

California BioEnergy Workshop

**Regulatory ~~Barriers~~ Challenges to
Biogas in California: A Vision for the
Future**

April 19, 2007

Napa, California



California Environmental Protection Agency

Air Resources Board

Distributed Generation

- **What is Distributed Generation (DG)?**
- **What are examples of DG?**
- **Where are DG units located?**

Senate Bill 1298 (2000)

- Every DG unit must either be permitted by local air district or certified by ARB
- ARB must issue guidelines for permitting DG equipment
- ARB must adopt DG certification program for permit-exempt technologies
- DG units must meet large power plant BACT emission levels

Certified Equipment

2003 Standards (Expired)

- 4 microturbines

2007 Standards

- 6 fuel cells
- 1 microturbine

What About IC Engines?

- **Most local air districts permit at 50 hp or greater**
- **IC engines have undergone technical advancements in recent years**
- **CARB staff unaware of any IC engines currently meeting 2007 DG emission standards**

Senate Bill 700

- **Large ag facilities get permits from local air districts**
- **Small ag facilities are exempt from permit requirements**
- **If DG installed at small ag facilities, equipment may be subject to CARB 2007 DG emission standards**

Challenge

- **Can't get permit**
- **Can't get certified**
- **Is project in jeopardy?**

Solution

- **Most energy recovery projects at dairies would probably be considered “large,” so permits are required**
- **CARB is supportive of energy recovery projects at all dairies**
- **We are pursuing a solution for smaller facilities**

Contact Information

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