# Central Plant GHG Emissions Reduction Options

- Increase efficiency of existing operations (high efficiency burners, modern controls and/or VFDs)
- Convert from coal to No. 2 oil or gas
- Convert from oil or gas to a biogenic fuel like landfill gas or digester gas.
- Convert from oil or gas to a biogenic fuel like wood waste.
- A new option is available to convert to biogenic Renewable Fuel Oil (RFO)







## **RFO Conversion at a Glance**

- RFO is a liquid biomass fuel made from wood waste products
- Because RFO is considered to be biogenic, greenhouse gas emissions from RFO are 88% lower than heavy oil, and 81% lower than natural gas.
- NOx and CO emissions are similar to natural gas and typically less then No. 2 oil.
- Virtually any firetube or watertube boiler can be converted to fire RFO.



• Cost per Btu is less than No. 2 oil, but typically more expensive than natural gas







# Typical GHG "life cycle" GHG Factors for Combustion

Energy Component	GHG emission factor	
Oil	207 #/MMBTU	
Natural Gas	141 #/MMBTU	
Electricity	0.7 to 1.6 #/kwh	
RFO	25.7 #/MMBTU	





Memorial Hospital

Youngstown Thermal

Bates College



# Memorial Hospital North Conway, NH





- Objective was to reduce costs and be "green"
- Contract for long term supply of RFO signed April, 2014, first deliveries began summer of 2014.
- Designed to operate on RFO with #4 oil backup. Provides fuel optionality
- First winter was coldest Feb. on record, and RFO was exclusive fuel.
- RFO has been the primary fuel since August of 2014
- Annual RFO use is approximately 300,000 gallons. First year target savings of \$160,000 realized



### **Memorial Hospital**

- Two 200 HP Cleaver Brooks boilers
- Retrofits installed
  - 15,000 gallon free standing double walled SS storage tank
  - RFO unloading module
  - Fuel delivery system
  - 2 Cleaver Brooks OEM RFO/4 oil burners- 8.45 MMBTU/hr each
  - Cleaver Brooks control system
- Operational plan RFO as primary fuel, with 4 oil backup
- Efficiency over 87% <4 ppm CO levels- good combustion</p>
- Over 700,000 gallons of RFO consumed to date
- Approximate GHG reduction 24,000 MT





## **RFO Easily Integrated with Existing Infrastructure**



- 15,000 gallon stainless steel storage tank
- Fuel unloading module
- Insulated above ground piping

- Cleaver Brooks OEM dual fuel burners
- Redundant fuel piping
- Integrated CB controls







## Memorial Hospital Delivery System, Burner and Controls









## **Youngstown Thermal**





- 4 boilers -nominal 120,000 MMBTU hour heat input
  - 3 coal, 1 natural gas
  - Converted natural gas boiler to dual fuel- Nat gas/ RFO
- Retrofit includes
  - 40,000 gallon single wall SS storage tank, with containment
  - 2 nominal 60 MMBTU/hr dual fuel burners
  - Fuel delivery skid
- Marked efficiency improvement- low CO levels
- Full commercial operations- savings being realized





#### Youngstown Thermal Retrofit











#### Youngstown Thermal Fuel Delivery System







## Youngstown Thermal Dual Fuel Burners





- Burners designed for natural gas and RFOany combination
- Two burners fired into one furnace each with a nominal capacity 60MMBTU/hr
- Third party source tested at 65 ppm NOx, 0.2 ppm SO2, 3.1 ppm CO, and 0.1 ppm VOC





## Youngstown Thermal MCC, BMS, and Controls







ENSYN



#### Youngstown Thermal RFO Fuel Guns







## Bates College Lewiston, Maine



- Signed ACUPCC pledge May 16, 2007
- Pledge date for Carbon neutrality 2020
- Scope 1 GHG emissions were approximately 40% of total of Scope 1-3
- Central steam plant represents approximately 70% of the Scope 1 emissions
- Committed to initially replace ~ 70% of fuel mix at CP with RFO, added fuel redundancy



- Resulted initially in an annual reduction of over 80 % of CP GHG emissions from 3080 MTCO2e to 532 MTCO2e
- Bates will additionally save > \$600,000 over the life of the contract





#### **Bates College**



- 3-700 HP boilers, natural gas and 2 oil fired
  - Conversion of 1 boiler initially, with plans to convert a second boiler-Preferred Utility burner integrated with existing Preferred Utilities controls
  - Fuel delivery skid sized for 2 boilers
  - 20,000 gallon double wall SS storage tank
  - Steam to hot water module
- Operational plan is to run one boiler on RFO, 2 boilers on standby on natural gas and 2 oil- anticipate this will be sufficient for all but very peak loads.
- Fully operational- < 4 ppm CO running at 85%+ efficiency





#### Burner Assembly – 29.4 MMBTU per hour







# Fuel Delivery Skid & Storage Tank



- Duplex pumps & strainers
- Heat exchanger
- Motor control center
- Instrumentation
- Recirculation valving
- Separate fuel unloading skid





- Double wall storage tank (20,000 gallon of capacity)
- High and low level alarms
- Flame Arrestor



#### Feedstock Requirements

- Feedstock comes from either harvest residues or commercial thinnings from a sustainably managed forest.
- Harvest residues would most likely either be left in the forest or burned in the forest if not used for RFO
- Forester is required to provide an affidavit that feedstock has met the above criteria and that the feedstock did not originate from environmentally sensitive land or government owned land.
- Each batch of fuel has a certificate that follows it which details where the feedstock originated.
- Our feedstock suppliers are generally larger logging operations because they have the ability to provide the necessary certification for the RFS2 program.









Depending upon guality and

16' - Saw log - sent to sawmil





#### **RFO Produces Significant Environmental Benefits**

- RFO is a direct substitute for fossil fuels
- RFO provides fiber owners with an opportunity to enhance their sustainable forest management practices
- Greater use of sustainable forest management practices reduces the wildfire risk to timber and forest stands
- RFO is considered to be "biogenic' for GHG emission purposes







#### Woody Biomass to High Value Products



ENSYN



# What is RFO?

- RFO is a homogeneous, organic liquid obtained from the thermal conversion of biomass
- Has the appearance of motor oil
- It is polar in nature and does not readily mix with hydrocarbons
- pH >2.5, specific gravity of 1.2
- Contains less metals and sulfur than petroleum liquids
- Accepted as a biogenic fuel



#### **RFO Specification Sheet**

Property	Analytical Method	Typical
Water Content	ASTM E203 (Karl Fisher titration)	<24 wt%
pH	ASTM E70-07	>2.5
Density @ 15 °C	A STM D4052	10.0 lb/USgal
Specifc Gravity @ 15 °C		1.20
Kinematic Viscosity @ 40 °C	A STM D445	25 cSt
Higher (Gross) Heating Value, Moisture Free	A STM D240	9905 Btu/lb
Higher (Gross) Heating Value, As-Is	Calculated	7528 Btu/lb
Lower (Net) Heating Value	Calculated	6842 Btu/lb
Solids Content	A STM D7579	0.1 wt%
Pour Point	A STM D97	-13 °F
Elemental Analysis (moisture & ash free)		
Carbon	A STM D5291	54.87 wt%
Hydrogen	A STM D5291	6.67 wt%
Nitrogen	A STM D5291	0.16 wt%
Sulphur	A STM D4294	<0.05 wt%
Oxygen	Calculated, by difference	38.25 wt%
Ash	A STM D482	<0.15 wt%





#### RFO – Made Elsewhere but Will Be Stored Locally

- Existing facility outside of Ottawa Ontario, Quebec facility comes on line in late 2017
- Current projects under development are located in three distinct regions [7] states in the US
- Initial RFO volumes will be made outside of Massachusetts but will be stored in the immediate vicinity. No different than petroleum-based heating oils that are stored in Boston Harbor, Portsmouth, etc.





