

So what are we going to do?





Moving forward – overcoming barriers

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Barriers – real and perceived

- ⦿ Infrastructure
- ⦿ Filling stations
- ⦿ Costs of vehicles
- ⦿ Vehicle availability
- ⦿ Security of supply
- ⦿ Govt. commitment
- ⦿ Legislation
- ⦿ Leadership
- ⦿ Funding
- ⦿ Public perception

Biomethane for transport

A 'no brainer'?

- 🔍 slashes vehicle CO2 emissions by 75 to 200 per cent
- 🔍 improves air quality
- 🔍 provides the UK with fuel security
- 🔍 cuts transport noise levels



Biomethane for transport

A 'no brainer'?

- ◉ significantly reduces waste to landfill - 14 million tonnes of food waste per annum!
- ◉ reduces methane escape to the atmosphere from cattle/pig slurry - 260,000 tonnes of NH_4 per annum
- ◉ produces high-grade agricultural fertiliser



So why is it not happening?

Is biogas

- 💧 a waste management issue
- 💧 an environmental issue
- 💧 a renewable energy issue
- 💧 a transport issue

.....whose responsibility?

The Biomethane Paradox

- ❶ No-one will supply the vehicles to run on biofuel in the UK until there is an established market
- ❷ No-one will buy a vehicle until there is confidence in vehicle quality and fuel availability

How does the UK break this stalemate?

International Comparisons

UK

- 101 light duty
- 14 buses
- 333 HGV
- 19 filling stations

Sweden

- 13407 light duty
- 760 buses
- 369 HGV
- 115 Filling stations



Is biogas supply an issue?

- 🔗 UK is already Europe's biggest producer of biogas
- 🔗 Gas from sewage sludge and landfill = 650 MW of electricity to the national grid
- 🔗 Biogas represents 65 to 70 per cent of all green energy being produced
- 🔗 Current use largely restricted to combined heat and power (CHP)

Biomethane for transport – has the case been made?

Biomethane transport needs...

- ◉ an integrated regional and national approach
- ◉ local action driven by national, regional and local initiatives
- ◉ large-scale public buy-in of biogas fuelled transport
- ◉ long-term investment in infrastructure
- ◉ leadership among different stakeholders

What else?

How do we start?

- 🔗 knowledge transfer; awareness campaigns
- 🔗 focus upon closed loop systems e.g. park&ride
- 🔗 build refuelling stations (refuse trucks, council vehicles, bus and taxi fleets)
- 🔗 gradual replacement of conventional vehicles owned or leased by the council
- 🔗 Government support for biomethane projects



...Recommendations?

A Project Approach for the West Midlands

- 💧 Biomethane strategy for the region
- 💧 Inner city and market town pilot schemes e.g. minibus; park&ride; maintenance fleets
- 💧 Clean transport for tourism (2012)
- 💧 Biorefinery working demonstrators
- 💧 Improved gas infrastructure (urban/rural)
- 💧 Biogas and biomethane supply chain development
- 💧 Knowledge transfer programme
- 💧 Others?



Biomethane Transport for the West Midlands - let's make it happen!

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