# Use of Distillers By-Products & Corn Stover as Fuels for Ethanol Plants



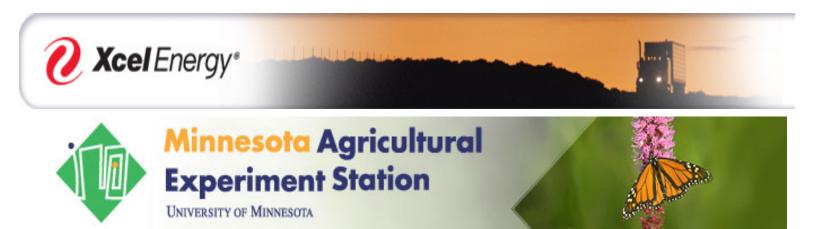
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## Project Objectives

- Determine Technical Feasibility of Using Biomass to Provide Process Heat and Electricity at Ethanol Plants
- Determine Economics of Competing Choices of Feedstocks and Technologies under Various Economic Conditions
- 3. Our Sponsors:



### Today's Discussion

- Review Methods for Economic Comparisons of "Technology Bundles" and levels of biomass intensity
- Review Baseline Conditions; Defend my Assumptions
  - -Fed. Renewable Energy Credit
  - -Low Carbon Fuel Standard Premiums
- Demonstrate the impact of specific variables on ROR of the "technology bundles."



## Participating Plants

- Ace Ethanol----- Stanley, WI
- Badger State Ethanol-----Monroe, WI
- Corn Plus----- Winnebago, MN
- Chippewa Valley----- Benson, MN
- Agri-Energy------Luverne, MN

AGRI-ENERGY, LLC We Buy Corn





CHIPPEWA VALLEY ETHANOL COMPANY, LLC.

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### Focus on Economic Analysis

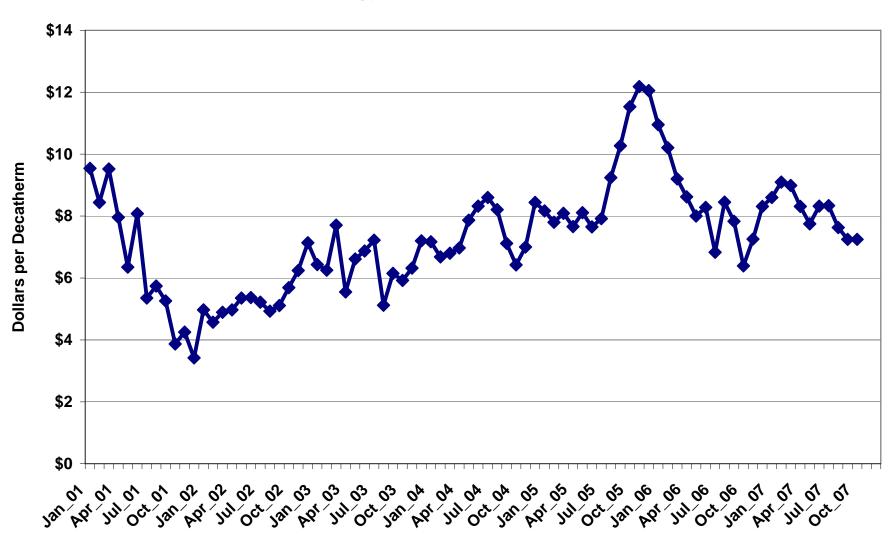
- 1. Economic analysis <u>after</u> technical steps of biomass characterization, emissions control standards, Aspen Plus estimation of machine capacities for individual technology bundles.
- 2. Capital Costs estimated by AMEC.
- 3. Spreadsheets were developed to model the ROR's on investment needed to replace natural gas with biomass fuels in dry-grind ethanol plants for various technology bundles and fuels.
- 4. Sensitivity analysis of key variables was conducted.

### What Everyone Knows----

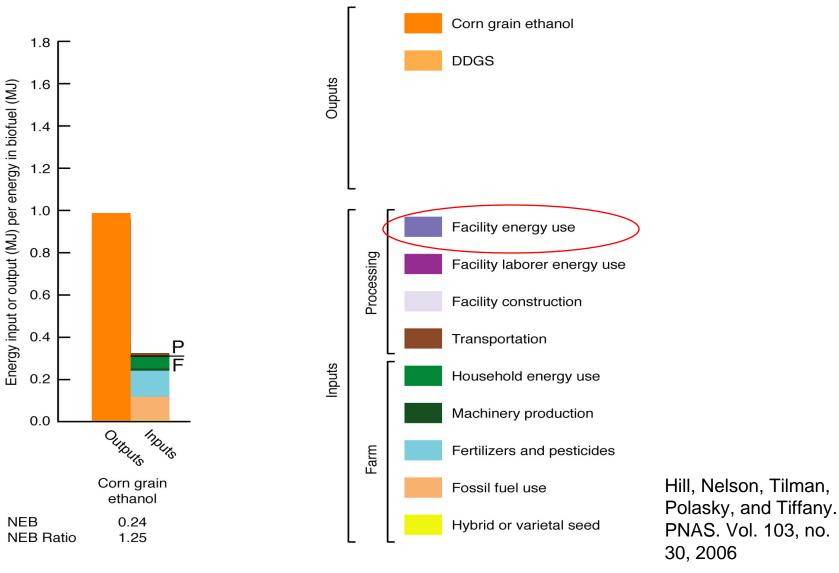
- Natural Gas is a great fuel.
- except for price levels and volatility. At higher NG prices, ethanol profits are threatened.
- Natural Gas is the second largest cost of ethanol production after corn in typical dry-grind plants.
- Natural Gas is a fossil fuel; contributes GHG.



### Iowa natural Gas Industrial Price (Source: Energy Information Administration)



## Motivations for Using Biomass

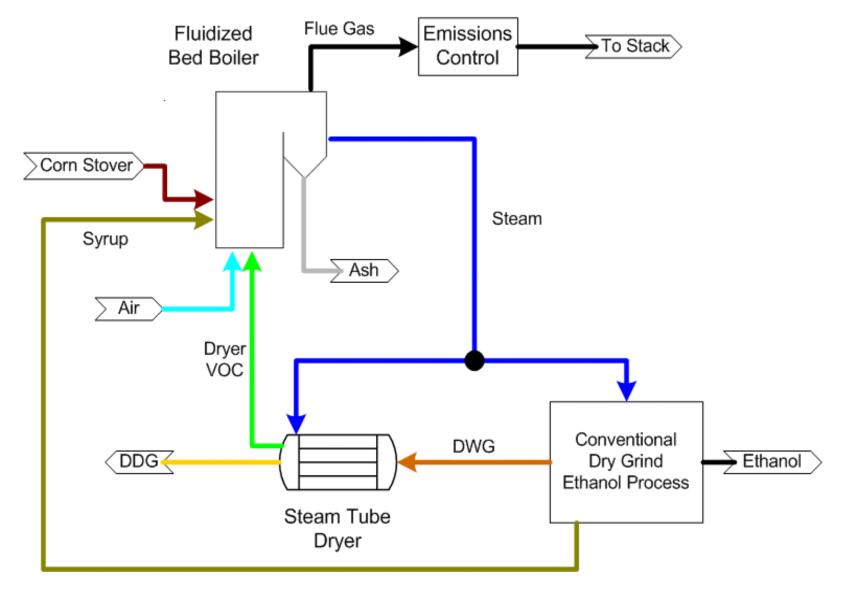


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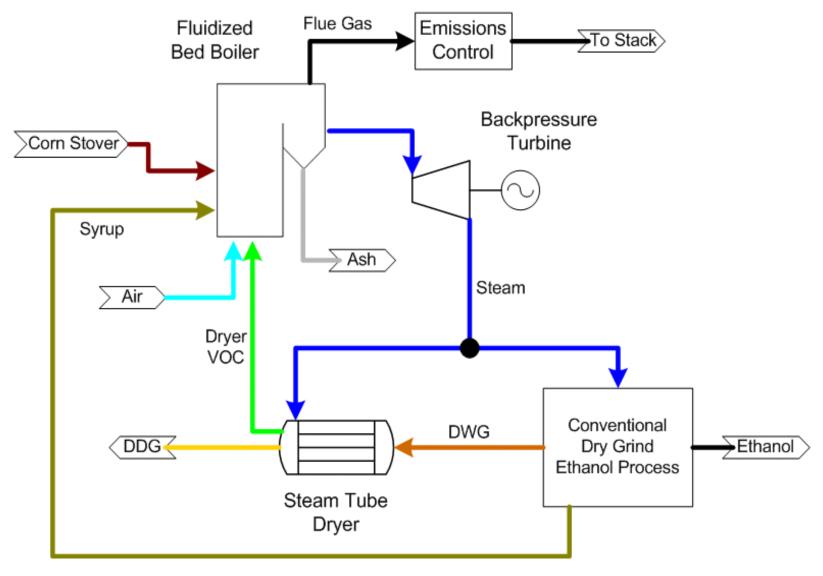
## Motivations for Using Biomass

- Potential to improve Renewable Energy Ratio
  - Defined as: Energy Out / Fossil Energy In
- Potential for 2.4 to 4.8 Renewable Energy Ratio depending on conversion efficiency (Morey et al. 2006)
- Generate reliable power for the grid
- Lower the overall greenhouse gas emissions from ethanol production

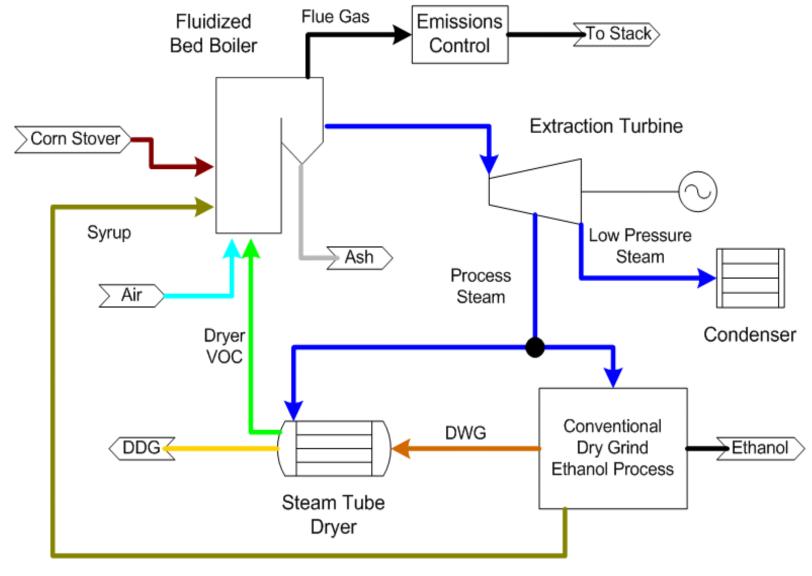
### Syrup + Stover-Level #1



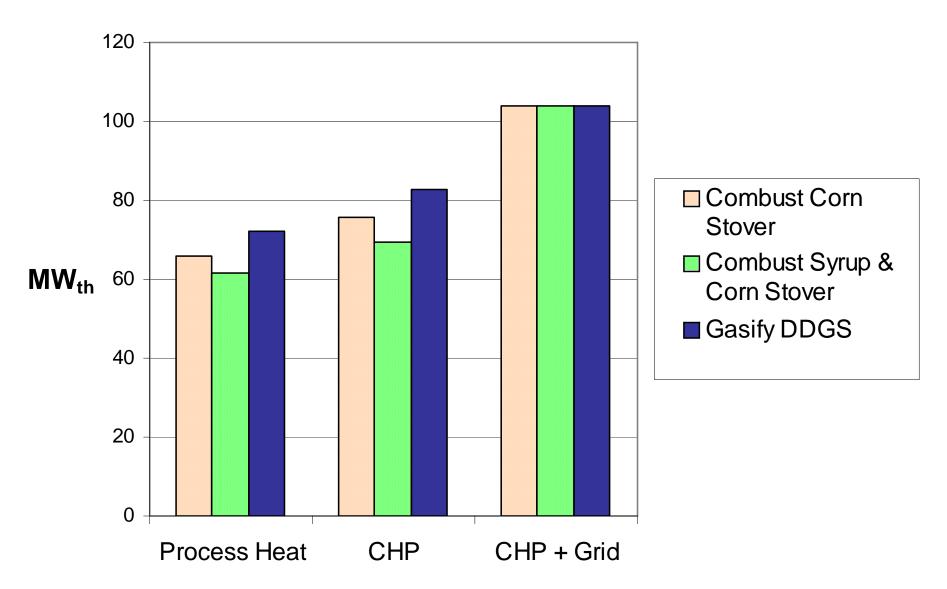
### Syrup + Stover-Level #2



### Syrup + Stover-Level #3

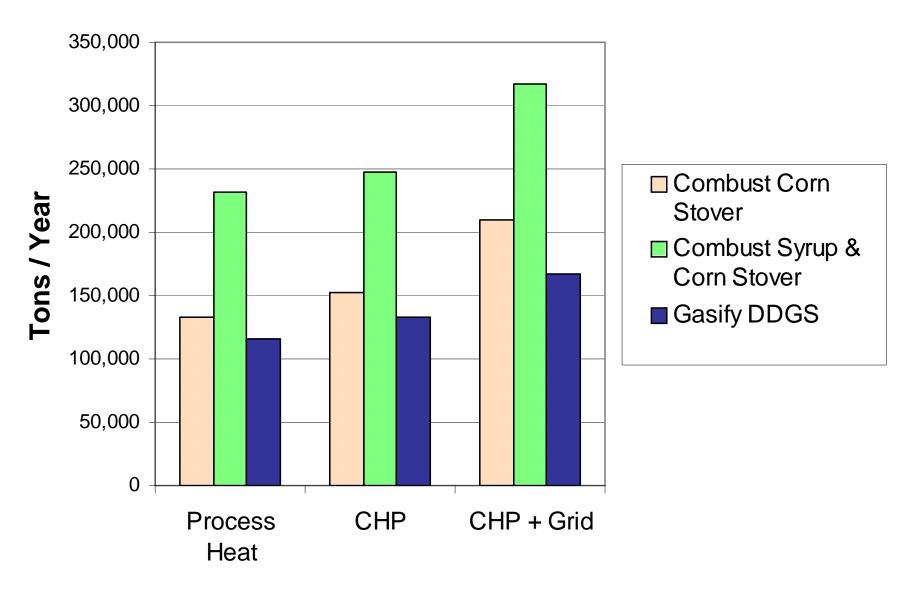


### **Biomass Fuel Energy Input (HHV)**



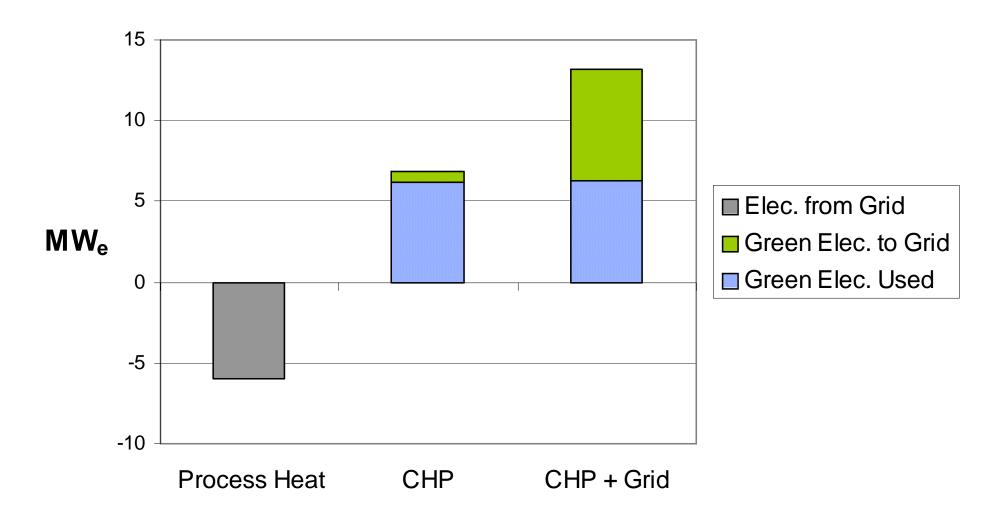
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#### **Biomass Fuel Use (Wet Basis)**

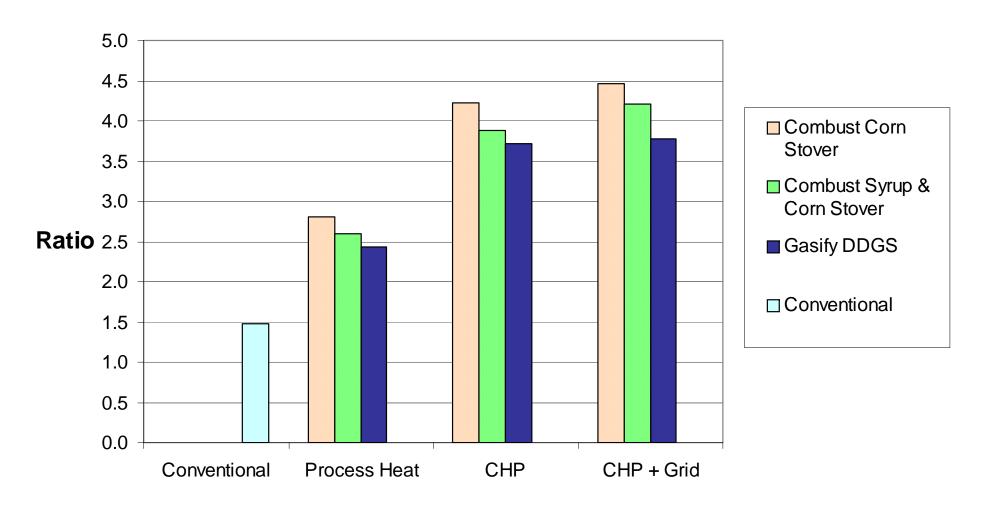


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### **Corn Stover Combustion: Electricity Balance**



#### **Renewable Energy Ratio (LHV)**



## Establishing Baseline Assumptions



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### **Biomass Has Costs**

 Opportunity Costs as Feed, Bedding, or Soil Enhancer

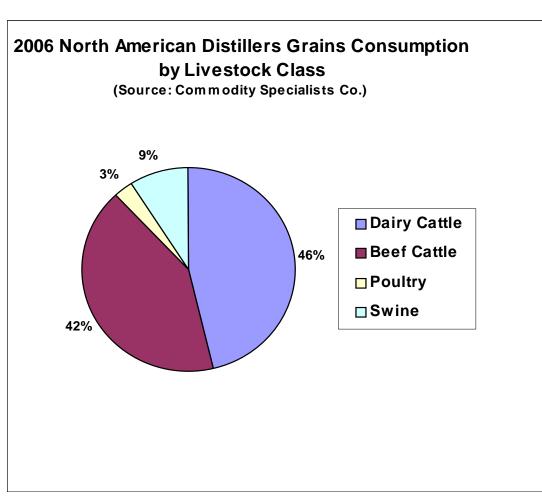
Procurement Costs

Transportation

- Storage
- Handling
- Emissions
- Ash Disposal
- However----, reliable, well-located supplies
- Stover Baseline at \$80 / Ton (densified)
- The Economics of Harvesting and Transporting Corn Stover for Conversion to Fuel Ethanol: A Case Study for Minnesota Petrolia, Daniel R.

### Distillers Dried Grains and Solubles

- Mid-level protein
- 28% Crude Protein
- 8.8% Fat
- 8.3% Fiber
- Poorer bulk density than corn
- Subject to greater variation than soybean meal

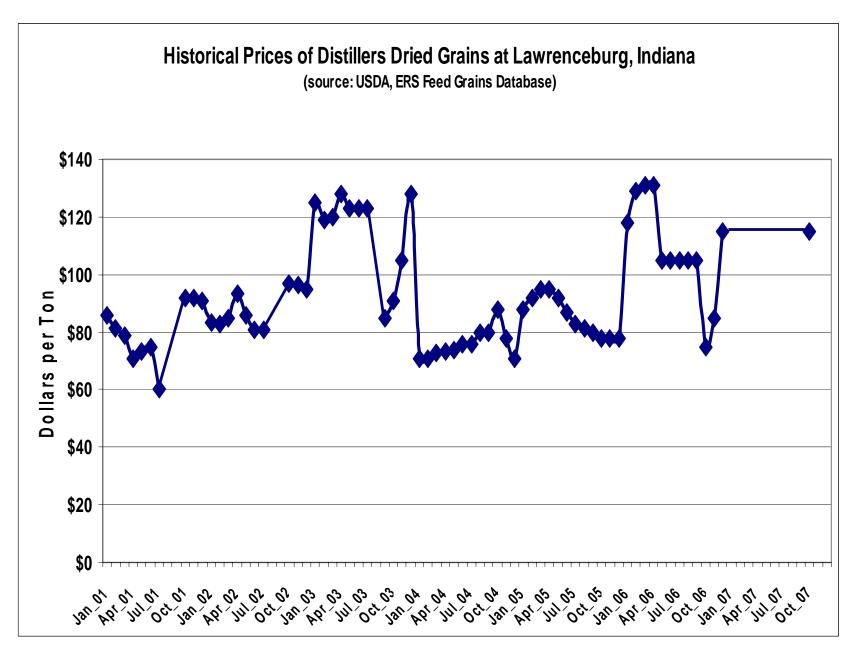


# When producing 10 Billion Gallons of Ethanol, 28.3 Million Metric tons of Co-Product Feeds with be Available by 2010/11

### Co-Product Usage Possibilities for U.S. Animal Species

(Based on Geoff Cooper, NCGA, Distillers Grains Quarterly, 1st 2006)

	Grain-Consuming Animal Units	1,000 metric Tons by % Market Penetration			
	(Millions)	In Diet	50%	75%	100%
Dairy	10.2	20%	1,887	2,831	3,774
Beef	24.8	40%	9,176	13,764	18,352
Pork	23.8	20%	4,348	6,521	8,695
Poultry	31.1	10%	2,877	4,315	5,754
Total			18,288	27,431	36,575



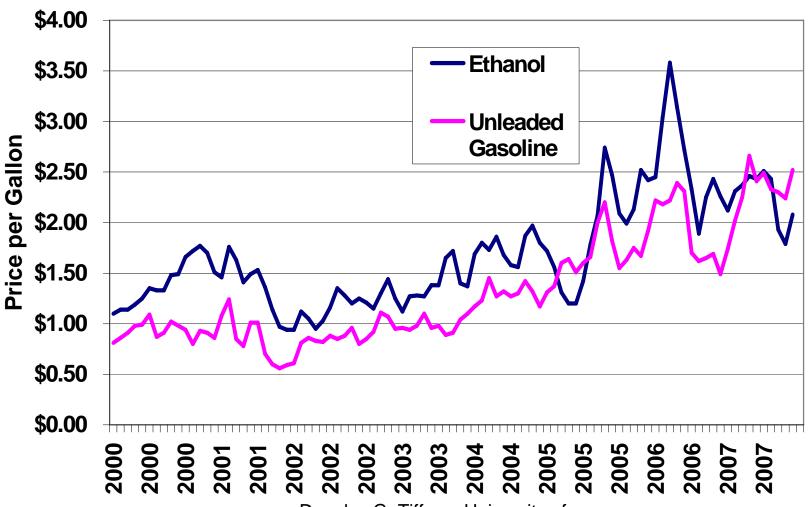
## **Ethanol Prices**



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## Ethanol and Unleaded Gasoline Rack Prices F.O.B. Omaha, Nebraska, 2000-2007

Sources: Nebraska Ethanol Board, Nebraska Energy Office



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# The Ethanol Prices Received at the Plant May Approach BTU substitute level plus Blenders Credit of \$.51/ gallon.

• Ethanol prices <u>used to have</u> a premium of \$0.25 over the wholesale price of gasoline, but seems to be headed for equivalence as a BTU substitute.

Refiners Acquisition Cost \$/Barrel	Wholesale Gasoline <u>Price \$/Gallon</u> *	Ethanol Price Indicated as BTU substitute with VEETC
50	1.49	1.50
60	1.78	1.70
70	2.07	1.89
80	2.36	2.08
90	2.65	2.28
100	2.94	2.47

<sup>\*</sup>Wholesale price of Regular gasoline = \$0.036 + \$0.029(Price of Crude oil/bbl)

Source: McCullough, Robert and Daniel Etra. When Farmers Outperform Sheiks: Why Adding Ethanol to the U.S. Fuel Mix Makes Sense. McCullough Research, Portland, Oregon, April, 2005, 12pp

# Ethanol Industry Is Expected to Continue Expanding Until Profits are Diminished by Higher Capital and Operating Costs, especially Corn Price:

 Net cost per gallon of ethanol depends on price of corn and fuel for the plant

•	<u> </u>	Net Cost /Gallon For New Construction			
•	Corn Price	50mmgpy	<u>100mmgpy</u>		
•	\$2.00	\$1.40	\$1.31		
•	3.00	1.64	1.55		
•	4.00	1.88	1.79		
•	5.00	2.12	2.03		
•	6.00	2.36	2.27		

- Each increase of \$1.00 per mmbtu in Natural Gas increases the cost per gallon \$0.034
- The profit opportunities will be reduced if the blenders credit of \$0.51/gallon is reduced.

## Valuable Incentive: California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard





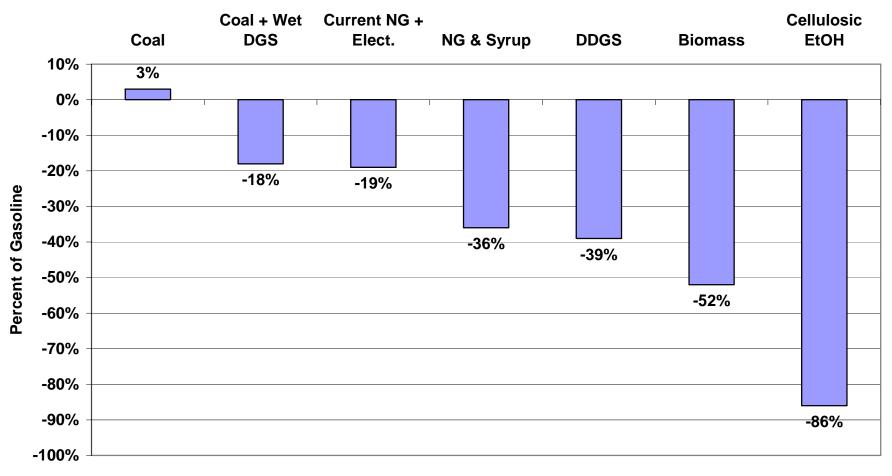
- Lower carbon intensity of fuels for passenger vehicles 10% by 2020 in grams of carbon emitted per BTU used. (LCA)
- Replace 20% of on-road gasoline with lower-carbon fuels
- Triples CA renewable fuels market
- Goal of producing 20% of biofuels in CA by 2010, 40% by 2020
- Use more hybrid vehicles
- Purchase of carbon credits from power generators who produce "low-carbon" electrons for plug-in hybrid vehicles

# California's Ethanol-Related Strategies to Achieve LCFS

- Increase blending of ethanol from today's 5.7 percent by volume to 10 percent.
- Sell high blend ethanol (85 percent ethanol, 15 percent gasoline) for use in Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFVs).
- Switch to Low-Carbon ethanol made from cellulosic materials (e.g., agricultural waste, switchgrass) that has 4-5 times lower GHG emissions than today's corn. \*
- Source: Farrell et al., "Ethanol Can Contribute to Energy and Environmental Goals," *Science*, Jan 27, 2006.

### Well to Wheels Greenhouse Gas Emissions Changes by Fuel Ethanol Relative to Gasoline

Source: Wang, Wu and Huo, Environmental Research Letters 2 (2007)



### Estimating Value of LCFS Premium

- Ethanol produced at plants using biomass for process heat and electricity can be 3 X more effective in reducing GHG than ethanol produced at conventional plants.
- One gallon of ethanol produced by using biomass can substitute for three conventional gallons.
- The shipping cost of two gallons to California (or elsewhere) can be saved.
- The premium for California delivery could be \$.40- \$.50 per gallon of biomass-processed ethanol based on current shipping costs of \$.20-\$.25 per gallon.
- For ethanol delivery to states closer to high production states, the premium should be less.
- Average shipping cost in U.S. was approximately \$.09 per gallon, (EPA, Sept. 2006), before shipping congestion worsened.
- Avg. premium if LCFS were adopted nation-wide could be approximately \$.20 per gallon.

# Technologies and Feedstocks Discussed Today

- Syrup + Stover Combusted in Fluidized Bed
- Corn Stover Combusted in Fluidized Bed
- DDGS Gasified in Fluidized Bed

### Cases: Using Biomass to Replace:

- 1. Process Heat for Plant
- Process Heat and Electricity Needs of Plant
- Process Heat, Electricity Needs of Plant with Sales to the Grid

### Additional Capital Costs

- Installed Estimates by AMEC with escalation and contingency factors applied
  - Capital Costs for Biomass Handling, Storage
  - Capital Costs of Biomass Combustion Equip.
  - Capital Costs of Electrical Generator
  - Capital Costs- Emissions Control Equipment for Biomass
  - Capital Costs for Ash Handling, Processing

# Capital Costs of Technology Bundles

	50 Million Gallon Plants		100 Million Gallon Plants			
	Capital Cost of		Cost/Nameplate	Capital Cost of		Cost/Nameplate
		Plant	Gallon	Plant		Gallon
Conventional	\$	112,500,000	\$2.25	\$	182,756,789	\$1.83
Stover1	\$	147,120,000	\$2.94	\$	238,997,145	\$2.39
Stover2	\$	162,938,000	\$3.26	\$	264,693,562	\$2.65
Stover3	\$	180,590,000	\$3.61	\$	293,369,321	\$2.93
Syrup+Stover1	\$	136,522,000	\$2.73	\$	221,780,643	\$2.22
Syrup+Stover2	\$	150,769,000	\$3.02	\$	244,924,963	\$2.45
Syrup+Stover3	\$	168,372,000	\$3.37	\$	273,521,121	\$2.74
DDGS1	\$	142,465,000	\$2.85	\$	231,435,075	\$2.31
DDGS2	\$	156,279,000	\$3.13	\$	253,875,985	\$2.54
DDGS3	\$	171,637,000	\$3.43	\$	278,825,129	\$2.79

### Revenue Gains / Cost Savings

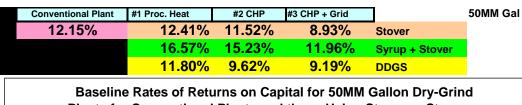
- Reduced Natural Gas Purchases
- Reduced Electricity Purchases
- Premium for "Low Carbon" Ethanol Produced (\$.20- \$.40) per gallon
- Sales of Nutrients in Ash of 0-18-28 (\$200/T.)
- Sale of Renewable Electricity to the Grid (\$.06/KWH)
- Credit for Renewable Electricity of (\$.019 /KWH)
- Potential for More Valuable DDG product without solubles (20% premium assumed)

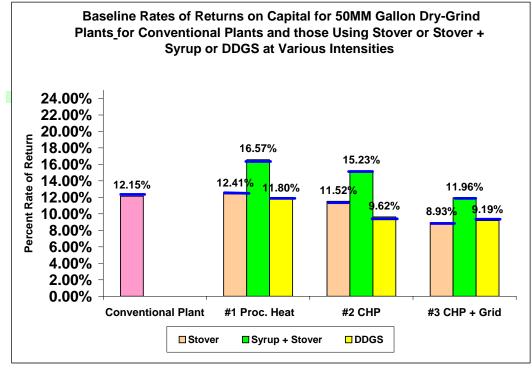
### Additional Operating Costs with Biomass

- Biomass Costs Must Include---
  - Procurement Activities for Corn Stover
  - Drying of Corn Stover / DDGS before Storage or Use
  - Densification of Stover for Transportation & Handling
  - Storage of Biomass
- Additional Labor and Maintenance
- Use of Limestone for Sulfur Capture @ \$20/ T.
- Use of Ammonia to reduce NOx @ \$500/T.

<b>Assumptions Common Across All Pro</b>	1/10/2008	
INSTALLED COSTS	Active Val.	Base Val.
Debt-Equity Assumptions		
Factor of Equity	40%	40%
Factor of Debt	60%	60%
Interest Rate Charged on Debt	8%	8%
Investor Required Return on Equity	12%	12%
Depreciation based on asset life (years)	15	15
Output Market Prices		
Ethanol Price (denatured price) \$/gal.	\$1.80	\$1.80
DDGS Price \$/T	\$100.00	\$100.00
Electricity Price (Plant is Seller) (\$ per kWh)	\$0.06	\$0.06
MN Renew. Energy Prod. Incent. (\$/kWh)	\$0.000	\$0.000
Value of Ash (\$ per Ton)	\$200.00	\$200.00
CO2 Price (\$ per Ton liq. CO2)  Max. Premium for Low-Carbon (\$.00 per gallon)	\$8.00 \$0.20	\$8.00 \$0.20
	ψ0.20	ψ0.20
Government Subsidies		
Federal Small Producer Credit (\$/gal.)	\$0.10	*
RFS Ethanol Tradable Credit (\$/gal.)	\$0.10 \$ 0.019	\$0.10
Fed. Renew Elect Cred Closed-Loop (\$/kWh)	\$ 0.019	\$0.019 0.25
Feedstock Delivered Prices Paid by Processo	or	
Corn Price (\$ per bu.)	\$3.50	\$3.50
Energy Prices		
Natural Gas Price (\$ per 1,000,000 Btu)	\$8.00	\$8.00
Stover Purchased @ (\$ per dry Ton)	\$80.00	\$80.00
Electricity Price (Plant is Buyer) (\$ per kWh)	\$0.06	*
LP (Propane) Price (\$ per gallon)	\$1.10	\$1.10
Operating Costs/Input Prices		
Denaturant Price / gal	\$1.80	\$1.80
Denat/100 gal Anhyd.	5	5
Feedstock-to-Ethanol Conversion Yields		
Ethanol Yield (anhydrous gal per bushel)	2.75	2.75
=======	2.10	2.70

### Baseline ROR's Using Installed Capital Costs for 50 MM Gallon Plant





**Years to Payback Additional Investment** 

Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid	50MM Gal
Not Applicable	7.5	9.9	27.6	Stover
	2.7	4.1	8.6	Syrup + Stover
	9.5	31.9	28.0	DDGS

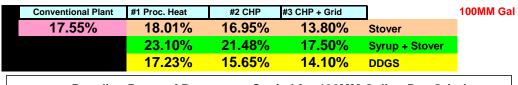
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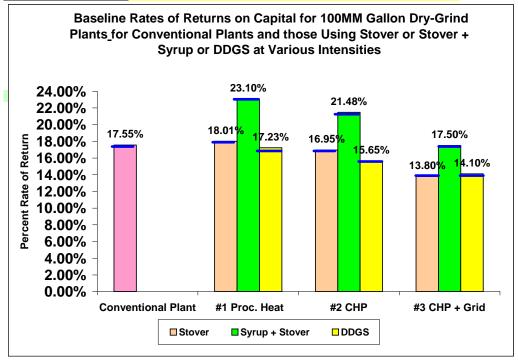
# Years to Payback: Additional Investment Above Conventional in 50MM Gallon Plants

#### **Years to Payback Additional Investment**

Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid	50MM Gal
Not Applicable	7.5	9.9	27.6	Stover
	2.7	4.1	8.6	Syrup + Stover
	9.5	31.9	28.0	DDGS

### Baseline ROR's Using Installed Capital Costs for 100 MM Gallon Plant





Years to Payback Additional Investment

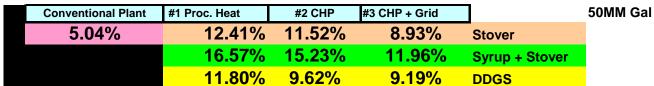
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	Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid	100MM Gal
,	Not Applicable	5.1	6.4	13.1	Stover
		2.0	3.0	5.7	Syrup + Stover
		6.2	9.3	13.3	DDGS

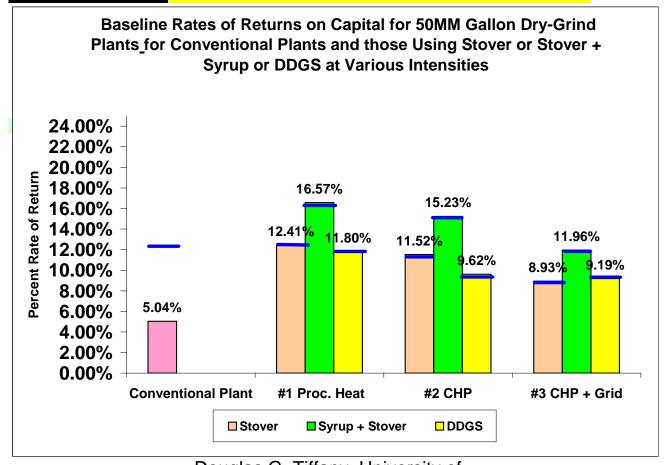
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### Testing Sensitivity of Technology Bundles

- --DDGS price
- --Corn Stover price
- --Natural gas price
- --Ethanol Price
- -- Premiums for Low-Carbon Imprint
- --Electricity Selling Price
- --Corn Price

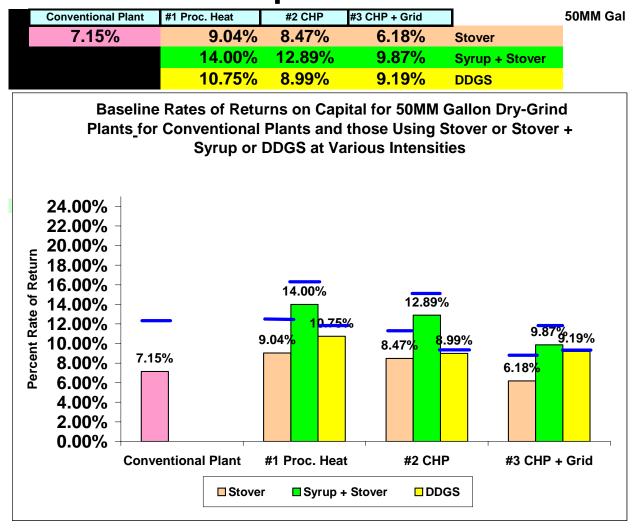
# Natural Gas Rises from \$8.00 to \$12.00 per DkTh



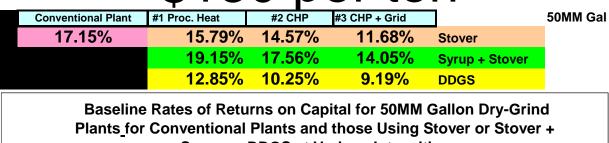


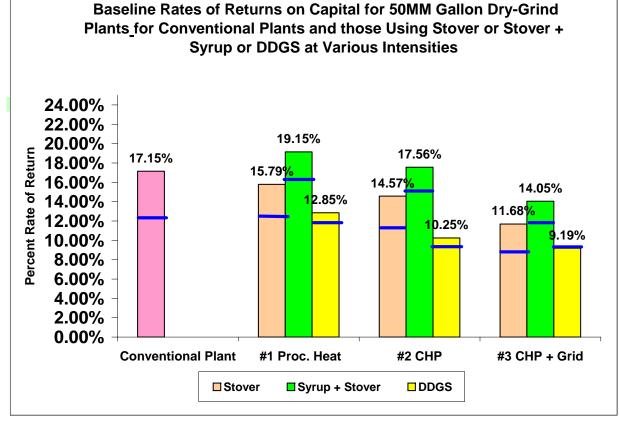
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# DDGS Price Shifts from \$100 to \$70 per Ton



# DDGS Price Rises from \$100 to \$130 per ton

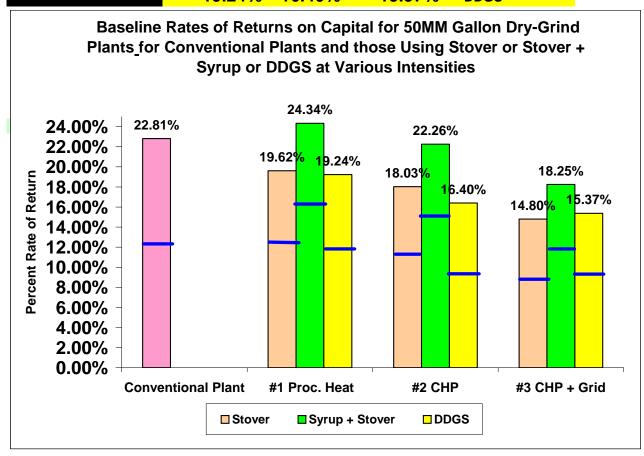




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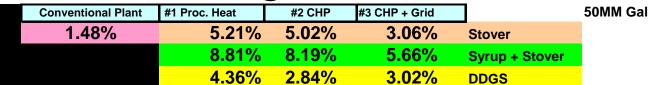
## Ethanol Price Rises from \$1.80 to \$2.00/ gal. at Plant

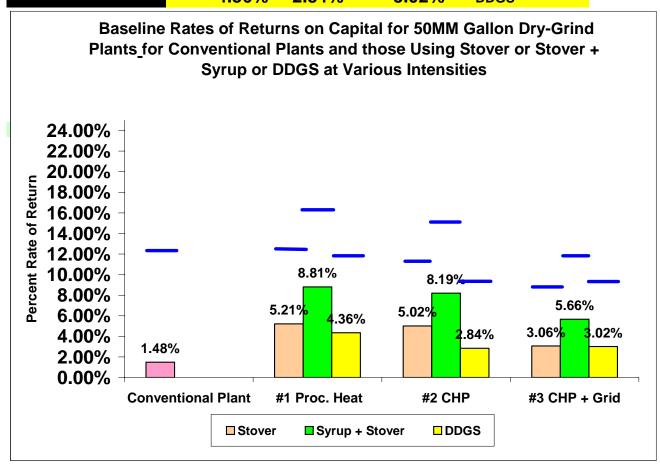
				_	
Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid		50MM Gal
22.81%	19.62%	18.03%	14.80%	Stover	
	24.34%	22.26%	18.25%	Syrup + Stover	
	19.24%	16.40%	15.37%	DDGS	



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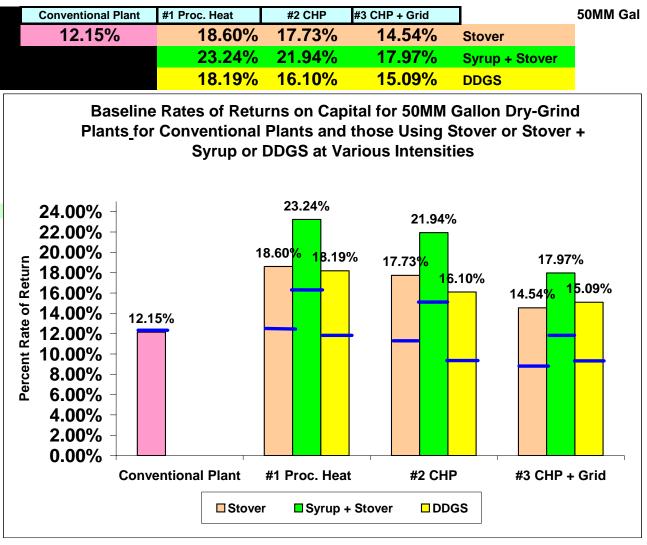
# Ethanol Price Shifts from \$1.80 to \$1.60/ gal. at Plant





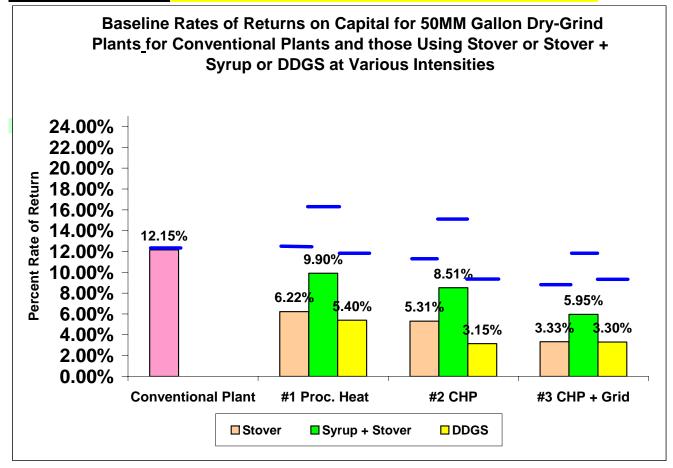
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### Low Carbon Premium Rises from \$.20 to \$.40/Gal.

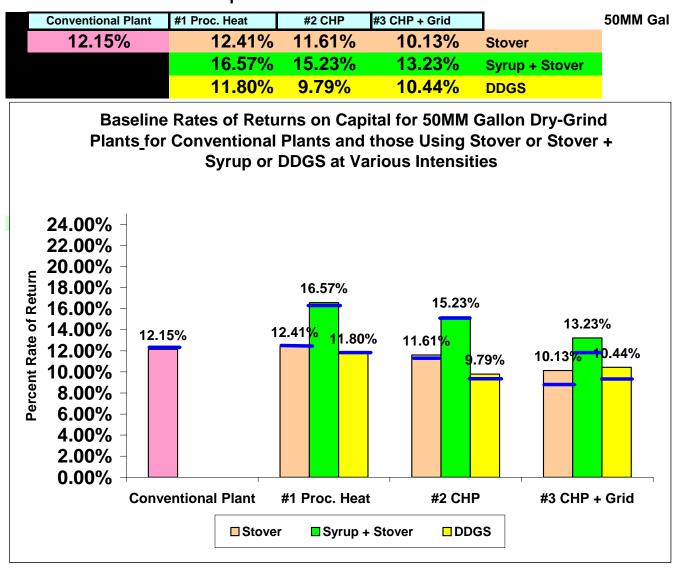


#### Low Carbon Premium is Zero

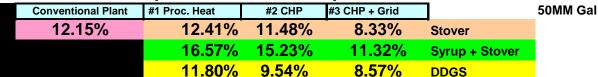
Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid		50MM Gal
12.15%	6.22%	5.31%	3.33%	Stover	
	9.90%	8.51%	5.95%	Syrup + Stover	
	5.40%	3.15%	3.30%	DDGS	

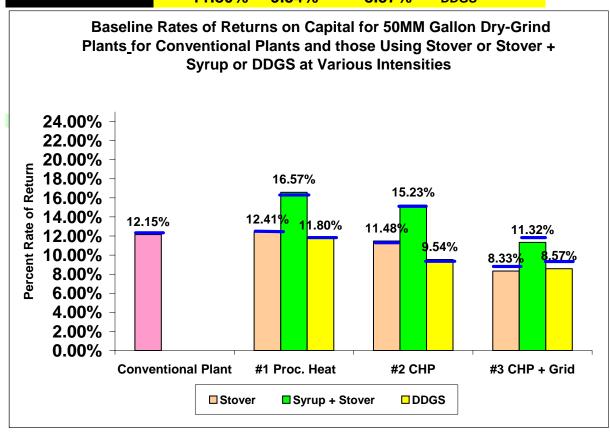


### Price for Power Produced Shifts from \$.06 to \$.10/KWH



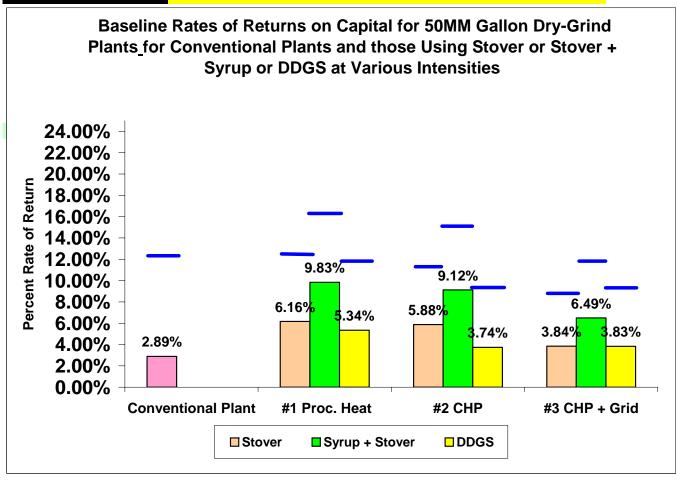
# Electricity Purchase Price Falls from \$.06 to \$.04/ KWH





#### Corn Price Shifts from \$3.50 to \$4.00/bushel

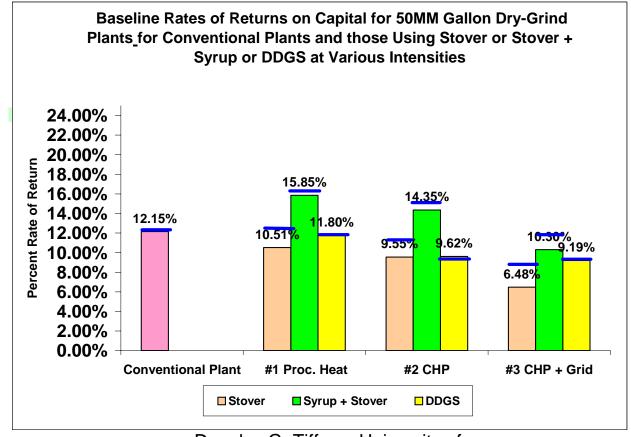
Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid		50MM Gal
2.89%	6.16%	5.88%	3.84%	Stover	
	9.83%	9.12%	6.49%	Syrup + Stover	
	5.34%	3.74%	3.83%	DDGS	



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# Stover Price Rises from \$80 to \$100 per Ton

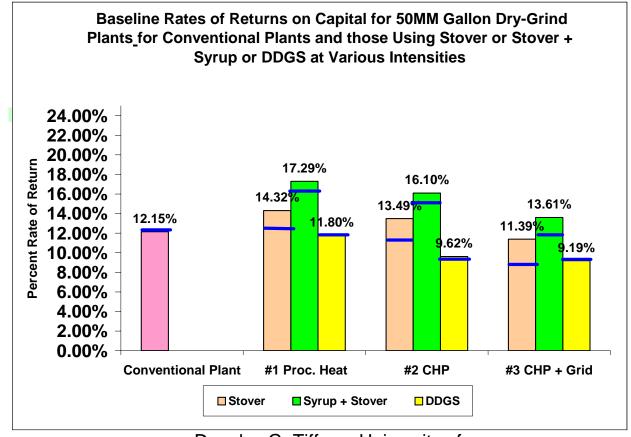
50MM G		#3 CHP + Grid	#2 CHP	#1 Proc. Heat	Conventional Plant
,	Stover	6.48%	9.55%	10.51%	12.15%
+ Stover	Syrup + Sto	10.30%	14.35%	15.85%	
	DDGS	9.19%	9.62%	11.80%	



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# Stover Price Drops from \$80 to \$60 per Ton

_			•	
50N	#3 CHP + Grid	#2 CHP	#1 Proc. Heat	Conventional Plant
Stover	11.39%	13.49%	14.32%	12.15%
Syrup + Stover	13.61%	16.10%	17.29%	
DDGS	9.19%	9.62%	11.80%	



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### IMPROVED BREAKEVENS WITH BIOMASS

 Q: How High Can Corn Price Rise with the Biomass Cases Still Breaking Even?

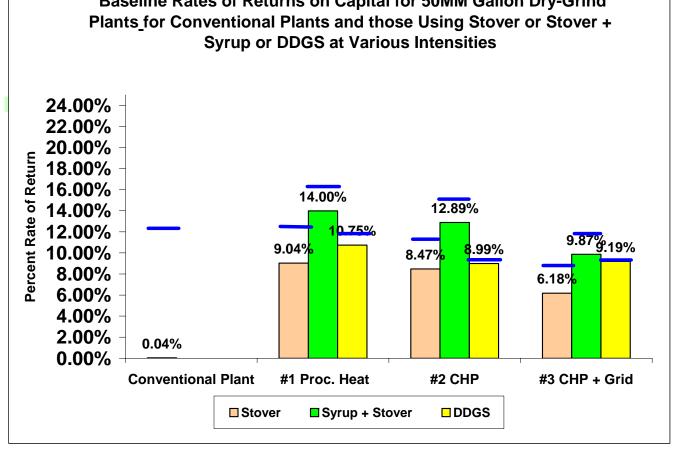
• A: \$4.74 per bushel (\$4.31in 100MM gal. plant)

 Q: How much money would the 50 MM gallon conventional plant lose at that price of corn?

A: \$12,159,424 per year.

#### Multiple Factors: \$70 DDGS, \$12.00 N.G.

Conventional Plant	#1 Proc. Heat	#2 CHP	#3 CHP + Grid		50MM Gal		
0.04%	9.04%	8.47%	6.18%	Stover			
	14.00%	12.89%	9.87%	Syrup + Stover			
	10.75%	8.99%	9.19%	DDGS			
Baseline Rates of Returns on Capital for 50MM Gallon Dry-Grind Plants for Conventional Plants and those Using Stover or Stover +							



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### Summary

- Utilization of readily available biomass in the form of by-product syrup and corn stover at drygrind ethanol plants is <u>technically feasible</u> and <u>fiscally prudent</u>, especially when policies favoring low carbon fuel standards are adopted.
- Biomass in the form of syrup, stover, DDGS and possibly other sources can be used to improve energy balance and drastically reduce the carbon footprint of ethanol produced from corn.
- Dry-grind ethanol plants of 50MM gal. per year capacity can produce and sell 5-7 MW of electricity for the grid.

#### Thanks!!

# Please Check our Website for Further Information.

www.biomassCHPethanol.umn.edu



### BIOMASS FOR ELECTRICITY AND PROCESS HEAT AT ETHANOL PLANTS

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