



News Release

CalBio Brings Two Major RNG Projects Online

Visalia, California, June 8, 2021 – California Bioenergy LLC (CalBio) announced that it has brought online two new dairy biomethane clusters, the South Tulare and North Visalia clusters, both located in Tulare County, California. CalBio is a leading dairy digester developer in the U.S. with over 90 projects operating or in development.

The South Tulare and North Visalia projects are the third and fourth dairy biomethane clusters brought online by CalBio in California, joining clusters in Kern County (Bakersfield, CA) and Tulare County (Visalia, CA). In addition, CalBio has new cluster projects in development in California and elsewhere in the country.

The South Tulare cluster will collect, condition, and inject gas into the SoCalGas pipeline from digesters built at nearby dairies. By year end 15 dairy digesters will be in operation, connected by 41 miles of gathering pipeline. When fully built out, the cluster is anticipated to connect 30 or more dairies to the pipeline. The North Visalia cluster will collect gas currently emitted from 12 dairies by year end, adding more dairies in 2022. The dairy biomethane will similarly be injected into the SoCalGas system for delivery to natural gas vehicle fleets.

The South Tulare and North Visalia clusters are majority owned by local dairy farmers. CalBio has developed a unique ownership structure for dairies to benefit both as investors in multiple clusters and from manure feedstock supply payments.

The dairy families ship milk to three of California's leading dairy cooperatives, California Dairies, Inc., Land O' Lakes, Inc., and Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. "Land O'Lakes member-owners have long paid thoughtful attention to stewarding the land for their communities and future generations, so it's no surprise that nine of our members have joined in the latest CalBio expansion to reduce their environmental footprints in an economically viable manner," said Pete Kappelman, Land O'Lakes Senior Vice President. "In alignment with our Dairy 2025 Commitment, our member-owners are continually working to stay on the cutting-edge of sustainable farming."

The South Tulare and North Visalia clusters received incentive funding from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, through programs focused on dairy manure methane reductions. The South Tulare cluster is projected to reduce methane emissions by the end of 2021 at a rate of 250,000 metric tons of CO₂e per year and the North Visalia cluster by 150,000 metric tons. Together the two clusters will soon be producing approximately 8 million diesel gallon equivalents of compressed renewable natural gas (RNG).

"California Dairies, Inc. and its member-owned family farms are helping lead the way in pursuing and implementing sustainable dairy practices. The joint investment by CDI's member farms and CalBio represents another significant step forward in the California dairy industry's ongoing effort to support

the Golden State’s ambitious climate goals,” said Brad Anderson, President and CEO of California Dairies, Inc.

In addition to substantial greenhouse gas reduction benefits, when used to replace diesel fuel in heavy-duty trucks, dairy RNG also provides substantial air quality benefits by reducing oxides of nitrogen (NOX) emissions by 90 percent and other criteria pollutants, particularly important reductions for California’s San Joaquin Valley. “We’re happy to be partnering to enhance California’s clean transportation future,” said Jawaad Malik, chief environmental officer with SoCalGas. “Our pipelines enable clean, renewable, negative carbon transportation fuels to replace diesel in heavy duty trucks and greatly improve air quality and supports our net zero climate commitment.”

“We began CalBio nearly 15 years ago, with a triple bottom line focus” according to Neil Black president and co-founder of CalBio. “First, we help protect the environment by achieving methane emission reductions while protecting local air and water quality. Second, we support the community by creating good local jobs, establishing scholarship programs, and supporting renewable energy for rural homes. Third, we help advance the sustainability of family dairies, who produce nutritious dairy products for Americans.”

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About California Bioenergy

CalBio is a leading developer of dairy digesters for generating renewable vehicle fuel and electricity. Founded in 2006, CalBio works closely with the California Air Resources Board, California Department of Food and Agriculture, the California Public Utility Commission, the California Energy Commission, USDA and the dairy industry to develop projects to help the state achieve its methane reduction goals, protect local air and water quality, while creating local jobs and a new revenue stream to dairies. In partnership with its affiliates, Midwest Bio, Northwest Bio, and Southwest Bio, it is developing projects across the country. For more information call CalBio or visit: www.calbioenergy.com.

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