

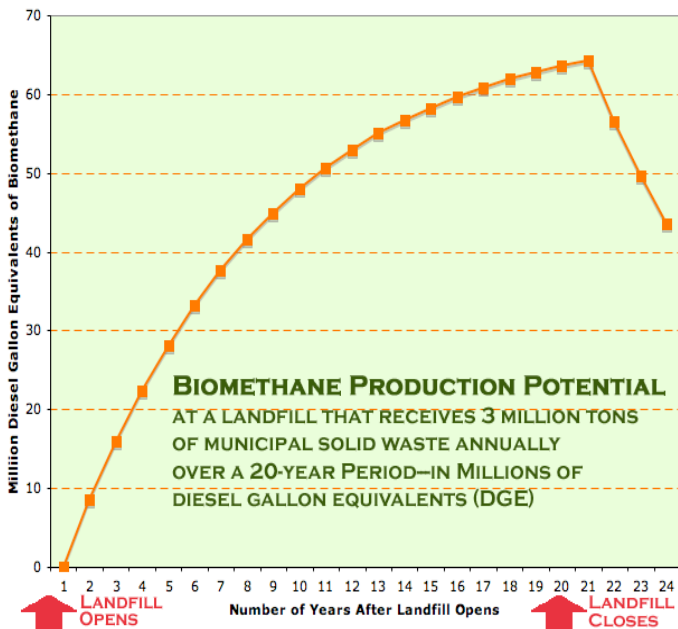
Appendix 10

Wasted Fuel Potential of Residential Trash in New York City

In 2009, Energy Vision analyzed the costs to New York City of shipping residential waste to distant landfills – \$325 million per year – and compared these costs to the potential gains to the city of converting this waste to biomethane fuel for heavy duty fleets. The analysis assumed (conservatively) the annual collection and shipment to landfills of 3 million tons of municipal solid waste (MSW).

If all this waste were placed in one huge landfill over a 20-year span, more than 60 million “diesel gallon equivalents” of compressed or liquefied natural gas fuel could be produced annually at peak. (Chart 1) This would be enough fuel to drive more than 10,700 vehicles. (Chart 2)

Chart 1: Biomethane Production Potential of NYC Residential Waste



This production model was developed for Energy Vision by Greg McCarron at SCS Engineers and Robert Simkins, Director, Burlington County (NJ) Resource Recovery Complex. As applied to New York City, the model assumes that the residential putrescible waste collected each year by the Department of Sanitation equals 3 million tons. This is somewhat less than the actual tonnage so as not to overstate the biomethane production potential. Commercial putrescible waste collected by private haulers, if included in this model, would approximately double the production estimates.

Chart 2. “Refuse Truck Equivalents” that Could Be Fueled by Biomethane Fuel Made from NYC’s Residential Waste

