

March 4, 2021

# Decarbonization Through Biofuel Use & Production

John Plant, REG Houston Plant Manager



RENEWABLE ENERGY GROUP

# Agenda

- Who We Are
- Our Products & Processes
- Environmental Impact
- Questions

# Who We Are

# Leading the Industry

---

- Renewable Energy Group (REG) is an international producer of cleaner fuels and North America's largest producer of biodiesel.



# Production And Distribution



**45+**

TERMINALS

**12**

BIOREFINERIES

DELIVERED  
PRODUCT TO:

**45**

STATES

**6**

CANADIAN PROVINCES

**10**

COUNTRIES



# Our Products & Processes

# What Is Biodiesel?

- A renewable fuel made from biological fats and oils, such as used cooking oil, distillers corn oil, etc.



TRANSESTERIFICATION REACTION

# Benefits of Biodiesel

---

- Oxygenated fuel, which means:
  - Reduced tailpipe emissions
    - Sulfur, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and particulates
    - Burn fuel instead of losing it out the exhaust
  - Enhanced lubricity
    - Excellent for ULSD and Renewable Diesel
    - No lubricity additives needed with B2 or higher blends

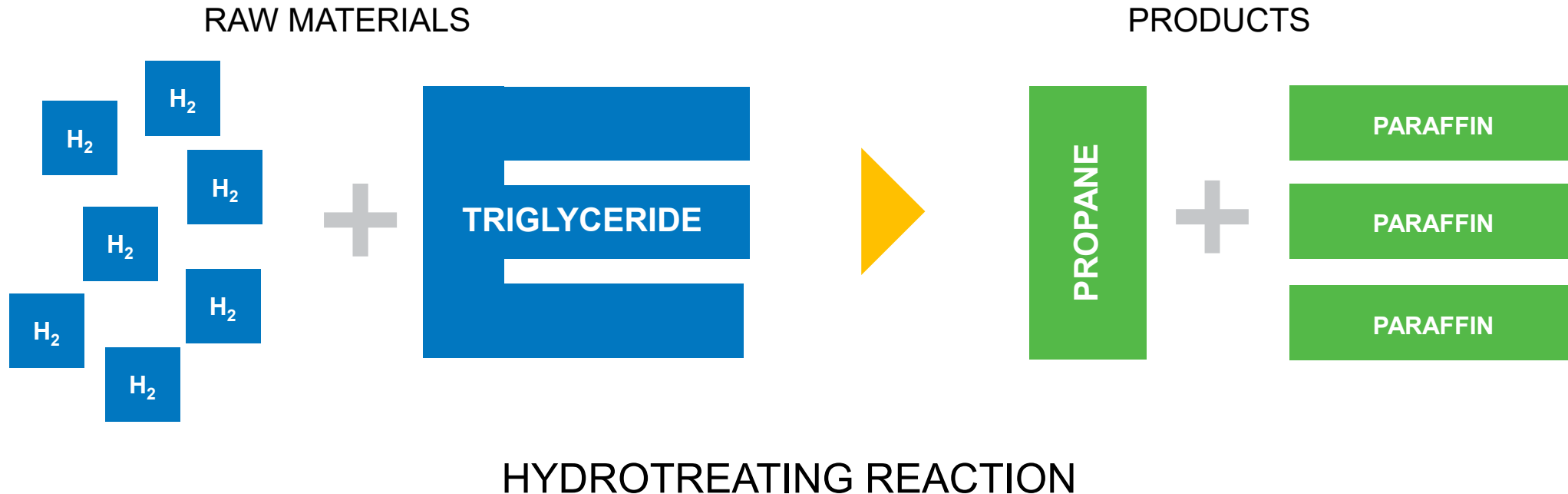
- Comparable to vegetable oil for transport & handling requirements
- Can be blended at any level with diesel and Renewable Diesel
  - 20% is a common maximum for general purpose use
  - Higher quality biodiesel performs better with Renewable Diesel (CSFBT test)
  - BD/RD blends can have lower Freezing Points than straight RD





# What Is Renewable Diesel

- A renewable fuel composed of **hydrocarbons** that is made from biological oils and fats (**triglycerides**) by **hydrotreating**



# Benefits of Renewable Diesel

---

## ➤ Paraffinic fuel, which means:

- Exceptional Cetane number
  - Cetane number is an indicator of combustion quality
  - Greater than 65 (Federal diesel specification limit is 40)
- Reduced tailpipe emissions
  - In particular, NOx and carbon monoxide
  - Also particulate matter and total hydrocarbons
  - Virtually no sulfur

## ➤ Desirable Cloud Point

- Cloud Point ranges from -10 °C to -15 °C
- Winter pipeline specs for diesel are around -10 °C

## ➤ Can be blended at any level with diesel and biodiesel

- Worth noting that straight RD is not the same as petro diesel, in spite of marketing claims that it is
  - Key aspects are very different
  - Examples: additive effectiveness, elastomer compatibility, density, and Freezing Point
- Some users consider a 50% maximum



# Environmental Impact

# Sustainability

---



Transportation industry is largest source of emissions in U.S.<sup>1</sup>



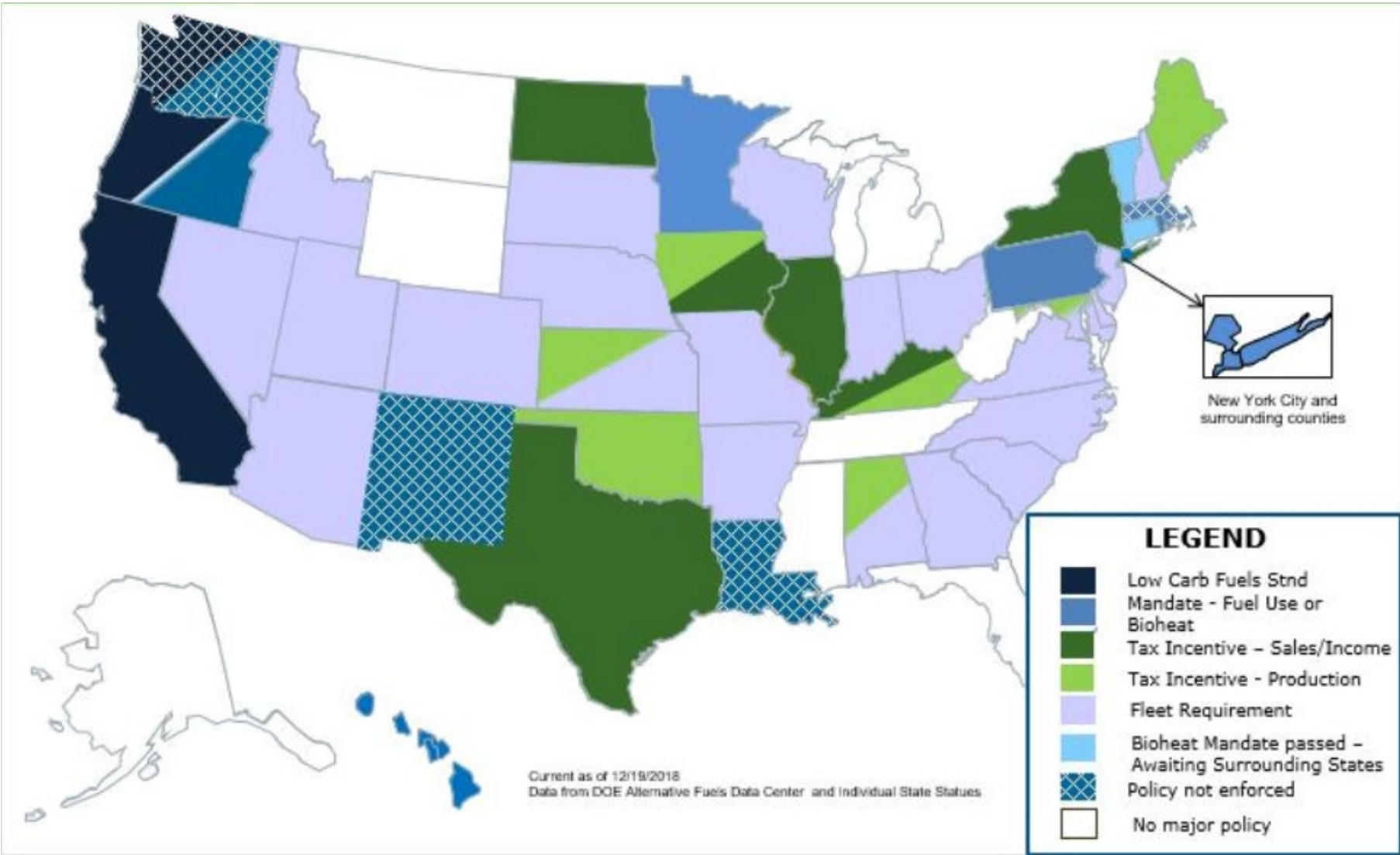
Customers demanding sustainability



Regulatory push

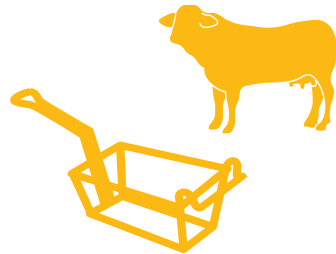
<sup>1</sup> <https://rhg.com/research/preliminary-us-emissions-estimates-for-2018/>

# States with Notable Low Carbon Policies



# Low Carbon Solution Available Now

Providing Cleaner Fuel Solutions for Over Two Decades



**WASTE AND  
BYPRODUCT FATS  
AND OILS**  
*Renewable Low Carbon  
Feedstock*



**5.5X  
ENERGY  
RETURN RATIO<sup>1</sup>**  
*Proprietary Refining  
Technology*



**50 - 90%  
LOWER CARBON  
EMISSIONS<sup>2</sup>**  
*Biodiesel (BD) &  
Renewable Diesel (RD)*



**DOWNSTREAM  
DISTRIBUTION**  
*Growing Distribution  
Network*

Source:

1. NBB; Defined as units of energy returned per unit of fossil used for production

2. EPA Lifecycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions for Select Pathways



# Superior Carbon Reduction



REG Best-in-Class  
Biodiesel<sup>1,2</sup>

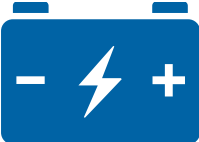
PROVIDES CO2 REDUCTION OF



88%  
v. ULSD<sup>2</sup>



85%  
v. CNG<sup>2</sup>



65%  
v. EV and U.S.  
grid average  
electricity<sup>2</sup>



42%  
v. EV and CA  
grid average  
electricity<sup>2</sup>

Note:  
1: REG best-in-class biodiesel is UCO biodiesel from Albert Lea biorefinery  
2: Carbon reduction based on life cycle analysis based on CA-GREET 3.0; utilized EV EER of 5.0 for heavy duty vehicles



# Reducing Carbon at Scale



**4.2** MILLION  
METRIC TONS  
OF CARBON REDUCTION<sup>1</sup>

FROM 495 MILLION GALLONS OF BIOFUELS PRODUCED IN 2019

EQUIVALENT TO



GHG EMISSIONS FROM  
**10.4** BILLION MILES  
DRIVEN BY AN AVERAGE  
PASSENGER VEHICLE<sup>2</sup>



CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS FROM  
**4.6** BILLION POUNDS  
OF COAL BURNED<sup>2</sup>



CO<sub>2</sub> SEQUESTERED BY  
**5.5** MILLION ACRES  
OF U.S. FORESTS  
IN ONE YEAR<sup>2</sup>



CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSION REDUCTION FROM  
**1.7** MILLION  
PASSENGER ELECTRIC VEHICLES  
ON THE ROAD IN ONE YEAR<sup>3</sup>

Notes:

1. Carbon reduction based on life cycle analysis of REG-produced fuels versus petroleum diesel.
2. [epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator](https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator).
3. Assuming annual travel of 11,484 miles/year and national grid average electricity versus gasoline using CA-GREET 3.0.





# Carbon Reduction at REG

---

- Installation of automatic light switches
- Recycling efforts
- Using washable cups instead of disposable
- Wind Turbine for alternate power generation at Albert Lea
- Each plant within the REG network works on continuous improvement ideas to promote conscientious use of our resources



# What can you do?

---

- Run biodiesel in diesel engines
- Encourage local elected officials and municipalities to consider lower carbon biodiesel/RD alternatives
- Promote education/understanding of renewable fuels
- Limit power use at home
- Recycle/Reuse where possible

# Questions?

John Plant

[john.plant@regi.com](mailto:john.plant@regi.com)

The information contained herein is believed to be reliable but Renewable Energy Group, Inc. makes no representations concerning the accuracy or correctness of the data. This product, like any other should be tested by the customer/user thoroughly under end user conditions to ensure the product meets the particular requirements. Independent results may vary.

REG® and the logo are registered trademarks of Renewable Energy Group, Inc.  
BIOHEAT® is a registered trademark of National Biodiesel Board and used with permission.