

ELEVATION AL

## Anaerobic Digestion Opportunities and Challenges for Connecticut

Unlocking the Value: Transforming the Connecticut Materials Economy

Wayne Davis March 22, 2012



## **Birth of an Industry – US Policy Works**



 1990: State yard waste landfill bans begin to take effect, USCC formed

#### 1991: Ocean dumping of biosolids completely prohibited

Waste Business Journal: Waste Market Overview & Outlook 2009

# ARVEST The Harvest Organics Operating System<sup>™</sup>





## **Our Technology**

Anaerobic digestion mimics the processes that occur in a cow's stomach. We use similar micro-organisms in a large chamber, capture and utilize the biogas as it is produced. We optimize biogas production by creating an ideal environment for the microbes to do their work.





## **Organics Recycling Centers**

#### Harvest finances, designs, builds, owns, and operates

state-of-the-art organics recycling centers in North American communities



- Recycle residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional organics
  - Highly efficient technologies
  - $\circ$  Maximum odor control
- Produce clean, reliable, renewable energy

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Provide local energy independence
- Minimize footprint and allow for expansion
- Create nutrient-rich compost and fertilizer end products



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Contamination Tolerance	High	Medium	Lower
Quantity of Liquid Effluent	De minimus	Medium	High

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## **Promoting AD – Policy & Economic Considerations**

Factors Influencing Developers and Investors to Pursue Large-Scale AD Development in a Particular Jurisdiction

#### **Policy Factors**

#### **Permitting Pathway**

- Predictability: is it clear how to proceed and what information will be required?
- Speed
- **Cost and complication**: how many different agencies?

#### **Organics Policies**

- **Diversion**: encouraged or required (*note*: commercial & institutional more important than residential)
- **Operating Rules**: are standards re: contamination, odor-control, *etc.* up-todate and realistic?



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Policy Factors	Economic Factors
<ul> <li>Permitting Pathway</li> <li>Predictability: is it clear <i>how</i> to proceed and <i>what</i> information will be required?</li> <li>Speed</li> </ul>	Feedstock <ul> <li>Availability</li> <li>Price</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Cost and complication: how many different agencies?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Energy Off-take</li> <li>Price</li> <li>Inter-connection: availability, cost,</li> </ul>
Organics Policies	and timing?
• <b>Diversion</b> : encouraged or required ( <i>note:</i> commercial & institutional more important than residential)	<ul> <li>Contracting: ease of contracting with off-taker?</li> </ul>
• <b>Operating Rules</b> : are standards re: contamination, odor-control, <i>etc.</i> up-to-date and realistic?	<ul> <li>Product Markets</li> <li>Is there an established market for the solid or liquid residuals?</li> <li>Pricing?</li> </ul>



## The Siting Challenge

Issues	Opportunities
"Waste" perception	Focus on 3 R's <ul> <li><u>R</u>ecycling</li> <li>Energy <u>R</u>ecovery</li> <li><u>R</u>eplenishing soil</li> </ul>



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Odor and vector concerns	Keep it indoors Education
Developer mistrust	Early outreach to community Transparency Real benefits that matter to community



## **Unlocking the Potential**

#### **Solid Foundation**

- Population density along I-95 and I-84 corridors
- Strong executive leadership
- PA 11-80 framework for renewable energy
- PA 11-217 mandatory commercial food scrap recycling

## Needs

- Added energy contracting flexibility and higher volume caps under PA 11-80
- Clarify Class I REC status
- Public education

# There's a better path for organics help us get there.



Wayne Davis, VP - Government Affairs Harvest Power, Inc. 221 Crescent Street, Suite 402 Waltham, MA 02453 781-314-9504 wdavis@harvestpower.com





