

Investigation of Landfill Gas as a Transportation Fuel in Brazil

Global Methane Initiative Agriculture, Municipal Solid Waste and Municipal Wastewater Best Practices Workshop

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Project Goal

- To investigate opportunities related to the use of landfill gas (LFG) for transportation fuel applications in Brazil
- Focus on two urban areas:
 - Rio de Janeiro
 - Belo Horizonte



Project Steps

- Stakeholder Identification & Engagement
- 2. Assemble Landfill Information
- 3. Perform Sketch-Level Analysis
- 4. Develop Conclusions & Recommendations
- 5. Follow-Up Workshop & Outreach
- 6. Final Deliverables

			Year/Month														
2013					2014					2015							
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
		Sep Oct	Sep Oct Nov	Sep Oct Nov Dec	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul	2013 2014	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep	2013 2014 Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Image: Control of the properties of the	2013 2014	Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec	2013 20 20 20 20





Relative Natural Gas Vehicle Population

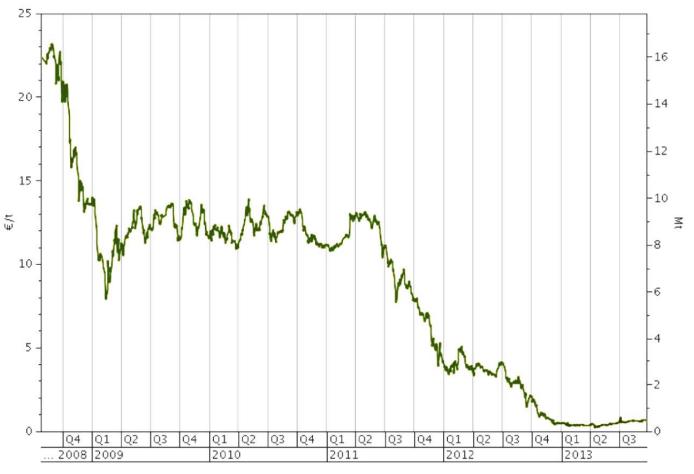
Rank	Country	Natural Gas Vehicles	Refuelling Stations	Year data received
1	Pakistan	2,400,000	3,105	2008
2	Argentina	1,807,186	1,851	2008
3	Iran	1,734,431	1,079	2008
4	Brazil	1,632,101	1,704	2008
5	India	725,000	520	2008
6	Italy	580,000	730	2008

Countries with 0.5 million or more NGVs

Source: IANGV 2009



Economics – Carbon Credit Prices

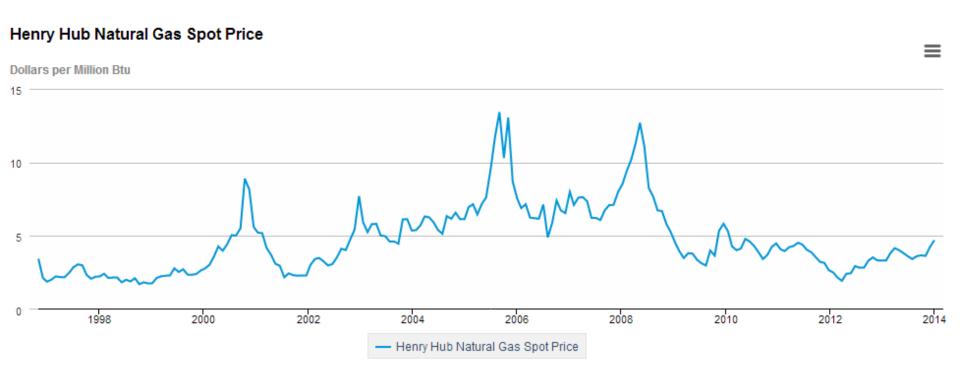


Source: Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves





Economics – Natural Gas Prices



Source: http://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/hist/rngwhhdm.htm





Initial Stakeholder Engagement

- There is interest in concept
- Past and current applications
- Concerns regarding economic viability
- Possibility of alternative sources such as sugar industry



India Project



Overview

- Focus on Mumbai landfills
- Pre-feasibility of LFG to transportation fuel
- Collaboration with NEERI





Research Approach

- Assemble landfill data
- Vehicle characteristics and operations
- Economic feasibility of landfill gas to energy scenarios
- Conclusions and recommendations



Model Development

Landfill Gas Generation Refuse Truck Operations

Economic Feasibility





CO2 Wash Technology





Analysis Scenarios

- Landfill Management Options:
 - Do Nothing;
 - Cap the landfill and flare; or
 - Flare from an active landfill.
- LFGTE Options:
 - Convert the LFG to CNG as fuel;
 - Convert the LFG to pipeline grade natural gas; or
 - Convert the LFG to electricity.

Analysis Results

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Scenario	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)					
	Landfill Management Options										
Scenario 1: Do Nothing	\$(17,015,502)	N/A	\$ (44,693,492)	N/A	\$(43,859,505)	N/A					
Scenario 2: Cap the Landfill and Flare the LFG	\$ (3,140,569)	-31%	\$(7,870,880)	-30%	\$5,252,208	42%					
Scenario 3: Flare the LFG from an Active Landfill	\$ (1,377,397)	-16%	\$(18,025,538)	-48%	\$8,389,332	80%					
	LFGTE Options										
Scenario 4: Convert LFG to CNG for Use as a Transportation Fuel	\$ (7,375,991)	-33%	\$ 465,457	1%	\$ 13,208,186	54%					
Scenario 5: Convert the LFG to Pipeline Grade Natural Gas	\$ (9,374,035)	-51%	\$ (11,718,243)	-33%	\$ 1,332,408	6%					
Scenario 6: Convert the LFG to Electricity	\$ (3,719,716)	-29%	\$ (15,788,418)	-40%	\$ (1,965,718)	-9%					



Additional Analysis –Without Capping Costs

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Scenario	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)	Net Benefit (\$)	Return (%)	
Scenario 4: Convert LFG to CNG for Use as a Transportation Fuel	\$ (1,665,390)	-10%	\$ 22,084,157	135%	\$ 21,366,186	130%	
Scenario 5: Convert the LFG to Pipeline Grade Natural Gas	\$ (3,663,435)	-29%	\$ 9,900,457	70%	\$ 9,490,408	67%	
Scenario 6: Convert the LFG to Electricity	\$ 1,990,884	28%	\$ 5,830,282	33%	\$ 6,192,282	46%	



Concluding Remarks

- Investigate LFG for transportation fuel applications in Brazil
- Some India landfills showed potential
- Considerable interest but concerns about economics
- Other options can be considered
- Next steps perform feasibility analysis, stakeholder workshop, facilitate implementation