

# Alternative Fuels

## CAC Workgroup

### Meeting #6

August 10, 2022



# Agenda

Housekeeping

Qualitative Assessment of Emissions from Alternative Fuels

Policy considerations

Discussion: Review Waste Sector Strategies

# Qualitative Assessment of Emissions

Discuss revised draft assessment tool

# Waste Sector Strategies

## *W4. Water Resource Recovery Facility Conversion*

### Components of the Strategy

- **Beneficial use:** The State should support beneficial use of biosolids and renewable biogas, recognizing that water treatment process waste generation is unavoidable.
- **Optimize anerobic digestion:** The State should operate co-digestion programs at anaerobic digesters with existing capacity and include difficult to compost organics such as post-consumer food scraps and fats, oils, and grease.
- **Implement co-digestion:** The State should support increased pre-processing and de-packaging capacity throughout the State to capture more organic waste from products that are packaged, but are no longer suitable for public sale.
- **Research co-pollutants:** The State should evaluate the extent and impact of co-pollutants such as emerging contaminants.

# Waste Sector Strategies

## *W7. Reduce Fugitive Emissions from Water Resource Recovery Facilities*

### Components of the Strategy

- **Capture and beneficially reuse fugitive biogas:** DEC, EFC, and NYSERDA should work with local utilities and municipalities to repair and consistently operate WRRF flares, boilers, engines, or other equipment on-site and evaluate captured biogas potential to identify strategic beneficial uses before flaring excess capacity. DEC should also require additional emissions monitoring regulations and oversight.
- **Monitoring:** DEC should perform emissions monitoring and updates at WRRFs and septic systems.
- **Ensure proper maintenance of septic systems at the municipal level:** The State should enact legislation to establish a municipal funding mechanism (paid for by homeowners) to allow contractual services for routine maintenance on septic systems.
- **Encouraging transition to sewer:** EFC should repurpose existing septic sewer assistance programs to include sewer hookups to defray high up-front costs of sewerage.
- **Operator training:** The State should provide financial support and job training to wastewater system operators.
- **Research:** DEC should research nitrous oxide emissions profile of WRRFs.

# Waste Sector Strategies

## *W9. Biogas Use*

### Components of the Strategy

- **Strategic use of biogas:** NYSERDA and PSC, along with utilities, should evaluate strategic and local uses of generated fuels, electricity, or other energy produced from biogas for essential needs during the transition to electrification and other low-emissions energy sources. This evaluation should stress the use of fuel cells for electricity in lieu of generators or pipeline use, fuel uses in the waste transportation sector, electric co-location or cogeneration opportunities for energy/heat intensive industries, hard to electrify users, heat for buildings, and difficult to electrify medium and heavy-duty transportation.
- **Funding for organics recycling infrastructure:** NYSERDA and PSC, along with utilities, should identify energy pricing models and conduct a market-based study for waste-generated biogas. The State should also provide a funding mechanism to support an organics recycling infrastructure.
- **Research:** DEC should complete a comprehensive landfill gas and WRRF emissions research study. The study should evaluate emissions monitoring techniques, quantify fugitive emissions, and evaluate the most appropriate uses for the gas during the transition to statewide electrification.

# Next Steps