# NAPIER GRASS FOR BIOMASS AND BIOGAS PROJECTS:

### TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS FOR THAILAND



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### TOPICS





## INTRODUCTION ERDI-CMU



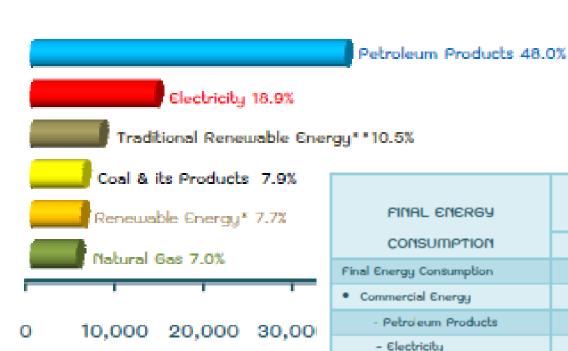
- Energy Research and Development Institute Nakornping Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand.
- Missions:
  - Core researches on bio-energy production and applications
  - Training / Engineering services (Energy technology outlet)
  - Lab testing / measurement services







## INTRODUCTION THAILAND ENERGY SITUATION IN BRIEFS





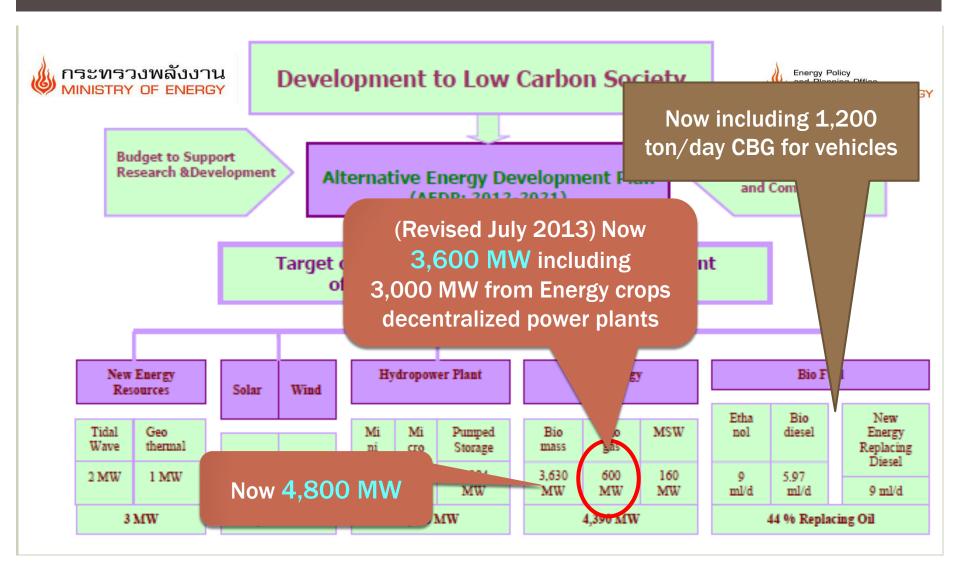
	QUANTITY		GROWTH		
FINAL ENERGY	(ktoe)			(%)	
CONSUMPTION	2010	2011	2012 <sup>P</sup>	2011	2012 <sup>P</sup>
Final Energy Consumption	70,248	70,562	73,316	0.4	3.9
Commercial Energy	56,829	57,424	59,956	1.0	4.4
- Petroleum Products	32,096	33,067	35,187	3.0	6.4
- Electricity	12,724	12,671	13,861	(0.4)	9.4
- Coal & Its Products	8,240	7,201	5,794	(12.6)	(19.5)
- Natural Gas	3,769	4,485	5,114	19.0	14.0
Renewable Energy	4,534	4,556	5,635	0.5	23.7
Traditional Renewable Energy	8,885	8,582	7,725	(3.4)	(10.0)

Source: www.dede.go.th

<sup>\*</sup> Including solar, fuel wood, charcoal, paddy husk, bagasse, agricultural waste, (IISII) and biogas.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Including fuel wood, charcoal, paddy husk and lagricultural waste.

## INTRODUCTION THAILAND ENERGY SITUATION IN BRIEFS



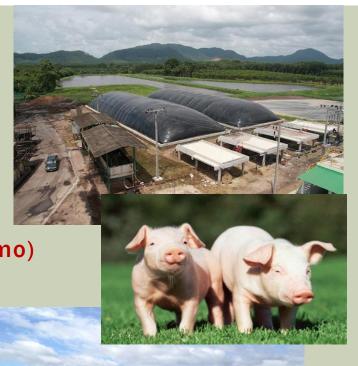
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## INTRODUCTION NERGY SITUATION



### THAILAND ENERGY SITUATION IN BRIEFS

- What had been achieved so far?
- Biogas: 68 plants 240 MW (grid connected)
  - Industries waste water (1-5 MW)
    - Palm oil, starch, Ethanol waste
  - Livestock (0.1 1 MW)
  - Energy crops : Napier Grass (Pilot / Demo)
- Biomass (grid connected)
  - Direct burning
    - 101 plants / 2,000 MW
  - Gasification
    - 10+ full commercial plants (5 MW)
  - Pyrolysis : Pilot plants
- CBG: 1 Pilot plant





### INTRODUCTION THAILAND ENERGY SITUATION IN BRIEFS



### Achieving the 2021 RE-25 target

- Biogas power plants grows from 600 MW to 3,600 MW
- Biomass power plants up to 4,800 MW

#### Possibility?

- Feedstock Availability
  - **Biomass:** 
    - Agricultural residues: rice husk, corn, sugar cane, palm; 60 Mton / year
    - Woodchips, pellets (Cost driven)
  - Biogas:
    - Waste / waste water : livestock, food processing, MSW; 600 MW
    - Energy crops / co-digestion : + 3,000 MW ??

#### Additional biomass is clearly needed !!

- Woodchips, Acacia, Jatropha, Napier grass?







- What is Napier grass?
  - Pennisetum purpureum originated from Africa
  - "High" biomass yield 40-50 tons/ha/year
- Napier grass hybrid in Thailand
  - Pennisetum purpureum cv. Pakchong1
  - Cross breed for to cope with local environments
  - 375 625 tons/ha/year at 45-60 days harvest period











#### **Gross Compositions of Fresh Napier Grass**

Component	Napier @ 45 days	Napier @ 60 days	Maize (whole crop) <sup>2</sup>
% Dry Matter	15	18	30 - 35
% Protein <sup>1</sup>	15.9	12.6	8.3 - 9.3
% Fat <sup>1</sup>	1.3	1.2	2.7 - 3.2
% Ash¹	13.7	5.8	4.1 - 5.4
% Carbohydrate <sup>1</sup>	36.5	33.3	27 - 64
% Fiber (NDF) <sup>1</sup>	35.8	42.6	36 - 54
% Lignin (ADL) <sup>1</sup>	4.14	10.3	1.6 - 2.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dry Basis

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Oechsner, U of Hohenheim







Yield comparison of Fresh Napier Grass

Component	Napier @ 45 days <sup>1</sup>	Napier @ 60 days <sup>1</sup>	Maize (whole crop) <sup>2</sup>
Fresh yield per Ha per crop	36 - 60	55 – 100	9 - 30
No. of crop / year	8	5	1
Fresh yield ton / ha . Year	288 - 480	275 - 500	9 - 30
% DM (% VS)	<b>15</b> ( <b>13</b> . <b>5</b> )	18 (15.0)	30 - 35
Methane yield m <sup>3</sup> per ton VS	190 - 270	170 - 220	387 - 618**
Methane yield m <sup>3</sup> per ha. / year	7,387 - 17,496	7,012 - 16,500	3,573 - 18,540

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ERDI lab result, 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Rudolf BRAUN, IEA Bioenergy, 2011





- So the Napier grass has similar compositions compared with maize silage with significantly higher methane yield per area
- Consider the options for energy production
- Electricity to domestic grid
- 2. CBG to decentralized station
- 3. Pelletized biomass for exporting









## THE NAPIER GRASS ELECTRICITY POWER PLANT



#### Financial Brief<sup>1</sup>: Napier Biogas Power Plant in Thailand

Component	1 MW e	Note
Initial Investment	2.25 M € (100.0 M THB)	12,000 m3 DV CSTR digester + generator NOT including land
Feedstock Cost (per ton fresh)	6.75 - <b>11</b> .25 € (300 - 500 THB)	Including logistic cost within vicinity
Feedstock / day	112 - 167 ton fresh	Based on 20 - 30 %DM
Electricity price (FIT)	0.101 € / kW.h (4.50 THB / kW.h)	Special rate for Napier Demonstration
Electricity production kW.h / day	21,600 kW.h/day 7.128 M kW.h/year	Load factor 0.9 330 days / year

€ 1.00 = 44.5 THB (Jan 2014)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> DEDE, Thailand MoE publication on Napier Grass Power Plant



## POLICY AND REGULATIONS NOTES ON BIOGAS POWER PLANT

- Most available biogas system in Thailand are lagoon-based without temperature control which is very cost effective for treating waste water in tropical climate.
- General electricity price range between 3.10 THB / kW.h to 4.10 THB / kW.h based on type and time of use (TOU) all biogas plants receive 0.30-0.50 THB adder top-up
- THB 4.50 / kw.h fixed rate only applies to 12 plants running on Napier grass with CSTR digesters.
- CHP is not applicable in most cases as heating is usually unnecessary anywhere anytime in Thailand.
- Regulations concerning electricity power plants
  - Permission from Ministry of Industry, energy regulatory commission and local government to acquire power purchasing agreements
  - Public hearing is usually required and EIA must be completed for 10 MW+ plants.



## THE NAPIER GRASS CBG PLANT



#### Financial Brief<sup>1</sup>: Napier Biogas Power Plant in Thailand

Component	6 ton CBG /day	Note
Initial Investment	2.70 M € (120.0 M THB)	Total project NOT including land acquisition
Feedstock Cost (per ton fresh)	6.75 - 11.25 € (300 - 500 THB)	Including logistic cost within vicinity
Feedstock / day	112 - 167 ton fresh	Based on 20 - 30 %DM
CBG price (capped)	0.24 € / kg (10.50 THB / kg)	Capped price due to national policy
CBG production kg / day	6,000 kg/day 1.98 M kg/year	330 working days / year

€ 1.00 = 44.5 THB (Jan 2014)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> DEDE, Thailand MoE publication on Napier Grass Power Plant

## POLICY AND REGULATIONS NOTES ON BIOGAS - CBG PLANT

- Thailand has limited natural gas grid, only main pipes connected between sources and industrial area.
- All CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) stations are operated by PTT.
- Off-grid stations requires truck delivery.
- Only 1 CBG pilot plant (6 ton/day) is completed and delivery CBG to PTT.
- CNG price is capped at 10.50 THB/kg in Bangkok and increases with distance from natural gas supply stations.
- Northern, North-Eastern and Southern Thailand are suitable for decentralized CBG stations with higher selling price up to 13.50 THB / kg.



# THE NAPIER GRASS POWER PLANT / CBG PLANT



#### Opportunity and Risks: Napier Biogas Power Plant in Thailand

#### **Opportunity:**

- 1. Clear market and target with government supports
- 20 M THB granted demo plants
- Special FIT 4.50 THB
- CBG promotion scheme yet to announce
- 2. German expertise in process engineering and machinery
- 3. By-products of Napier: Pellet, bio-char, bedding material etc.

#### Risks:

- 1. Feedstock cost / quality
- 2. Policy = Politics
- 3. Complex rule and regulations
- 4. Low-cost competitors / copyright violation







### NOTES FROM OTHER ASPECTS

- Not only Napier grass is of interest in Thailand
  - Solar rooftop is also currently being promoted with special FIT.
  - Pyrolysis / BTL process has an opportunity at smaller scale : remote area biomass management program.
  - Thailand domestic green house gas market is being set up by TGO and should be operational in 2014.
  - LPG price is also capped as it is the main source for cooking heat and SME heating fuel but there is plan to un-subsidize.









### THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION

