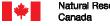




# Presentation to the NZ Conference Future BioPathways



Rory Gilsenan, Canadian Forest Service October 2010





### **Outline of Presentation**



- Context
- Background who/what/why/how
- Results
- Take-home messages
- Policy Implications
- Canadian Federal Support
- Next Steps

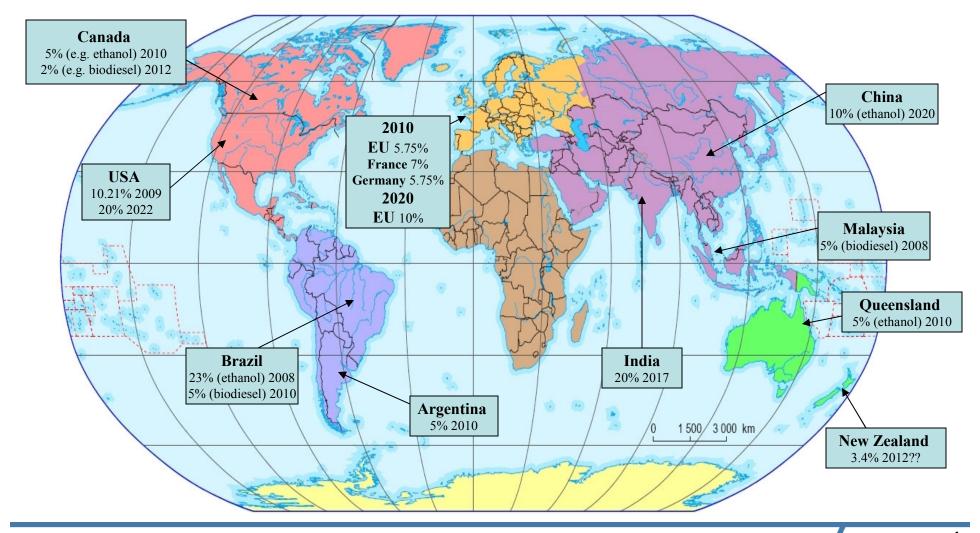
### What are the major economic and social drivers for next-gen bioenergy?



- Financial and Economic Drivers
  - Energy security through energy diversification
  - Development of innovative Canadian technology
  - Forest Sector Economics revitalization!
- Environmental Drivers
  - Climate change
  - Improved air quality
  - Food vs. Fuel
- Socio-economic Drivers
  - Rural economic development
    - Economic diversification
    - Job creation
    - Sustainable communities

# Countries/regions have established or intended biofuels mandates...





# **Canadian Forest Sector Snapshot**



- Economic challenges in sector both cyclical and structural:
  - Employment: 267,300 jobs in Aug 2010
    - 136,000 jobs have been lost since 2003
    - (34% decline)
  - Economy: \$24 B contribution to GDP in 2008 (in 2002 \$)
    - down from \$31 B in 2005 (in constant 2002 \$)
    - Bankruptcy of Canadian firms
  - Exports: \$30.1 B in exports in 2008 (current \$)
    - down from \$37 B in 2003 (current \$)
  - 60% decline in North American newsprint consumption since 1999, eliminating 840,000 tonnes/yr

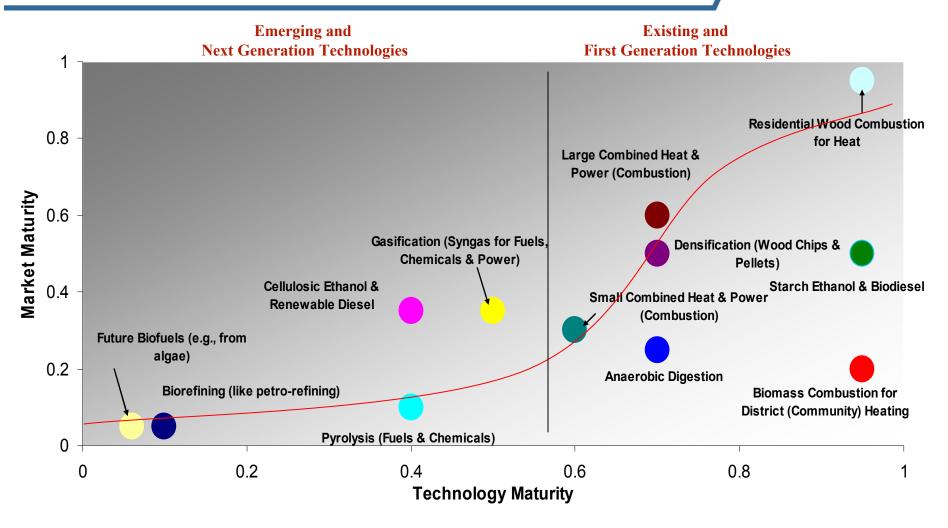
# **Drivers for Transformation in the Forest Sector**



- Need for a new business model
- Shift to green energy and products happening globally, nationally, regional (climate change, energy security, etc.)
  - Foreign subsidies and mandates have major impacts
- High interest in Canada in forest bioenergy ...but decisions are being made with little information
  - Harvesting licenses for biomass removal for bioenergy
  - Long-term contracts for pellet plants, to ship pellets to Europe
- Many technologies being developed and promoted
  - Need to separate fact from fiction
  - What are the best options for the sector and communities?

# Bioenergy technologies are at different stages of development





Adapted concept from: OECD/ IEA 2008 report: Deploying Renewables: Principles for Effective Policies (Paris), p. 25 and based on NRCan expertise.

### **BioPathways Project**



- What are the real opportunities for new technologies and emerging products from wood fibre?
- Will these new products and technologies have similar financial and socio-economic contributions compared to traditional forest products?
- How might public policies and programs help support the forest sector in this transformation?





### **How: Six Lines of Inquiry**



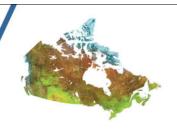
- Assess the "market readiness" of the emerging technologies.
- 2. Quantify key economic, social and environmental metrics associated with the main existing and emerging bioproducts;
- Analyze economic fibre supply;
- 4. Examine the market potential of emerging bio-products;
- Explore new approaches to managing the value chain and development of partnerships; and,
- Build capacity to manage innovation in the Canadian forest products sector.

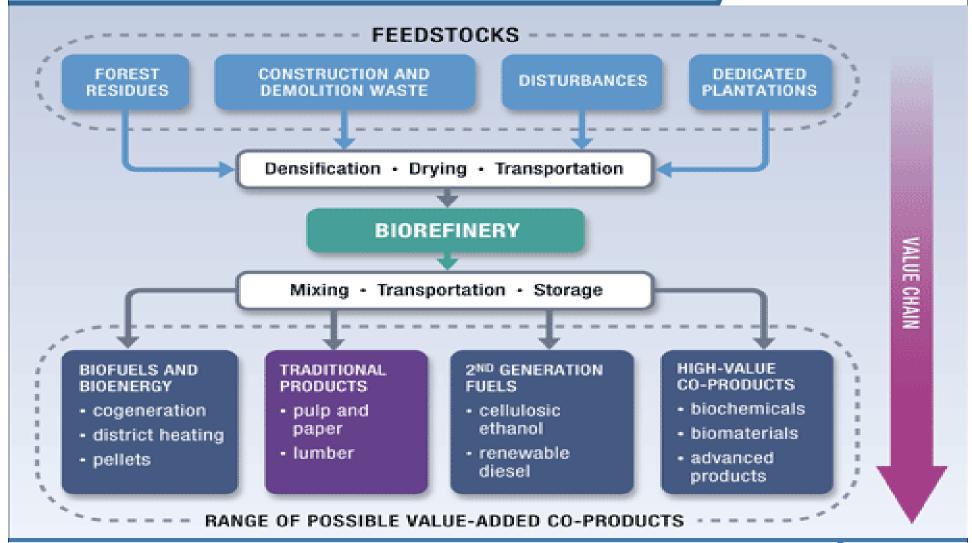
### **Who: Collaborative Process**



- Steering Committee
  - Leadership of FPI, NRCan (CFS, Energy, CANMET), BCMF, OMNR/OMNDMF, MRNQ, Ivey Foundation and FPAC.
- Project Team
  - Co-chaired by CFS and FPAC
  - FPInnovations
  - NRCan
  - FPAC
  - Don Roberts (CIBC)
- Selected bioenergy companies
- Large network of experts

### **What: The Forest Biorefinery**

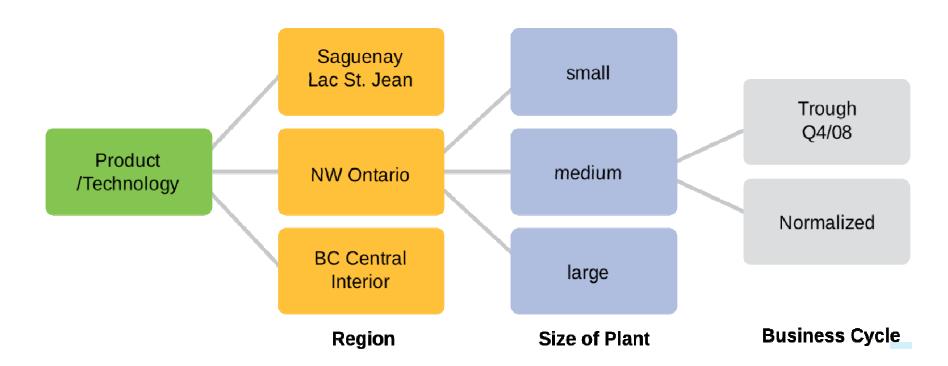




# How: Sensitivity analysis using case studies



27 Products/technologies were originally examined in the 1st Phase of the Project – 16 traditional and 11 emerging



### **How: Metrics Analyzed**



Financial	Social	Environmental
Revenue/ODMT	GDP Multiplier	Carbon Footprint (In process)
EBITDA/ODMT	Employment Multiplier	Others to follow (LCA)
Return on Capital		

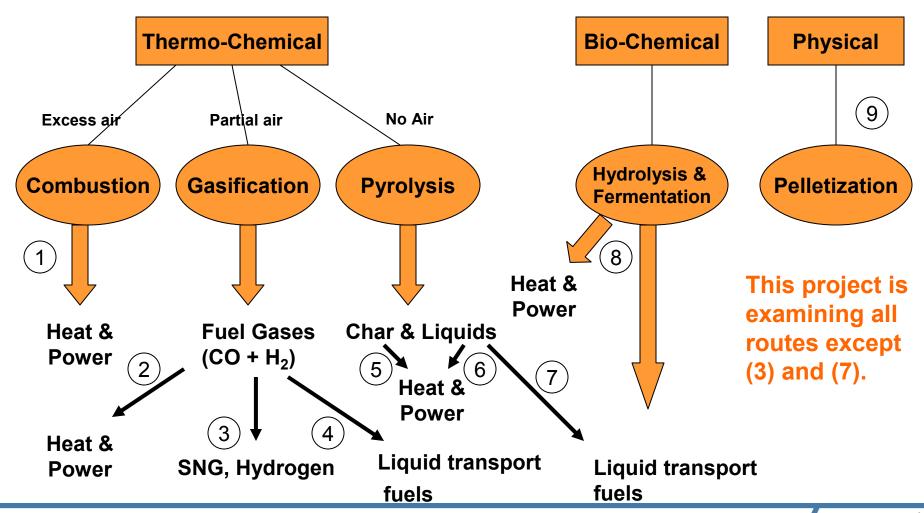






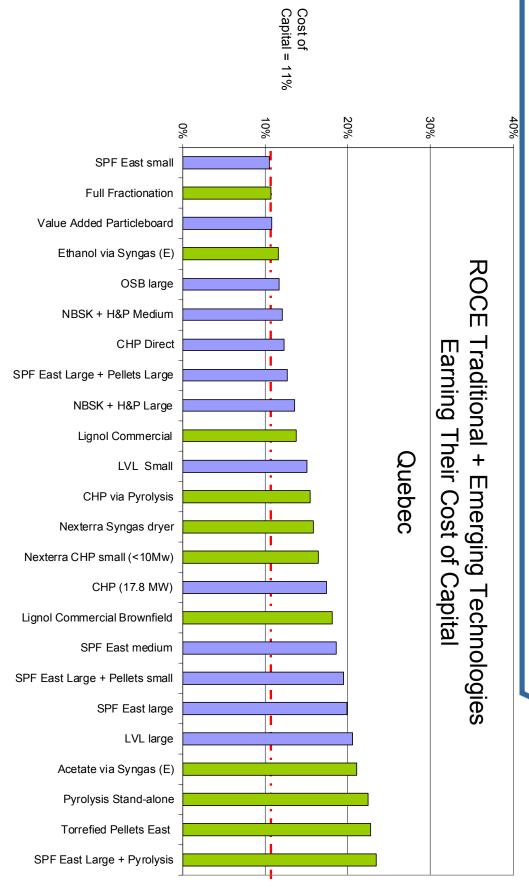
# How: Bioenergy Pathways Analyzed





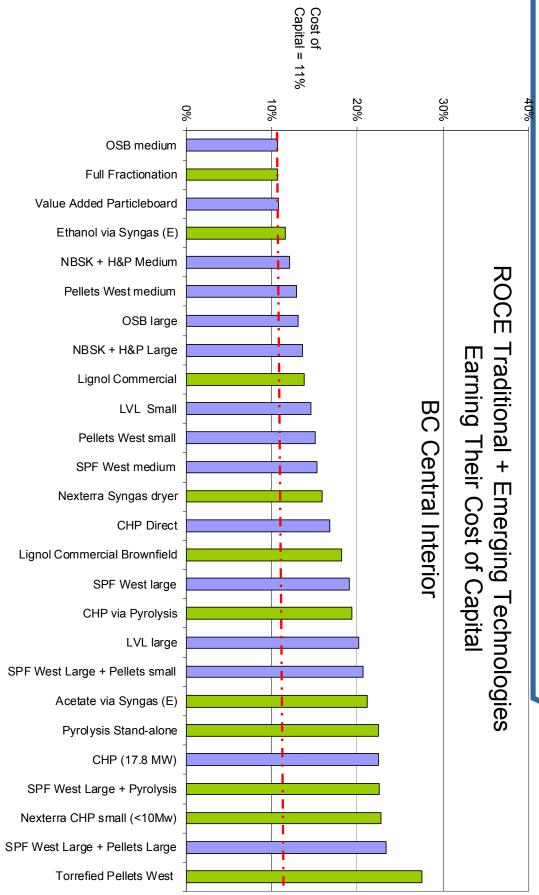
# Results: What is the best from





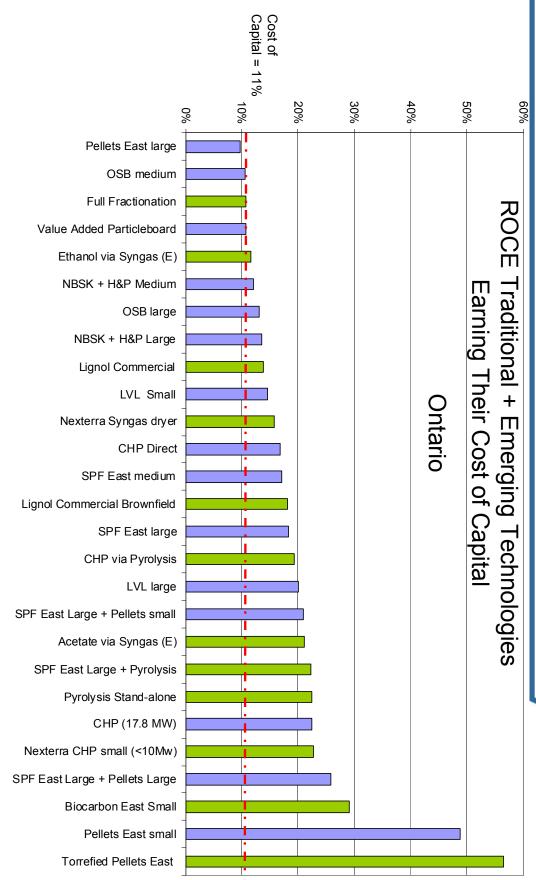
# What is the best from both worlds?





# What is the best from both worlds?





### What is the best from both worlds?



- Some of the emerging products are better, but we have to be selective.
  - E.g., Small-scale gasification and pyrolysis oil for power looks attractive, while the pure production of ethanol via the bio-chemical process does not.
- The most promising future involves:
  - solid wood mills integrated with bioenergy at the back-end
  - pulp mills evolved into biorefineries, which produce a range of pulp/bioenergy/biochemical products
- Moving to the production of commodity bioenergy products is a necessary step in the forest industry transformation
  - Commodity bioenergy should be part of the biorefinery platform (i.e. integrated facility producing a range of products)
- Increased emphasis on those higher valued bio-chemical markets in future

### **Standalone or Integrate?**



- Although there are a few exceptions, the emphasis should be on integration.
- Integration generally provides:
  - Higher ROCE
  - Higher employment base
  - More secure and lower cost supply of fibre (key issue in the capital markets.)
- Results underscores integration of new into traditional production facilities is far better for the production of both the traditional and emerging product.
- There is a compelling financial case for both the established and potential new entrant to co-operate.

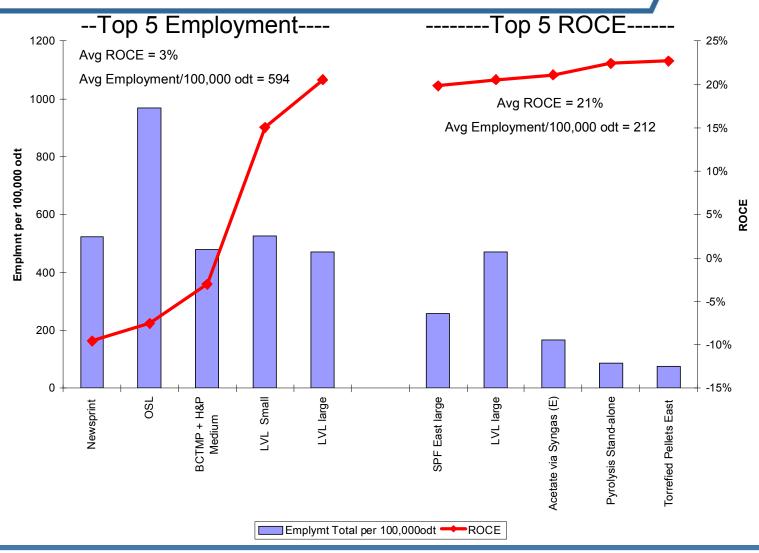




- Simply selling bioenergy is generally not good enough in the long-run.
- However, selling bioenergy may still make sense in the longterm if:
  - If it is one of a series of products that are jointly produced in a biorefinery.
  - You are operating in a special environment characterized by:
    - Low delivered cost of biomass
    - High price for electricity.
- The best value will be created if you can exploit bio-energy's "battery-pack" and "optionality."
- The threat is that the competitiveness of bio-energy relative to other sources of renewable energy is expected to deteriorate over time.

# Is There a Trade-off Between Financial Returns and Employment?





### **Carbon Analysis**



- Purpose
  - Provide mill-level analysis for investment decisions
  - Provide product-level analysis for comparison with current products (e.g., fuels, power, structural products)
- Methodology
  - Direct
    - NG, Oil, other fossil fuels
    - Conversion carbon emissions (e.g., lime kilns, enzymes)
  - Indirect
    - Electricity varies by province
    - Fibre supply model harvest, transportation
    - Other LCA, carbon multiplier, sensitivity analysis

# **Biopathways: Key Take Home Messages**



- The future of the industry lies in integrating new technology into the existing sector rather than replacing it
- New and emerging technologies offer some promising opportunities but no silver bullets
- Bioenergy is only part of the story with higher-value co-products being more promising & sustainable over the longer term
- The long -term viability of some traditional products in Canada is surprisingly strong
- A functioning, healthy solid wood sector is key...turning low-cost waste residues into diverse higher valued product streams
- There are tradeoffs in financial vs. socio-economic benefits and environmental indicators of different products/technologies

### **Implications for Public Policy**



- Sector renewal will require a new business model as well as technological innovation on the part of the industry
  - Programs and policies should encourage new partnerships between the forest sector and energy, chemical and technology firms.
- Future of the industry likely lies with a mix of traditional and emerging products
  - Maintaining a viable lumber sector key
- Support for particular technologies or products can have unintended consequences on environmental and regional development objectives
  - Choosing winners and losers is a risky business (technologies, jobs)
- Investors will require sustainability of fibre supply...
  - Need to ensure environmental sustainability if we increase removals from forest
  - May require broadening of definition of forest sector

# Canadian Federal Support for Forest-sector Transformation



- Transformative Technologies Pilot-scale demonstration (TT-PSD: Can\$40M)
  - Support development of technologies at the pilot stage
- Investments in Forest Industry Transformation (IFIT: Can\$100M)
  - Support for demo to pre-commercial technologies and partnerships with non-traditional industries
- Pulp and Paper Green Transformation Program (PPGTP: Can\$1B)
  - Supports "green" investments, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, etc.

### **Next Steps - Lines of Inquiry 4-6**



- 4. Examine the market potential of emerging bio-products;
  - Levelised cost of energy vs. other renewables
  - Foreign markets and competition
- Explore new approaches to managing the value chain and development of partnerships; and
  - Cost reduction and logistics optimization
- Build capacity to manage innovation in the Canadian forest products sector.

### Thank you



Questions/Comments?

Rory Gilsenan, Canadian Forest Service Natural Resources Canada Rory.Gilsenan@nrcan.gc.ca