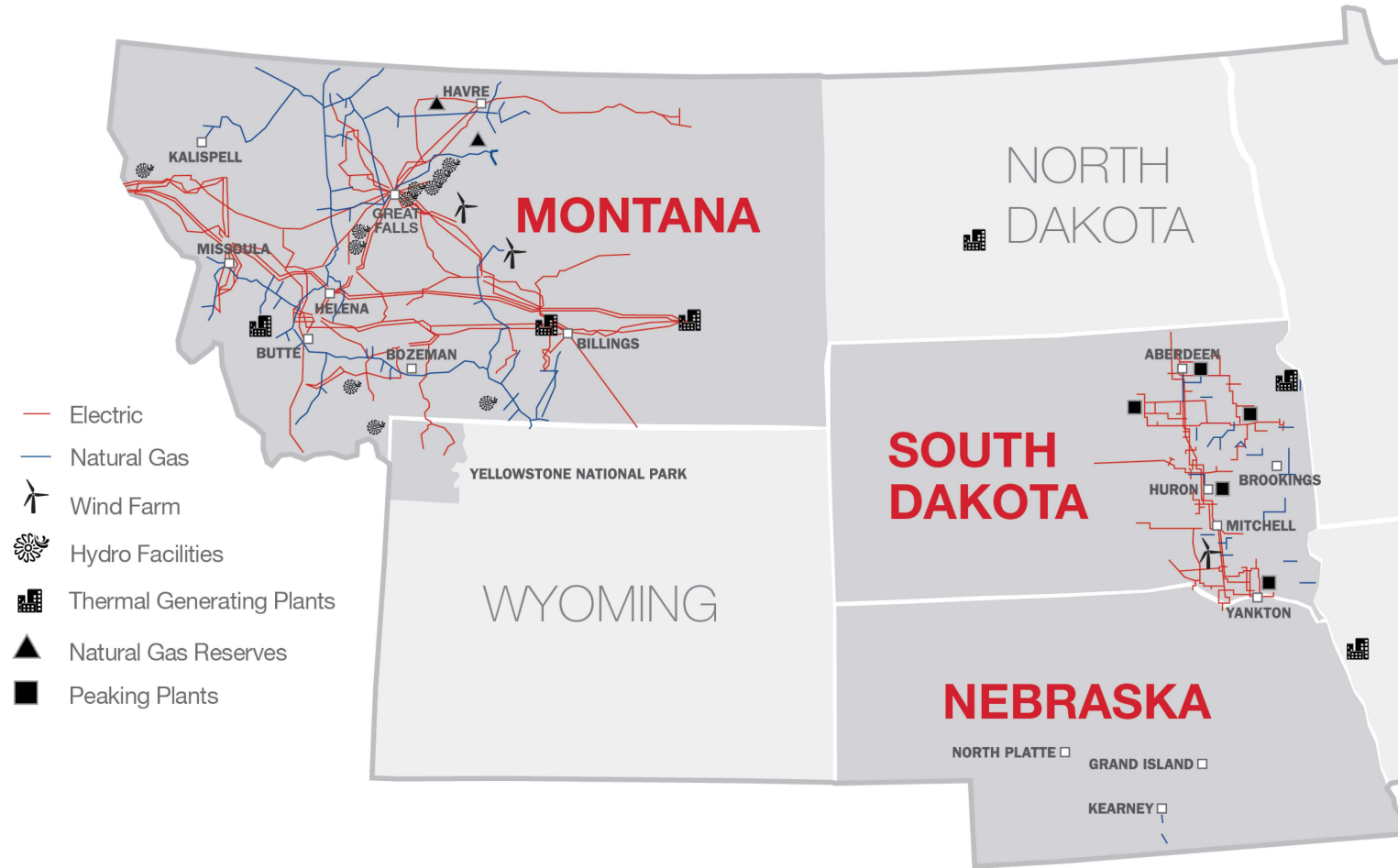




# Renewable Natural Gas

3/11/2025

# About our company



## About our company



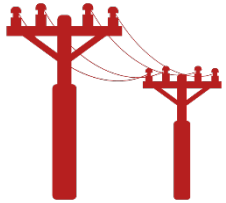
**775,300**

Customers



**1,573**

Employees



**337**

communities in Montana  
and South Dakota with  
electric service

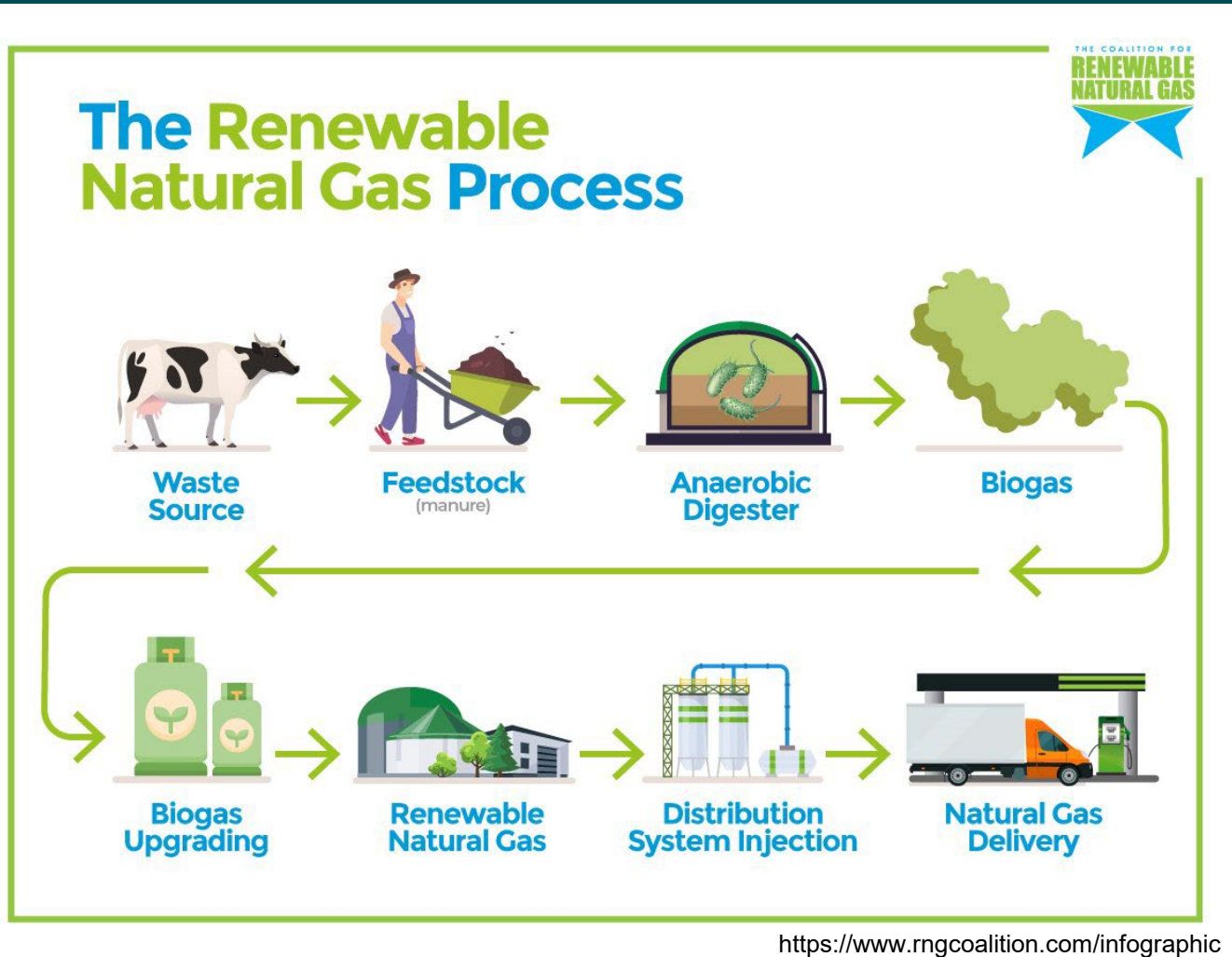


**202**

communities in Montana,  
South Dakota and  
Nebraska with gas service



# Topics



- RNG Basics
- RNG Process
- Financing
- Utilization
- NWE & RNG
- RNG Outlook

# RNG Basics

## Gas sources

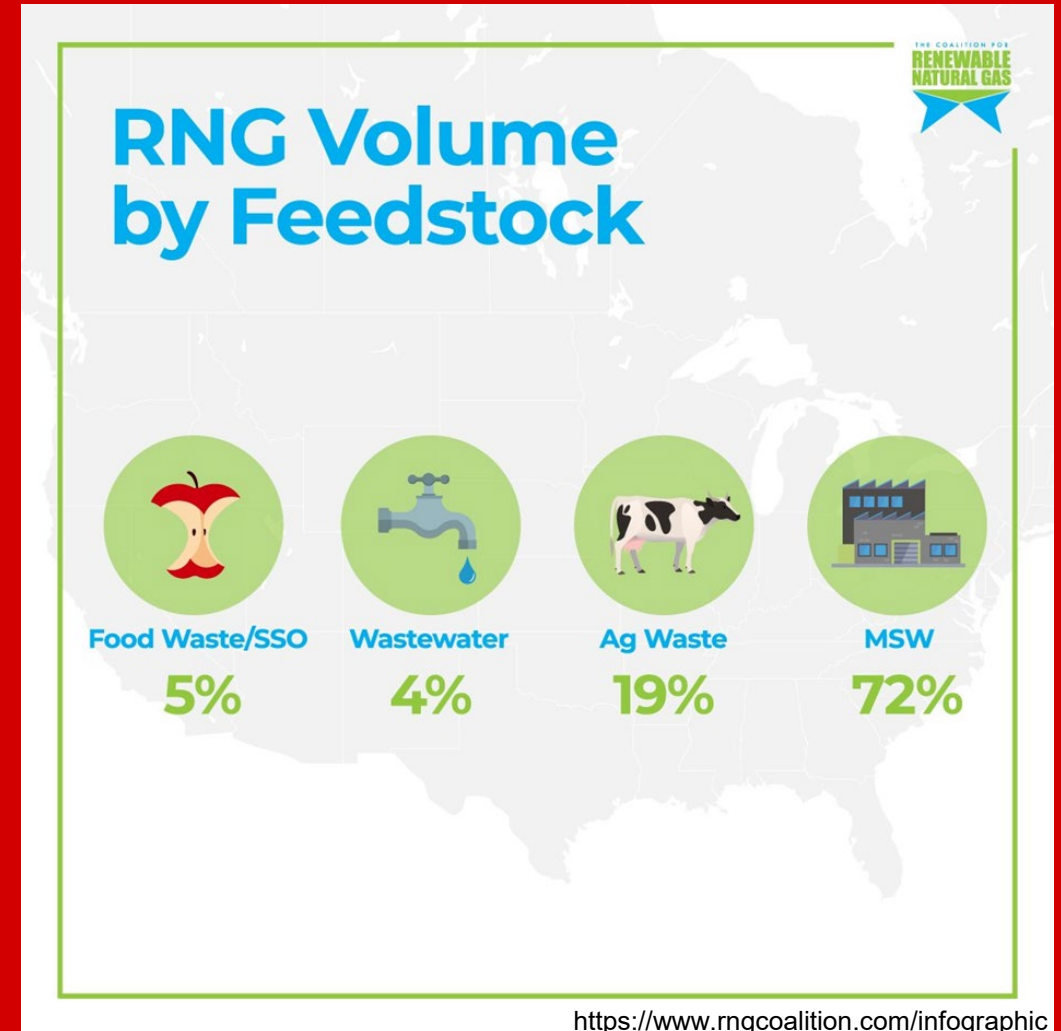
- Food waste
- Water purification facilities
- Animal waste
- Landfills

## Capture

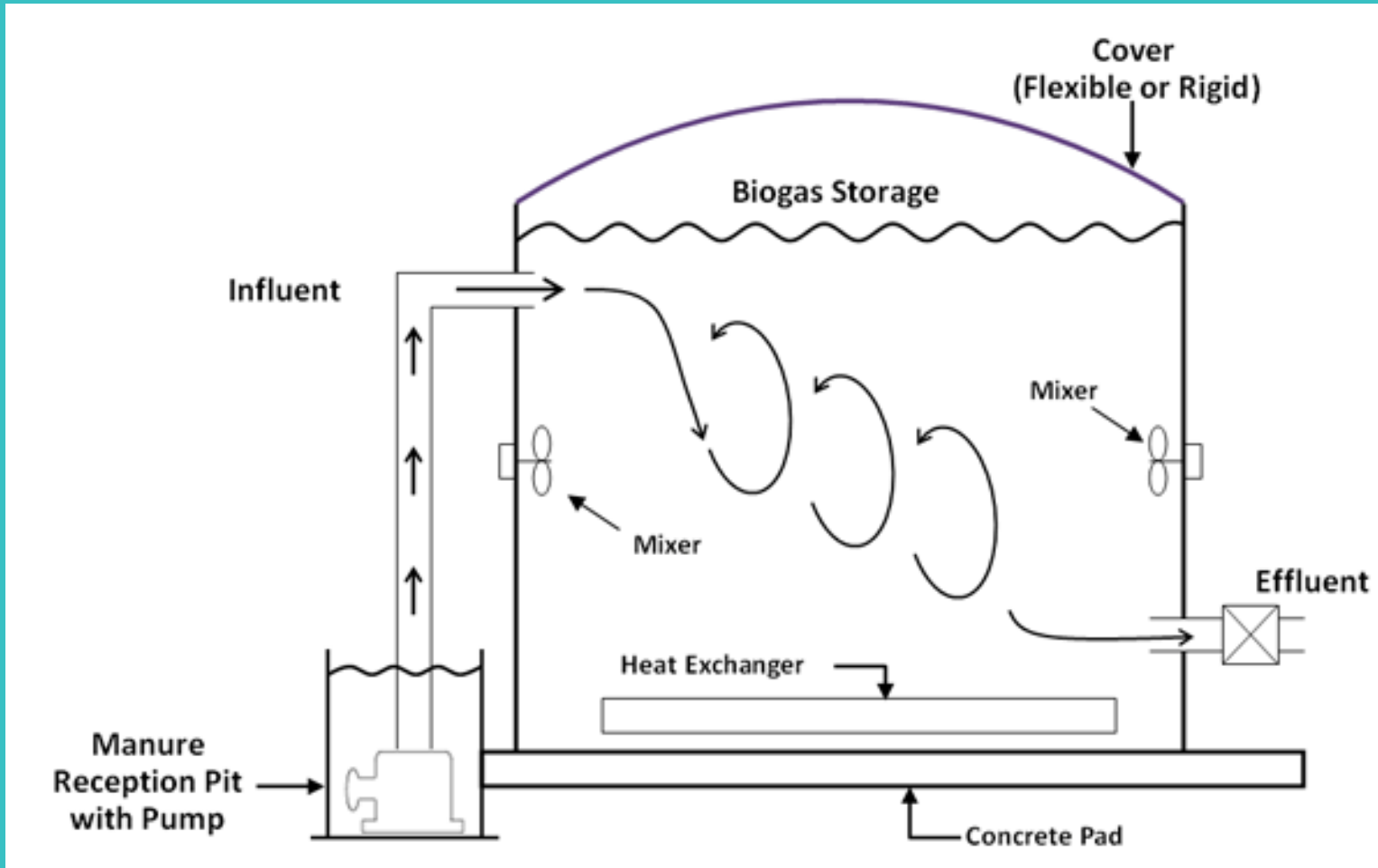
## Cleaning & testing

## Utilization

- On-site utilization (vehicles, heat, processes, power production)
- Pipeline injection

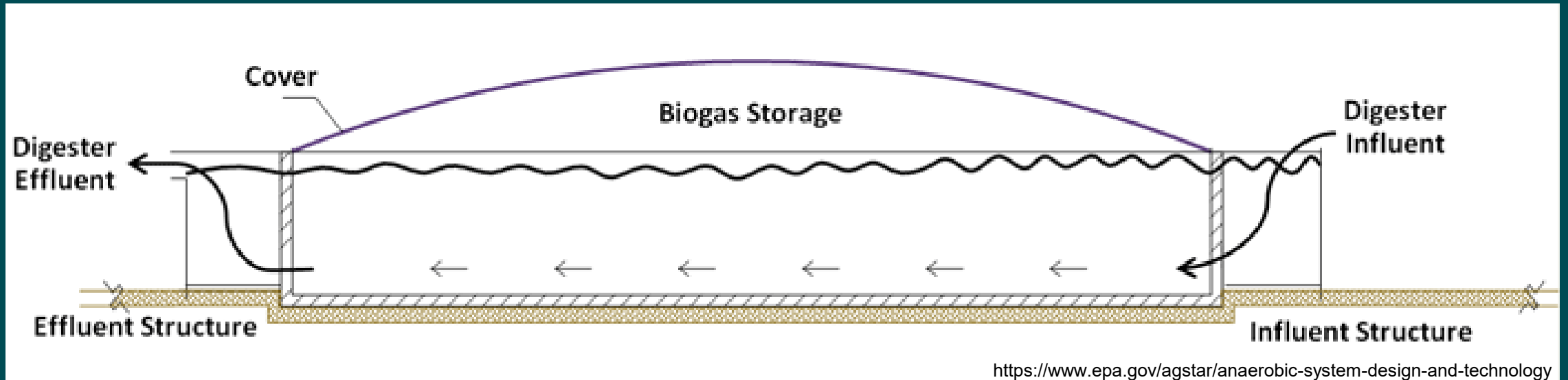


# Digesters – Complete Mix

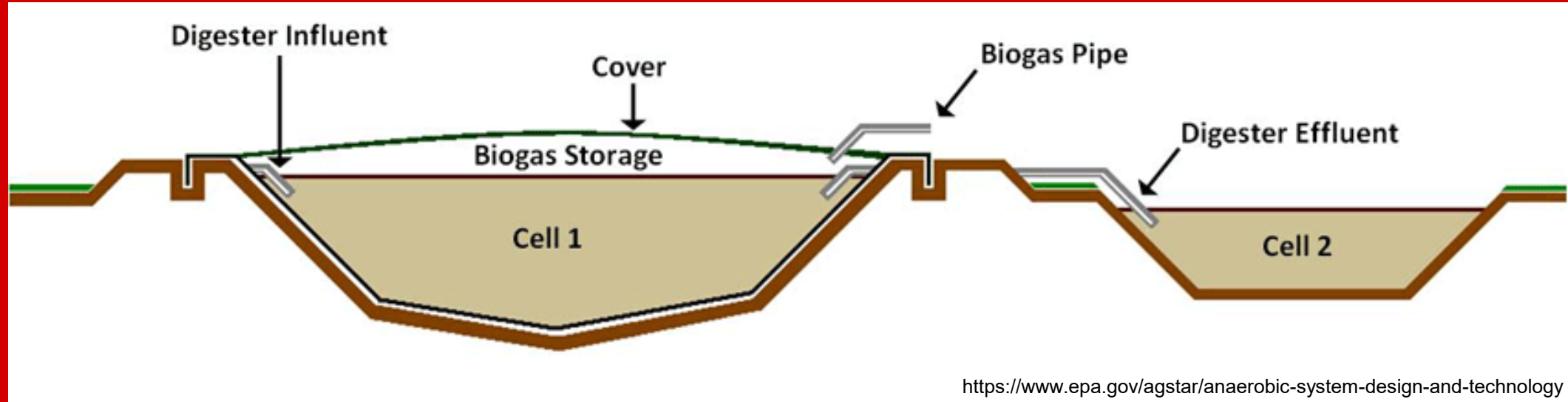


<https://www.epa.gov/agstar/anaerobic-system-design-and-technology>

# Digesters – Plug Flow



# Digesters – Covered Lagoon





# Financing

## Government subsidizing and regulations

- Research and development project grants
- Production credits
- Customer side government regulations
- Utility side government regulations

## Corporate sponsorships

- Large scale energy companies (BP, Chevron, etc.)
- Small scale utilities and businesses adding diversification
- Customer financing

# Methods of Movement



Pipeline

## Virtual Pipeline

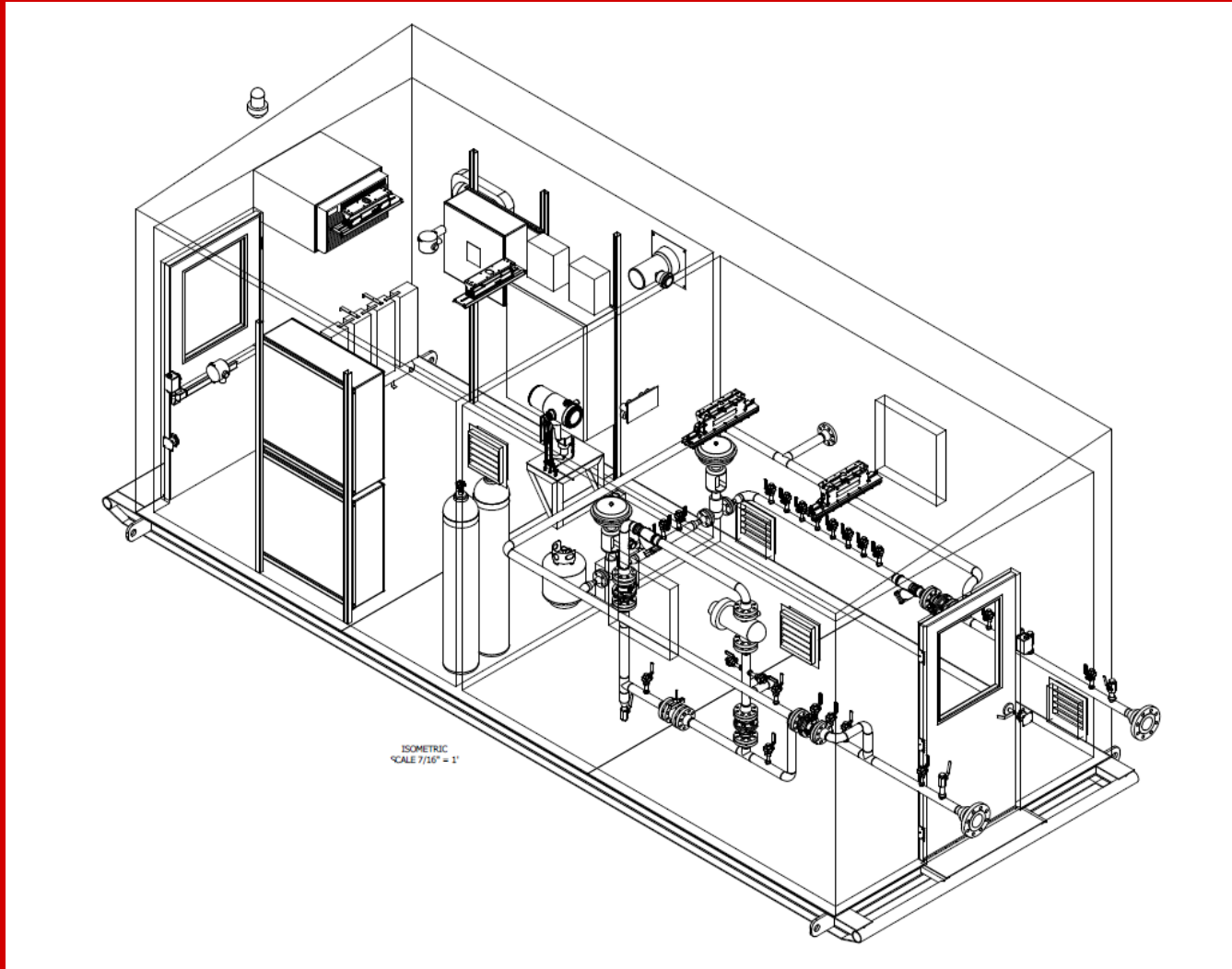


<https://certarus.com/about-us>



On-site Utilization

# Quality Testing



## Gas Chromatograph

- Carbon Dioxide
- Oxygen Content
- Hydrogen Sulfide
- Sulphur Content
- Water Vapor
- Temperature
- Heating Value

## Laboratory

# Quality Testing Design Iterations

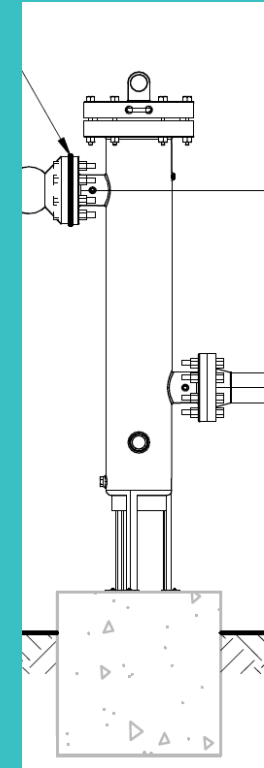
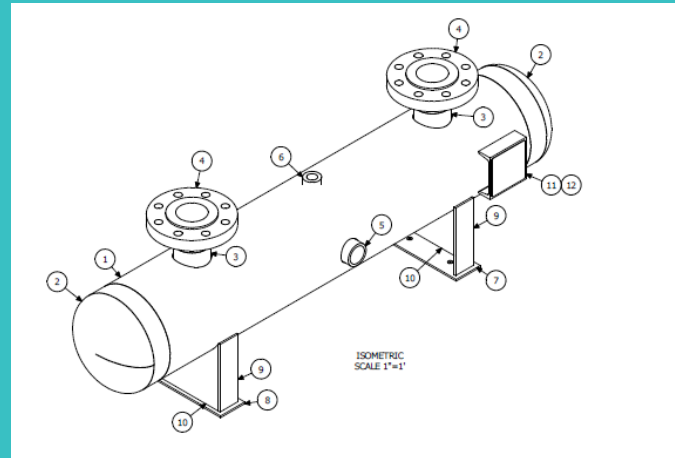
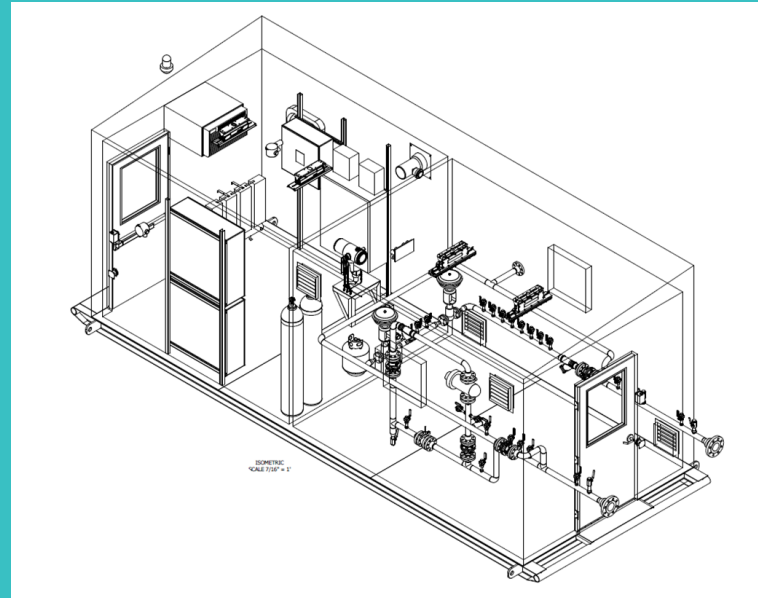
## Dual → Single building

- Reduced complexity
- Lower risk of breaks/strikes
- Single vendor

## Drop out → Coalescing filter

- Better filtration
- Reduced design time

## Reject gas line





# NWE & RNG

NWE is an investor owned, regulated utility

NWE does not develop production systems. We provide a transportation service to RNG developers, to allow their gas to reach a viable market

The most valuable part of the RNG to developers is the government credits received. The commodity is sold to large volume consumers or the utility at or below market rate.

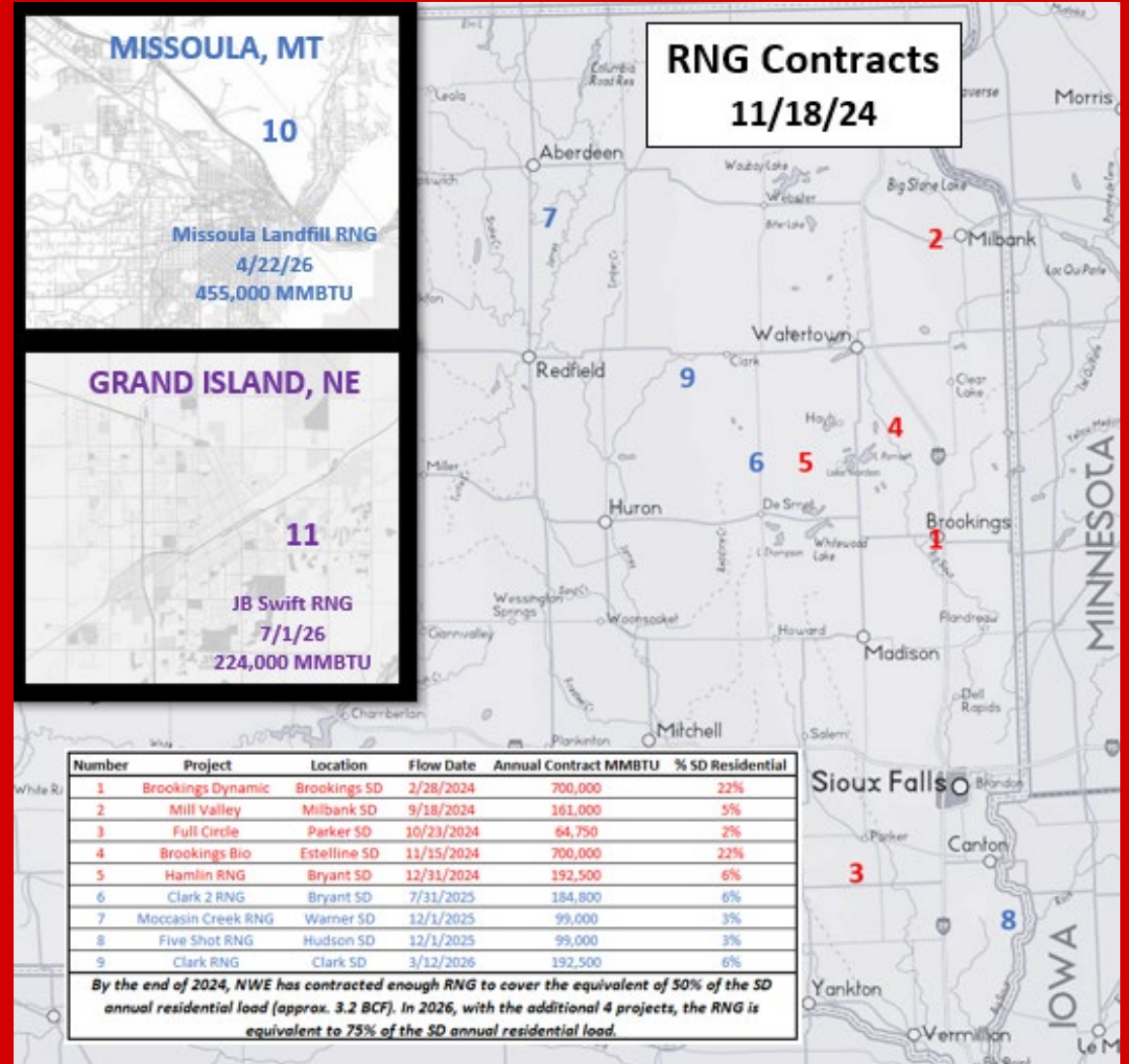
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party marketing
- Utility customer consumption

# NWE Current Projects

Over \$23M projected to be invested in the next 3 years

First project online in March 2024. 4 more online by close of 2024

By EOY 2024, NWE will transport enough RNG to cover 2/3 total residential load\*



\*NWE is providing “brown gas” (i.e. the molecules of gas without the environmental attributes) to our customers.

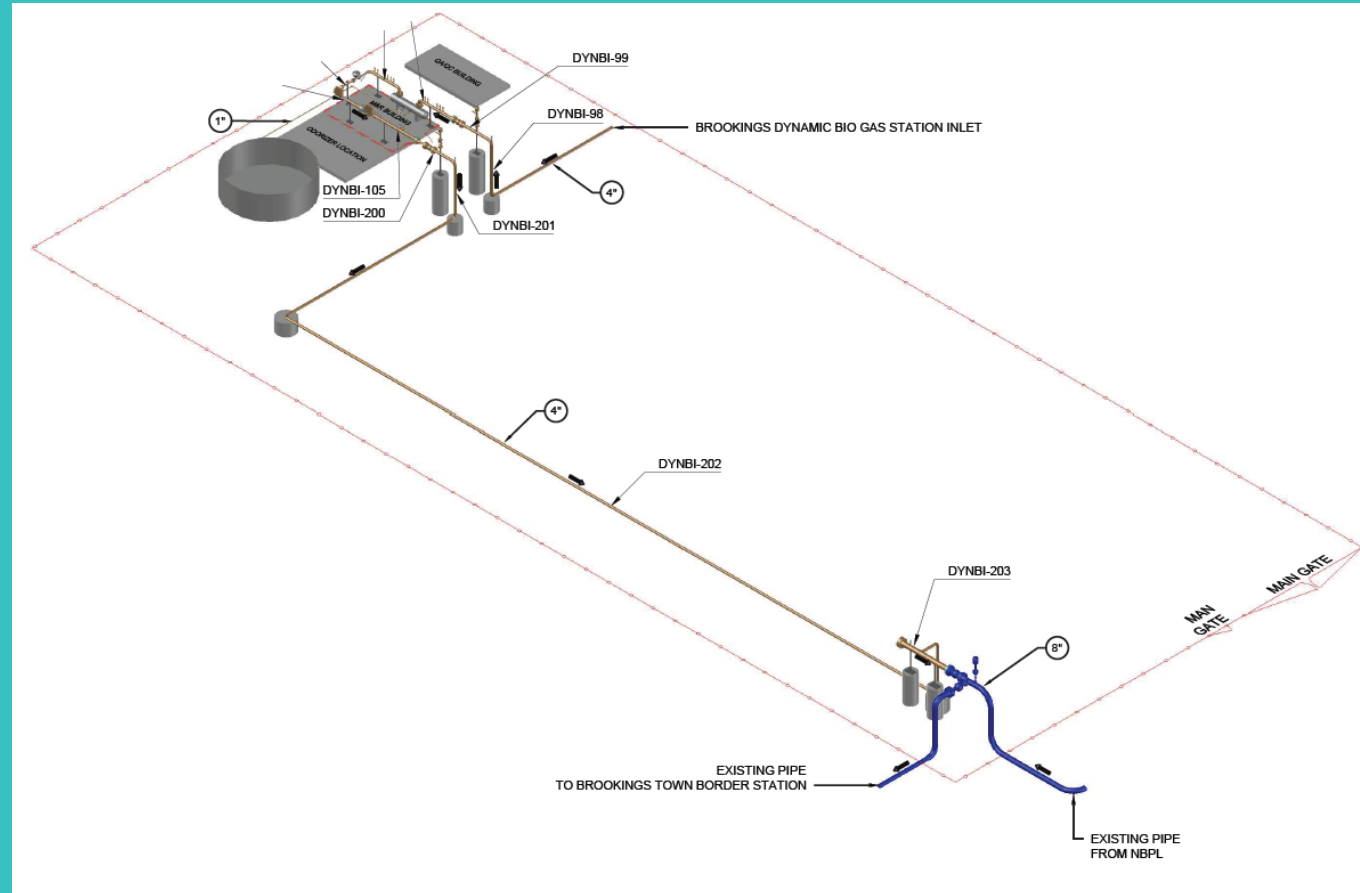
# Brookings RNG Station

Decanting station located at the town border station supplied by a virtual pipeline

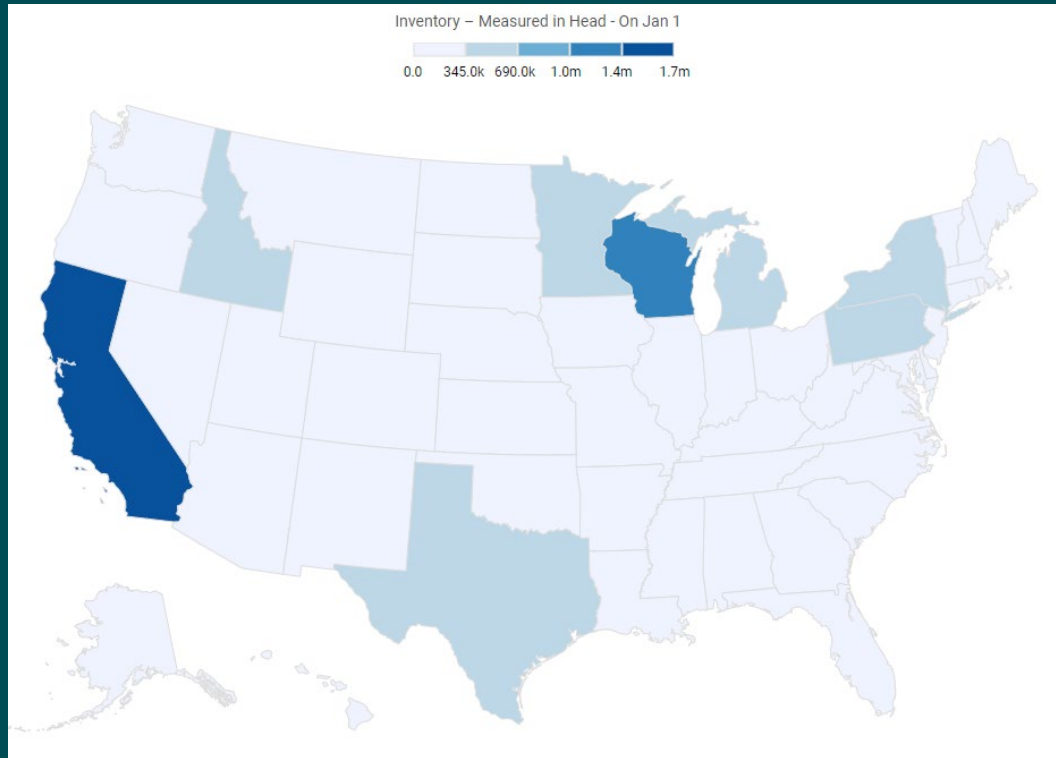
Contains measurement, regulation and quality assurance equipment

Expected to flow 145 MCF/hour peak, supplied by 8 farms

Gas injected into the NWE distribution system



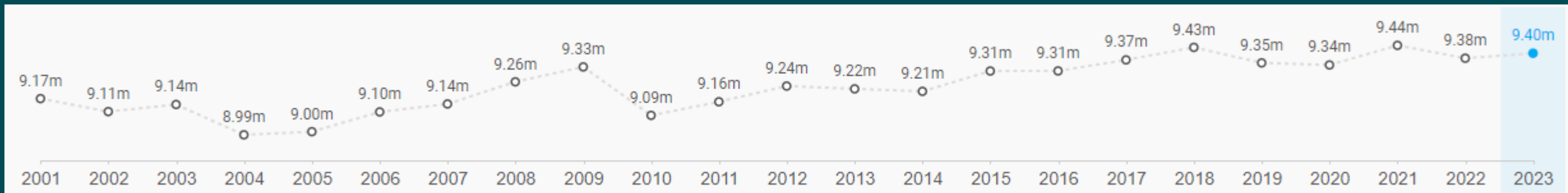
# Dairy RNG Outlook



South Dakota primarily utilizes dairy waste RNG

Dairy cattle inventory is relatively steady around 9M head in the US

Dairies producing RNG are typically large (1,000+ head)

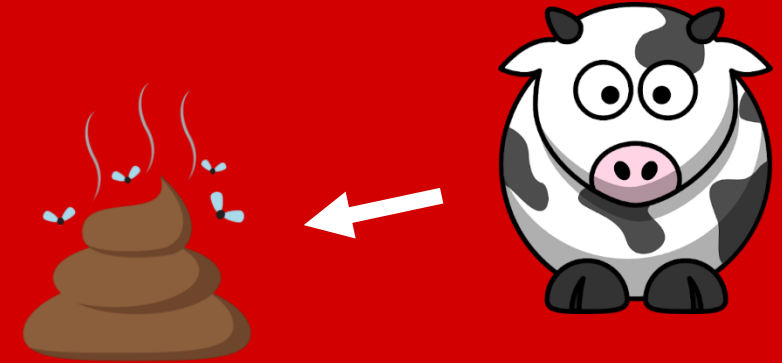
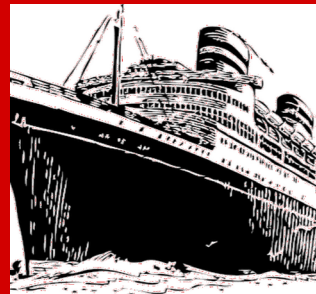
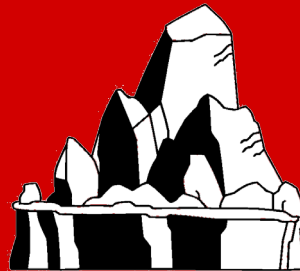
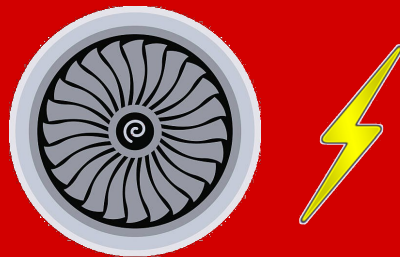
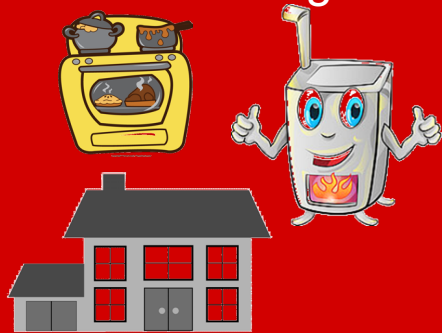




# Dairy RNG Outlook

9,000,000 dairy cows in the US produce about 30,000 lbs. manure/cow, or roughly 270,000,000,000 lbs. of manure annually – enough to:

- Fill 56,000,000 side dump semi trailers
- Fill the White House 16,700 times
- Cover Chicago 5.6 feet deep



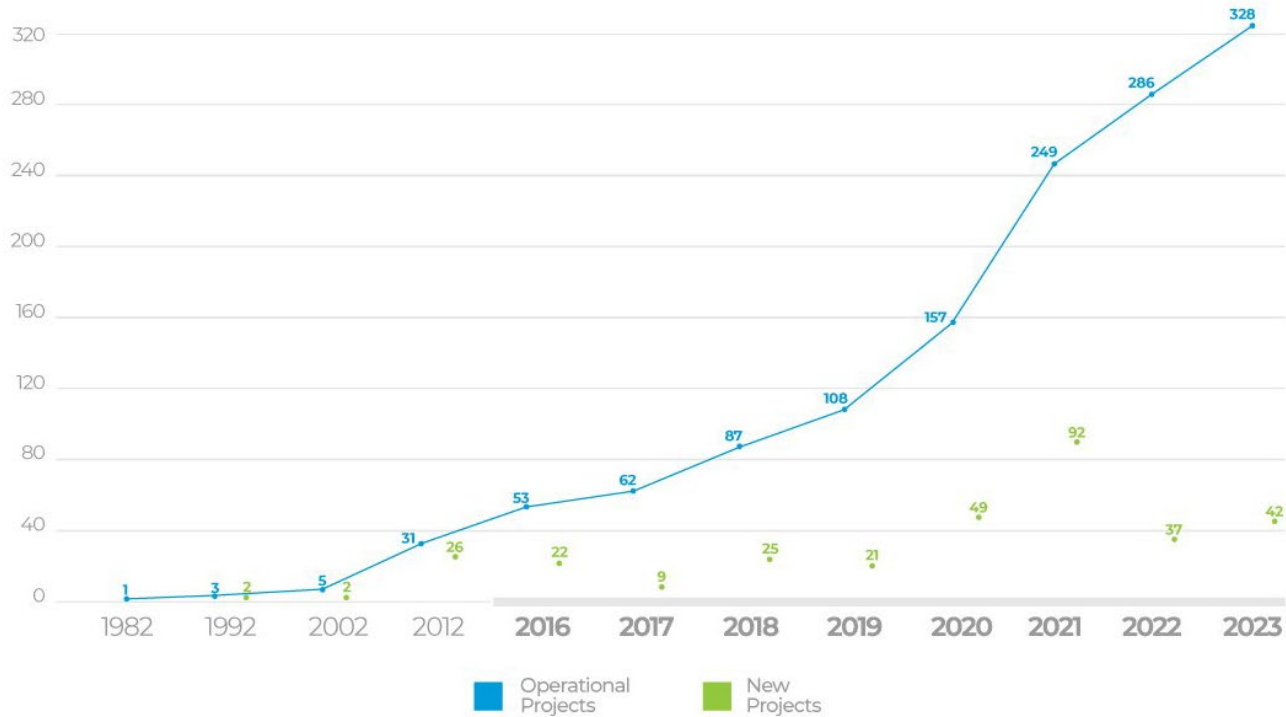
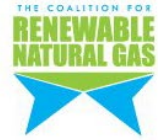
1lb of manure yields approximately 3ft<sup>3</sup> of gas, meaning there is approximately 810,000,000 MCF of renewable gas collectible annually. That's enough to:

- Heat 10,125,000 homes (1.125 homes/cow)
- Provide 110,054,347 MWH of electricity\*
- Melt the iceberg that sank the Titanic 1700 times over

\*PER US Dept of Energy – 7.36ft<sup>3</sup> per KWH

# RNG Outlook

## RNG Facilities are Growing in North America



<https://www.rngcoalition.com/infographic>



# Short-term Outlook

Large dairy construction slowdown

Dairy-developer contract terms

Increased efficiencies/reduction in input requirements

Potential government policy changes (standardization on national scale)

# Long-term Outlook

Consolidation of smaller developers

Gathering of smaller farms' waste or raw gas

Increased onsite/transportation utilization

Dairy alone could only capture 2.6% of the US natural gas market.

- Hogs – currently less efficient
- Bio waste – currently less consistent
- Feedlots – currently too hard to clean



# Questions?

