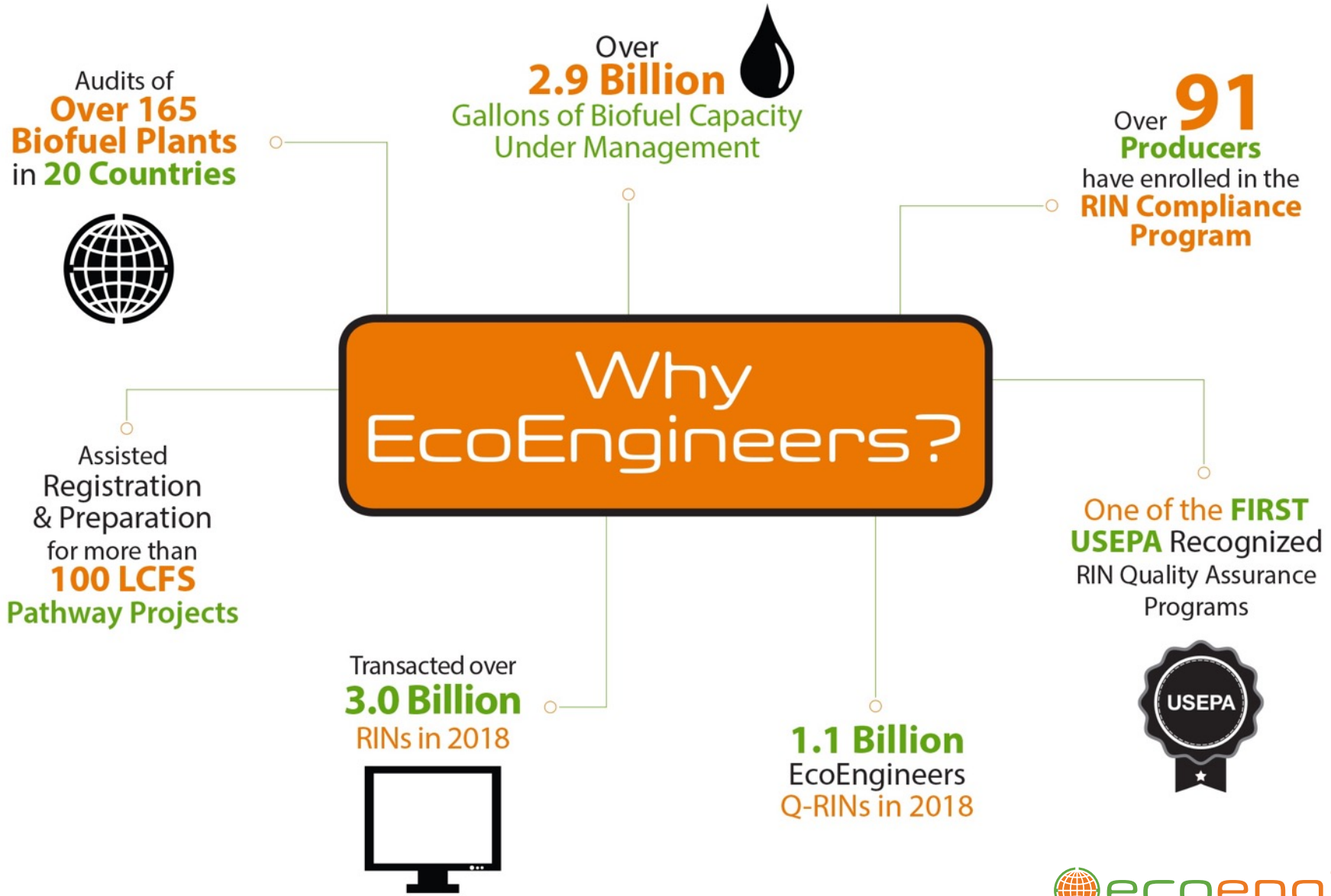
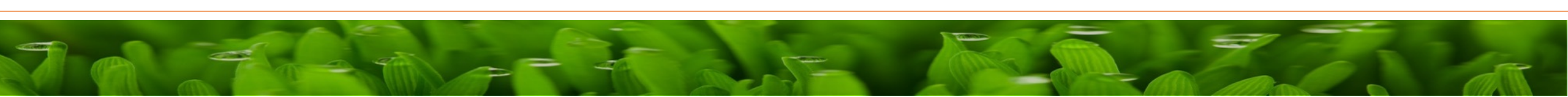




# RNG Policy and Regulations

January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>  
Asheville and Raleigh, North Carolina  
Natasha Beilstein, Regulatory Consultant





# Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)



## RFS Key Definitions



**USEPA:** United States Environmental Protection Agency. Federal agency that sets and enforces the RFS



**Fuel Pathway:** The feedstock, production process, fuel type, and D-code in a production facility registration under the RFS



**RFS:** Renewable Fuel Standard. Federal program under 40 CFR 80 Subpart M, sets goal of 36 billion gallons of renewable transportation fuel by 2022



**EMTS:** USEPA-Moderated Transaction System, online system for completing all RIN transactions under the RFS



**RVO:** Renewable Volume Obligation. Each obligated party is obligated to meet its RVO by demonstrating that it has retired a sufficient number of RINs to satisfy its obligation



**RIN:** Renewable Identification Number. A unique number generated to represent a volume of renewable fuel; the “currency” of the RFS



## RFS Key Definitions



**GHG:** Greenhouse Gases. These gases have potential to warm the atmosphere



**D-Code:** Code assigned to RINs generated from renewable fuel. The D-code used must be specified in Table 1 (§80.1426), which corresponds to the pathway that describes the producer's operations.



**QAP:** Quality Assurance Plan. The list of elements checked to verify that RINs generated are valid. Designates RINs as Q-RINs if in compliance under a QAP



**CDX:** Central Data Exchange. The USEPA's electronic reporting and registration site



**Part 79:** Registration under the Fuel and Fuel Additive Registration (FFARS). Required for liquid fuels



**Part 80:** Registration under 40 CFR 1450. Includes the specific pathway and fuel type; requires an independent third-party engineering review and CDX Registration



**Obligated Parties:** Any refiner that produces or imports gasoline or diesel fuel. An obligated party is required to demonstrate that it has satisfied all RVO requirements.

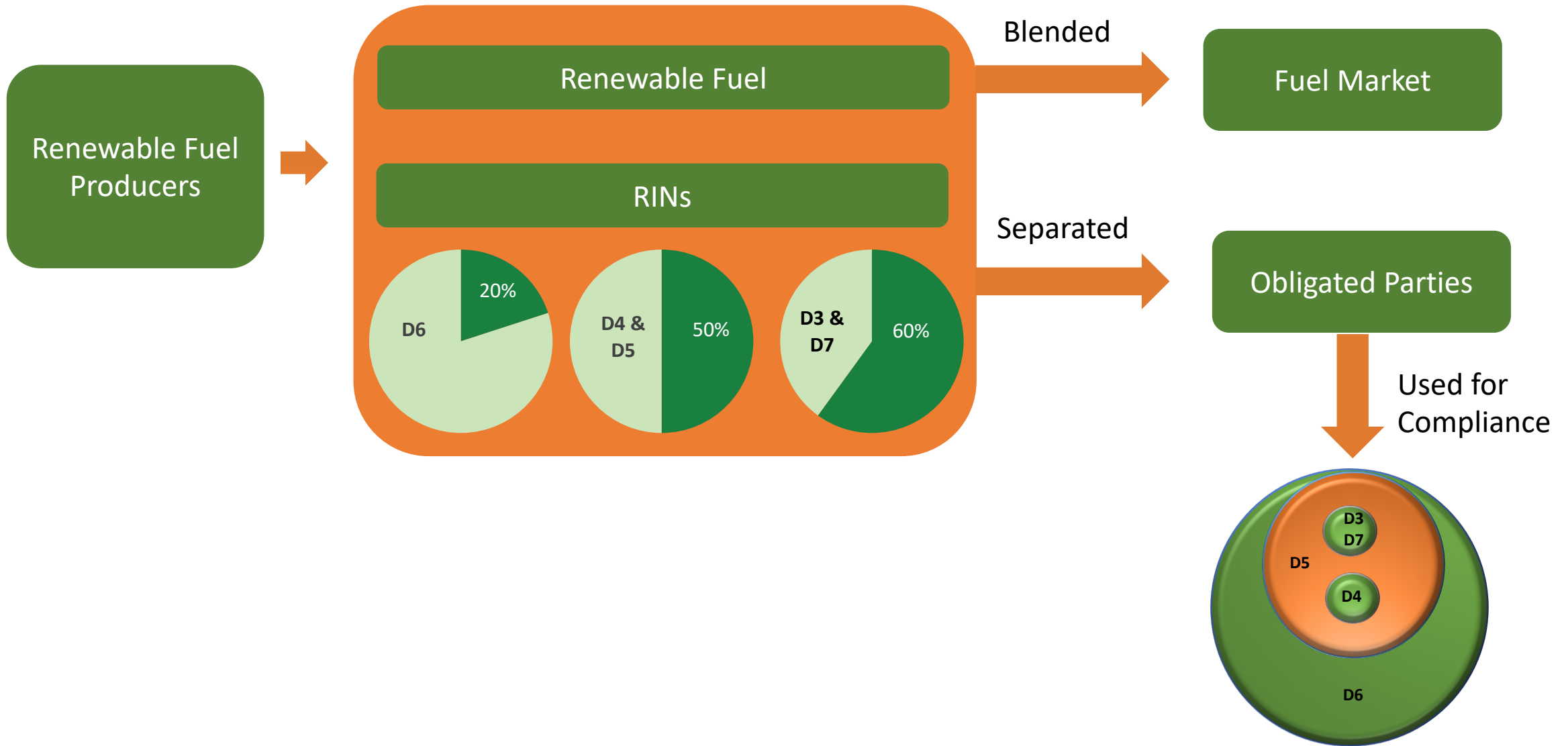


## Goals of the RFS Program

- Replace a portion of fossil fuels used in transportation in the U.S. with biofuels
- Reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil sources
- Incentivize the development of advanced biofuels (GHG reduction of 50% or more)
- **36 BILLION GALLONS OF RENEWABLE FUEL BY 2022**
- Current RVO schedule is set till 2022 (program does not sunset in 2022)



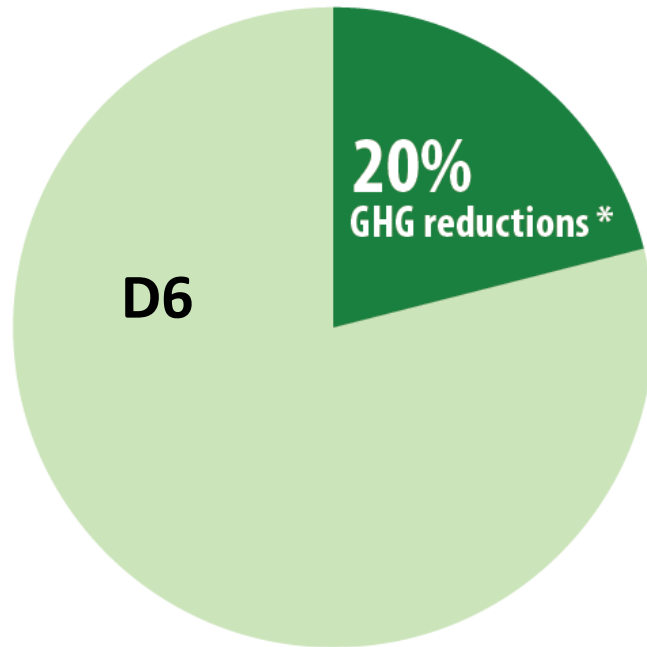
# RFS Program Overview



## Lifecycle Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

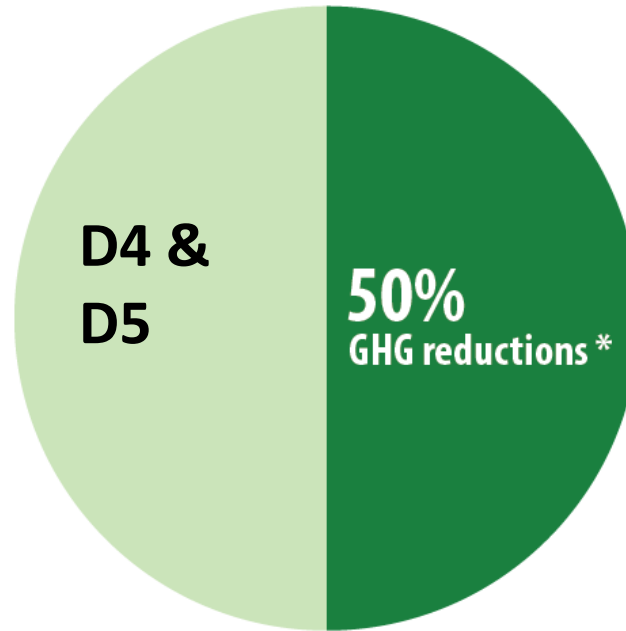
GHG emissions must take into account direct and significant indirect emissions, including land use change.

### Renewable Fuels



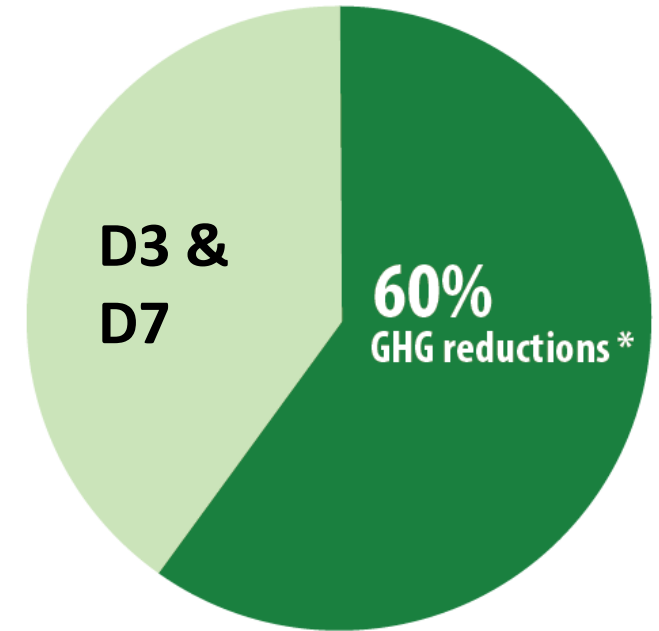
Corn Ethanol, Other  
Grandfathered Biofuels

### Advanced & Biodiesel Fuels



Sugarcane Ethanol,  
Renewable Diesel,  
CNG/LNG/ Biodiesel

### Cellulosic Fuels



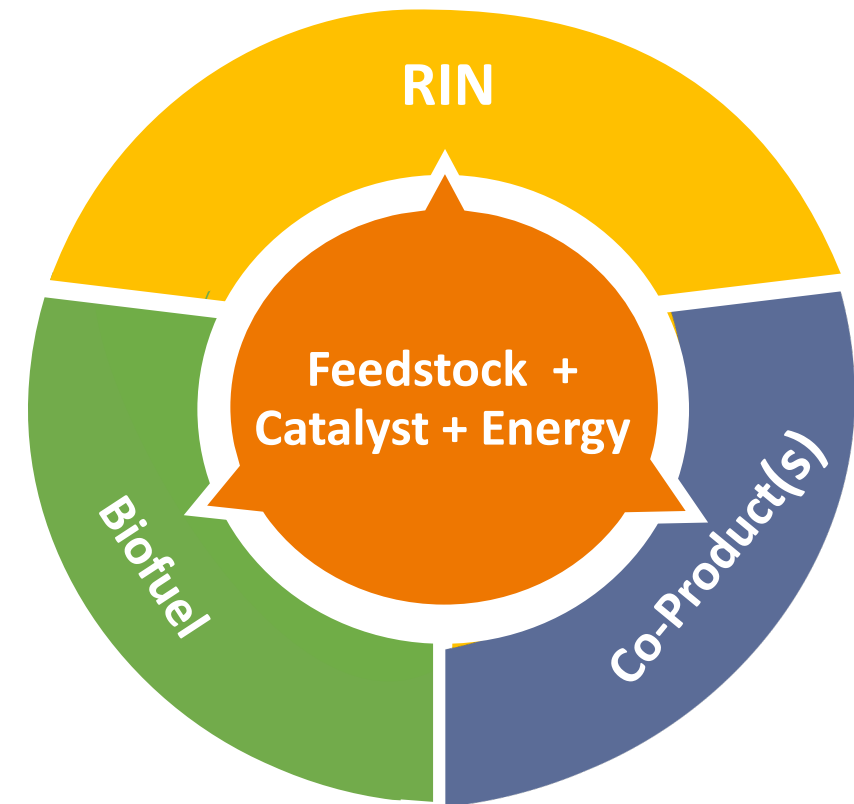
Cellulosic Ethanol, Cellulosic Diesel,  
Renewable CNG/LNG/Electricity





## A RIN is Proof that Biofuels Were Used in Transportation

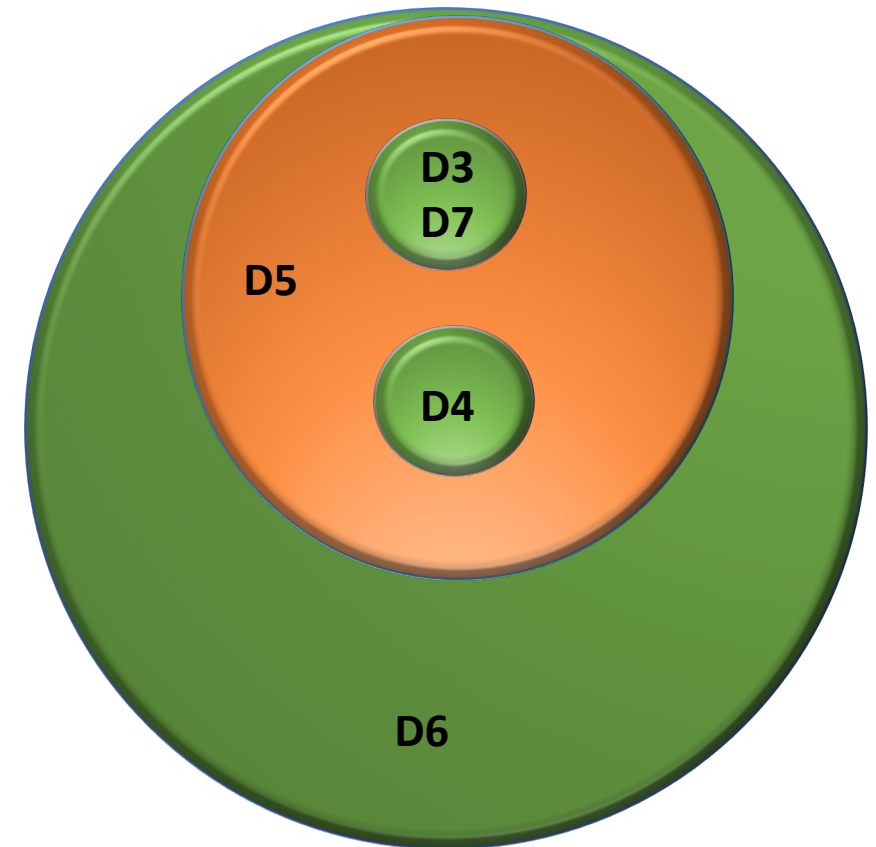
- A RIN is proof of biofuel blending and is a compliance instrument
- A tradable environmental attribute
- 1 RIN = Heating value of 1 gallon of ethanol (77,000 Btu LHV)
- Strict rules of generation/separation/trading
- EMTS is the platform where RINs are generated, separated and sold
- Petroleum refiners and importers are required to prove compliance





# Renewable Volume Obligations (RVOs) are "Nested"

Fuel Type	RIN Used to Prove Compliance	2020 RVO (BG)
Cellulosic Biofuel	D3 , D7	0.59
Biomass-Based Diesel	D4, D7	2.43 BD GAL 3.65 RINS
Remaining Advanced Biofuel	D3, D4, D5, D7	2.2
<b>Sub Total 2020 RVO</b>		<b>5.09</b>
Remaining Renewable Fuel	D3, D4, D5, D6, D7	15.00
<b>Total 2020 RVO</b>		<b>20.09</b>





# Petroleum Refiners and Fuel Importers are Obligated Parties

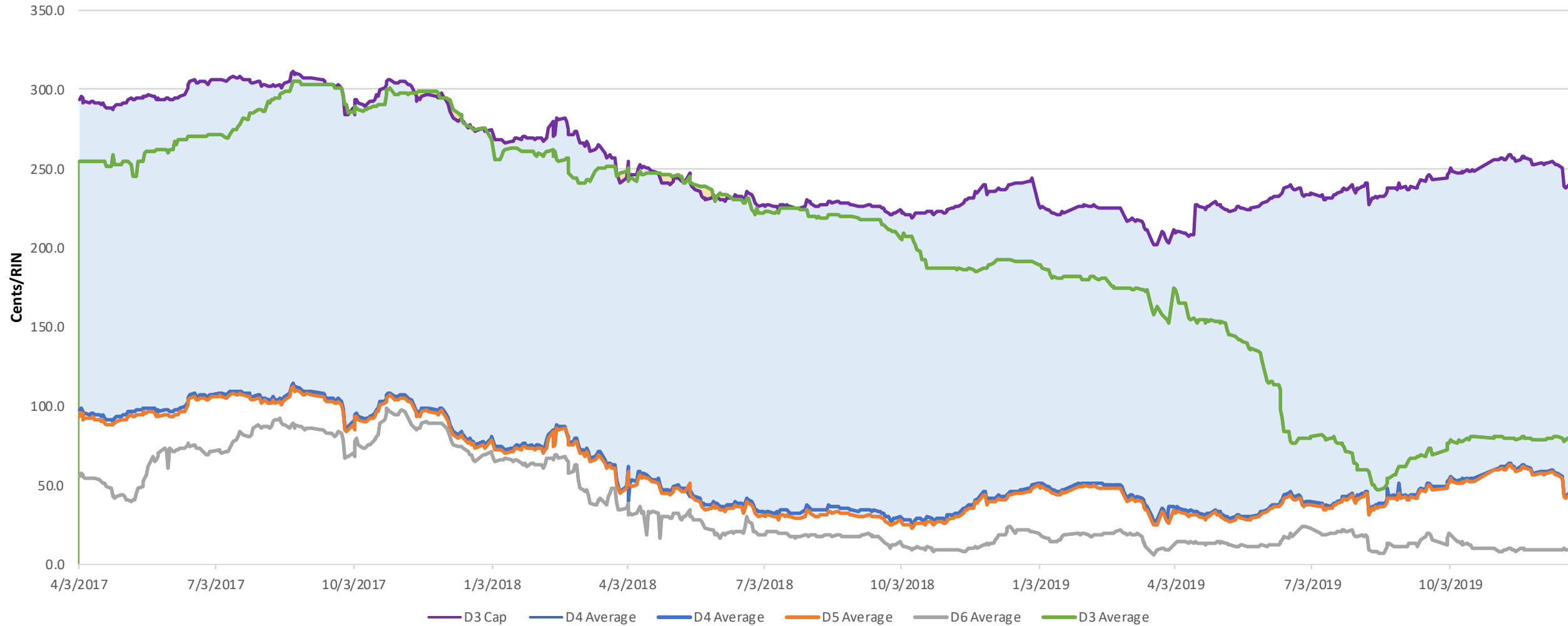
- Obligated parties acquire RINs by:
  - Physical blending of renewable fuel with RINs, or
  - Purchases of separated RINs without physical fuel
- Obligated RVO is calculated continuously
- RINs acquired are “retired” within EMTS to demonstrate compliance
- 20% of current year RVOs can be met with prior year RINs
- RINs must be used for compliance in the calendar year they were generated or the following calendar year

$$RVO_{DCODE} = \% * DV_i$$

Final 2019 % Standards		
D-Code	Fuel Type	%
3	Cellulosic Biofuel	0.34%
4	Biomass-Based Diesel	2.10%
5	Advanced Biofuel	2.93%
6	Renewable Fuel	11.56%

# RIN Price History

RIN Price Chart - D3, D4, D5, D6 RINs  
April 2017 to December 2019





# Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS)



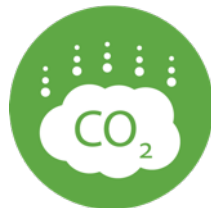
## LCFS Key Definitions



**CARB:** California Air Resources Board. Established LCFS, implements program and has rulemaking authority over LCFS program



**LCFS:** Low Carbon Fuel Standard. Created with AB 32, 20% reduction by 2030



**CI:** Carbon Intensity. the amount of life-cycle greenhouse gas emissions, per unit of fuel energy, expressed in grams of carbon dioxide equivalent per megajoule (g CO<sub>2</sub>e/MJ)



**Life-cycle GHG:** Aggregate quantity of greenhouse gas emissions related to the full fuel life cycle. From feedstock generation to fuel end use



**CA-GREET 3.0 (aka GREET):** Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Transportation Model used for life-cycle analysis in the LCFS program



**Fuel Pathway:** The life cycle of renewable fuel registered with CARB. The pathway has a defined CI score and is facility-specific



## LCFS Key Definitions



**AFP:** Alternative Fuels Portal. The LCFS online registration system for facilities, fuel pathway applications, FPCs, and FTMs



**FPC:** Fuel Pathway Code. The identifier in the LRT-CBTS that applies to a specific fuel pathway approved pursuant to section 95488



**Verification Body:** An entity accredited by CARB that can perform validation or verification services to entities required to contract for validation and verification



**LRT:** LCFS Reporting Tool. LCFS platform for quarterly, annual reporting, and credit generation and transactions



**LCFS Credit:** Credits generated by fuels with a CI below the annual goal of the LCFS program



**Regulated Parties:** Companies that produce or import transportation fuel into California. Regulated parties are responsible for reporting on a quarterly and annual basis



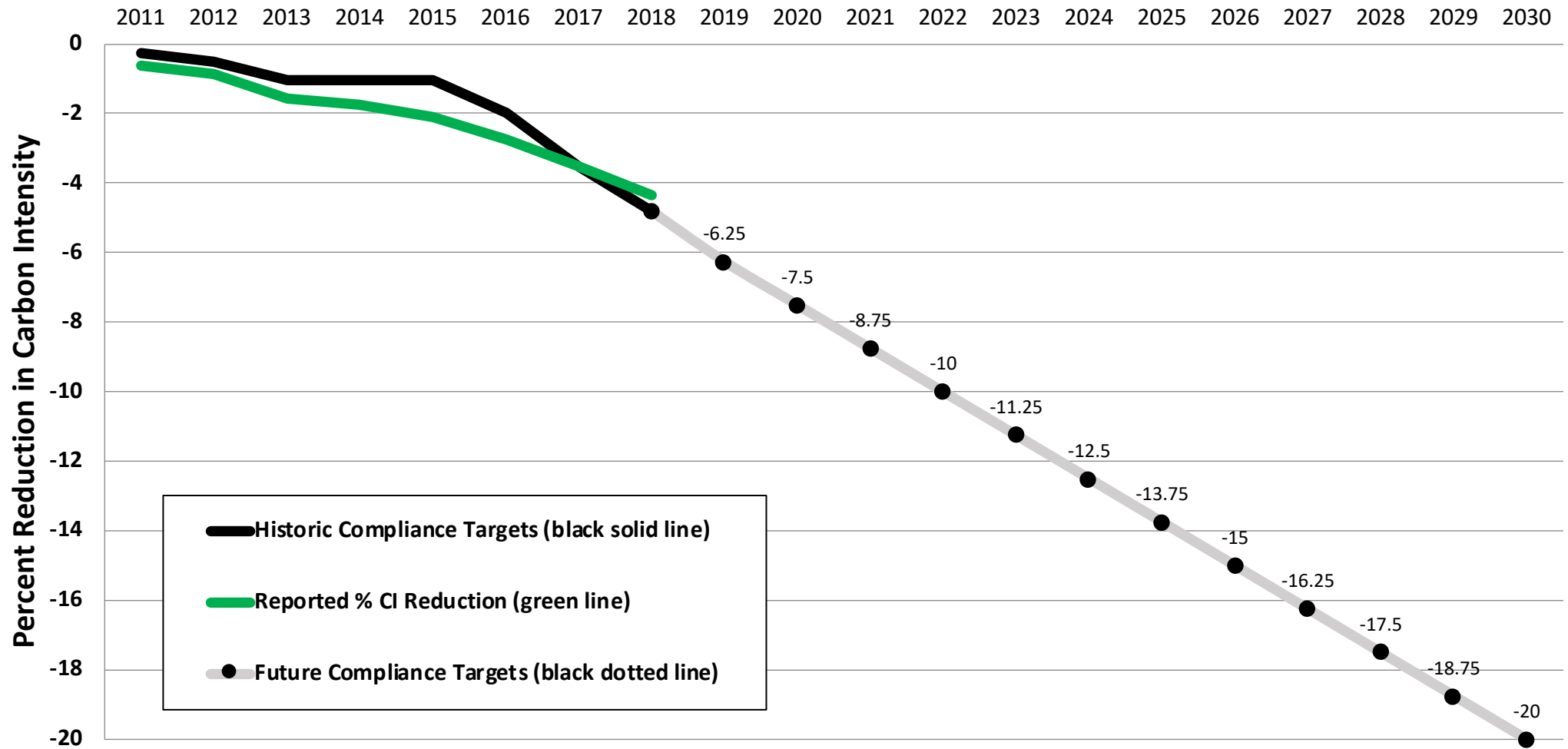
## Goals of the LCFS Program

- **Reduce GHG Emissions from transportation fuels in California by 20% by 2030**
- Incentivize the development of low carbon fuels
  - Performance-based — Giving credit for advanced fuels that reduce GHG emissions
  - Fuel neutral — No fuel-type-specific goals
- The LCFS is an example for other programs to follow worldwide
- CARB works in partnership with other programs
  - Oregon Clean Fuels Program (CFP)
  - Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (Currently in rulemaking)





# Compliance Curve Suggests Impending Credit Crunch



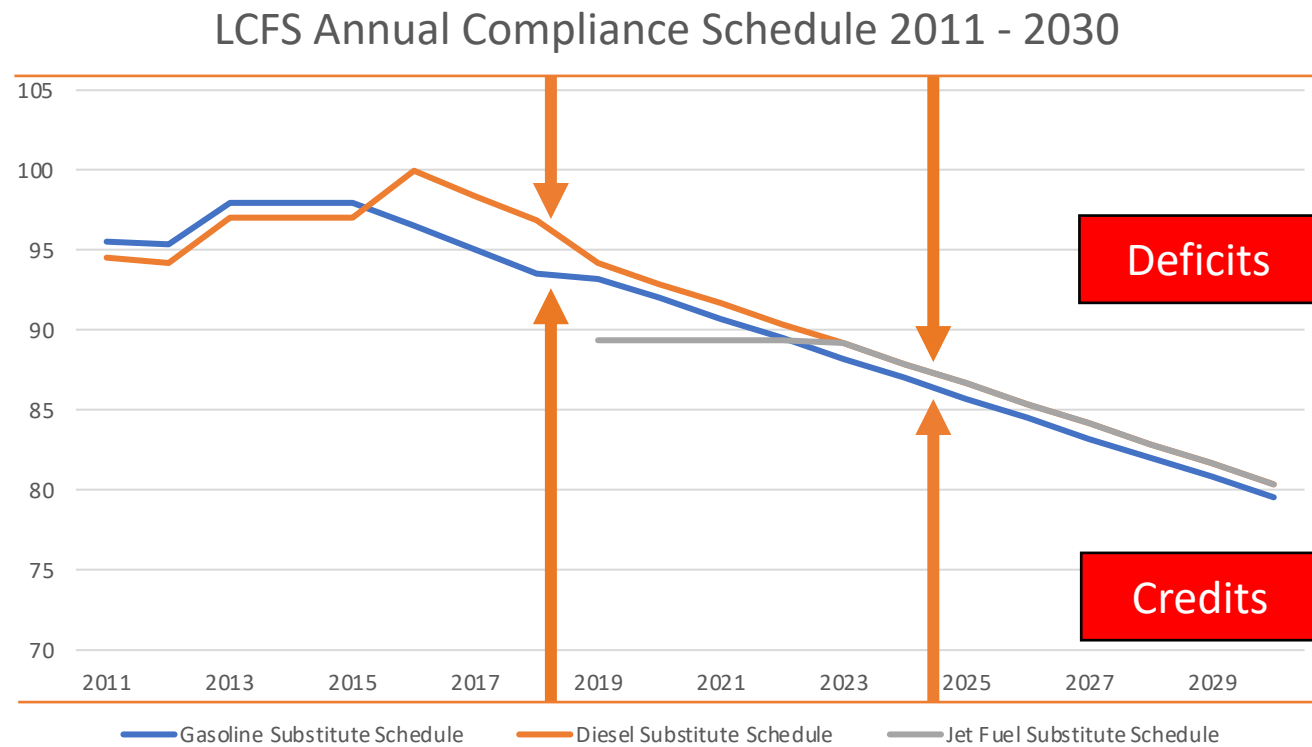
Carbon intensities based on composite of gasoline and diesel fuels

[Source](#)

# California Market Demands LCFS Credits Due to Annual Compliance Schedule



- LCFS credits in high demand in California due to steep annual compliance goals of LCFS program
- Deficits made worse because renewable fuels earn fewer credits over time. Three potential solutions:
  - More renewable fuel
  - Less fossil fuel
  - Lower CI fuel
- Continuous improvement necessary to stay competitive in LCFS Market

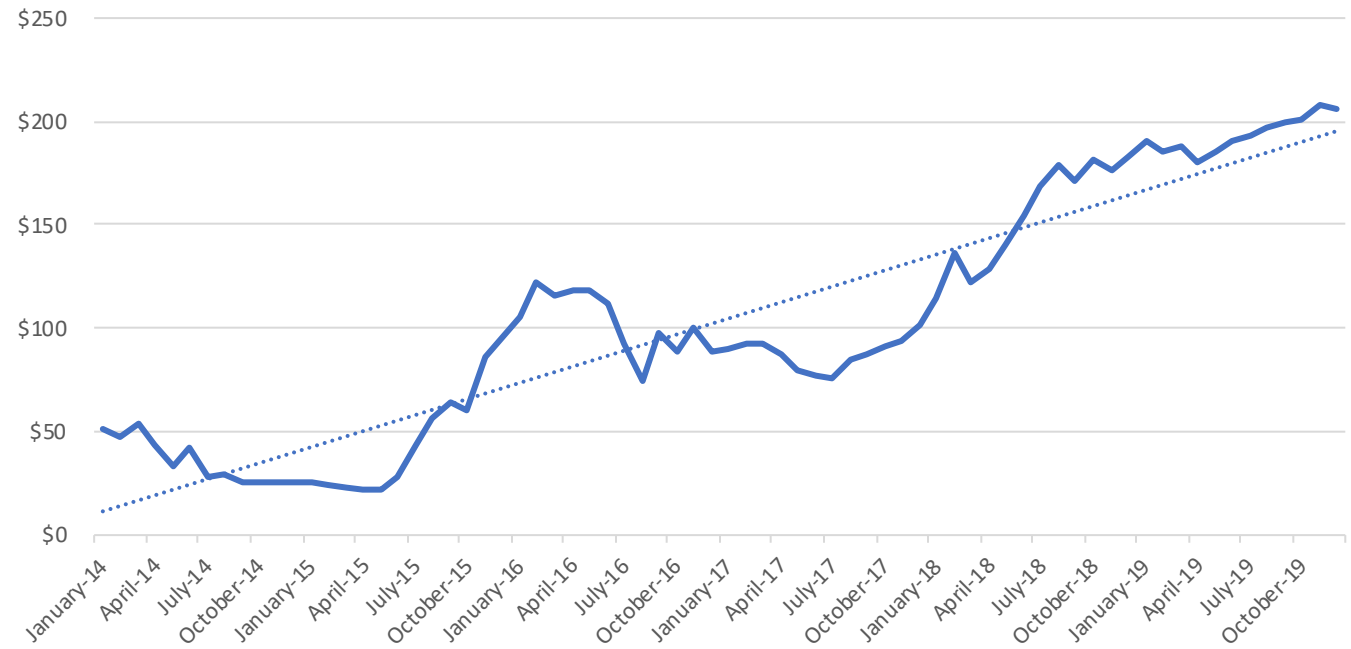




# LCFS Credit Characteristics

- \$200 price ceiling (adjusted for inflation)
- No floor
- No expiration date
- Brokers can represent regulated parties, but cannot take title to credits or act independently

Average Monthly LCFS Credit Price – December 2019  
(\$ per Credit)





# CI score Has a Direct Impact on Credit and Revenue Generation

Diesel Compliance Year	RNG CI Under LCFS	RNG Volume* (ft <sup>3</sup> )	Market Value of CI Credits	Number of LCFS Credits generated	Total Value of Credits	\$/MMBtu
2019	-275	1,000,000	\$185.00	373	\$68,900	\$68.97
2019	0	1,000,000	\$185.00	83	\$15,300	\$15.30
2019	20	1,000,000	\$185.00	61	\$11,400	\$11.39
2019	40	1,000,000	\$185.00	40	\$7,500	\$7.49



# The Significance of the RFS and LCFS to RNG Projects

## Value of WWTP RNG (D3 + LCFS)

Value of Gas	\$3.00	10%
Value of Federal Credits (RINs) - \$1.65	\$19.35	60%
Value of California Credits (LCFS) - \$190 MT, 30 CI	\$10.00	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$32.35</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Value of Food Waste (D5, No LCFS)

Value of Gas	\$3.00	36%
Value of Federal Credits (RINs) - \$0.45 D5 RIN	\$5.25	64%
Value of California Credits (LCFS)	\$ -	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8.25</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Value of Dairy RNG (D3 + LCFS)

Value of Gas	\$3.00	3%
Value of Federal Credits (RINs) - \$1.65	\$19.35	22%
Value of California Credits (LCFS) - \$190 MT, -250 CI	\$65.00	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$87.35</b>	<b>100%</b>



Creating sustainable solutions for a better tomorrow

Please reach out with any questions:  
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