btu/ft <sup>3</sup> |
| Cubic feet (ft <sup>3</sup> ) of digester gas generated per person per day  | 1.0 ft <sup>3</sup>     |
| Power generation rate (watts) at that gas flow rate                         | 2.2 watts               |
| Power generation rate (kW) for a 4.5 million gallon per day (MGD) WWTF      | 100 kW                  |
| Minimum size of WWTF for an economically feasible biogas-to-energy facility | 4.5 MGD                 |
| More industry (fats, grease, carbohydrates, organics), more gas             |                         |

Source: Opportunities for and Benefits of Combined Heat and Power at Wastewater Treatment Facilities, EPA CHP Partnership, December 2006, [http://www.epa.gov/chp/documents/wwtf\\_opportunities.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/chp/documents/wwtf_opportunities.pdf)



## Exercise (using Rules-of-Thumb)

- City population = 200,000 people
- How much power can be generated?

$$200,000 \text{ people} \times 2.2 \text{ watts/person} = \\ 440,000 \text{ watts or } 440 \text{ kW}$$

## Existing AD / CHP Systems in Midwest WWTPs

| State | Org  | Year | Prime Mover | Size     |
|-------|--|------|-------------|----------|
| IL    | Rock River Water Reclamation District                      | 2003 | ERENG       | 2,475 kW |
| IL    | Aurora Sanitary District                                   | 1987 | ERENG       | 2,100 kW |
| IN    | City of West Lafayette                                     | 2009 | MT          | TBD      |
| IA    | City of Davenport  | 1995 | ERENG       | 1,600 kW |
| IA    | Des Moines Metro Wastewater Recl. Facility                 | 1991 | ERENG       | 1,800 kW |
| MN    | City of Albert Lea   | 2003 | MT          | 120 kW   |
| MN    | Rochester Water Reclamation District                       | 2007 | ERENG       | 1,050 kW |
| NE    | City of Omaha - Papillion Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant | 1987 | ERENG       | 1,500 kW |
| NE    | City of Omaha - Missouri River Wastewater Treatment Plant  | 1985 | ERENG       | 3,000 kW |
| NE    | Lincoln Wastewater Div Of Public Works                     | 1992 | ERENG       | 900 kW   |
| OH    | KB Compost Services, Inc. (Akron)                          | 2007 | ERENG       | 330 kW   |
| OH    | Bayview Wastewater Treatment Plant                         | 2008 | ERENG       | 5,200 kW |
| OH    | Lima Wastewater Treatment Plant                            | 2003 | MT          | 90 kW    |

Source: Energy and Environmental Analysis, Inc. (May 2008), [www.eea-inc.com](http://www.eea-inc.com)

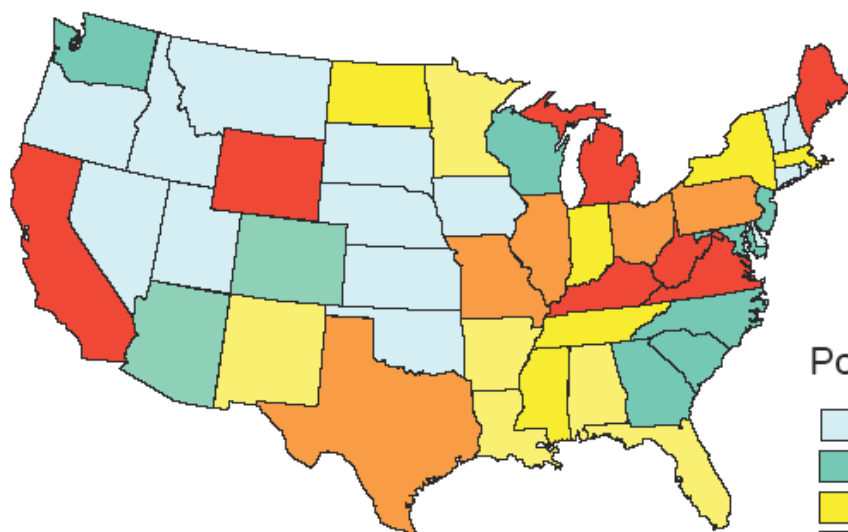




# Total CHP Market Potential in Municipal WWTFs

If 1 MGD is the cut-off size limit for feasible AD/CHP applications...  
(note: technically feasible, not economically feasible)

Figure 4-1. Potential MW for WWTP ADG Projects by State



Potential MW, Estimated

- 0-20
- 21-40
- 41-100
- 101-200
- More than 200

|            | Potential Projects | Potential MW |
|------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Indiana    | 633                | 439          |
| Total U.S. | 6,850              | 4,275        |

Source: Combined Heat and Power Market Potential for Opportunity Fuels, Resource Dynamics Corporation, December 2004, <http://files.harc.edu/Sites/GulfCoastCHP/MarketAssessments/CHPPotentialOpportunityFuels.pdf>



## WWTPs in Michigan (> 5 MGD) with at Least One Anaerobic Digester

| Facility Name           | County    | Authority Name            | Total Influent (MGD) | Potential Electric Capacity (kW) |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Grand Rapids WWTP       | Kent      | Grand Rapids, City Of     | 54.6                 | 1,213                            |
| Wyoming WWTP            | Kent      | Wyoming WWTP              | 14                   | 311                              |
| Flint WPCF              | Genesee   | Flint, City Of            | 43.3                 | 962                              |
| Marysville STP          | St. Clair | Marysville, City Of       | 6.14                 | 136                              |
| Warren WWTP             | Macomb    | Warren, City Of           | 30                   | 667                              |
| Pontiac STP             | Oakland   | Pontiac Dept Of Pub Wks   | 8                    | 178                              |
| Warren WWTP             | Macomb    | Warren, City Of           | 30                   | 667                              |
| Pontiac STP             | Oakland   | Pontiac Dept Of Pub Wks   | 8                    | 178                              |
| Detroit STP             | Wayne     | Detroit Board Of Water Co | 660.5                | 14,678                           |
| Ann Arbor WWTP          | Washtenaw | Ann Arbor Dept Of Pub Wks | 15.14                | 336                              |
| Ycua WWTP               | Washtenaw | Washtenaw County DPW      | 8.27                 | 184                              |
| Monroe Metro WWTP       | Monroe    | Monroe Metropolitan Waste | 15.8                 | 351                              |
| Saginaw STP             | Saginaw   | Saginaw DPW Pu            | 8.3                  | 184                              |
| Jackson WWTP            | Jackson   | Jackson, City Of          | 13.4                 | 298                              |
| Benton Harbor-St Joseph | Berrien   | Benton Harbor St Joseph J | 7.21                 | 160                              |
| Midland WWTP            | Midland   | Midland , City Of         | 8.5                  | 189                              |
| Huron Valley WWTP-South | Wayne     | Huron Valley              | 14                   | 311                              |



# Summary for CHP / Anaerobic Digester Applications

- Appropriate when digester being installed for odor mitigation and pathogen reduction
- Difference between technical and economic feasibility (size of facility)
- Good match for thermal energy (digester)
- Significant market (manure, food processing, waste water treatment, community digesters)
- Turn an operational cost (waste product) into a revenue resource
- Investigate federal and state incentives for biogas CHP projects



# Questions / Discussions



## Contact Information

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**Contact us... we are here to support the  
Midwest in exploring and implementing  
CHP projects!!!**