

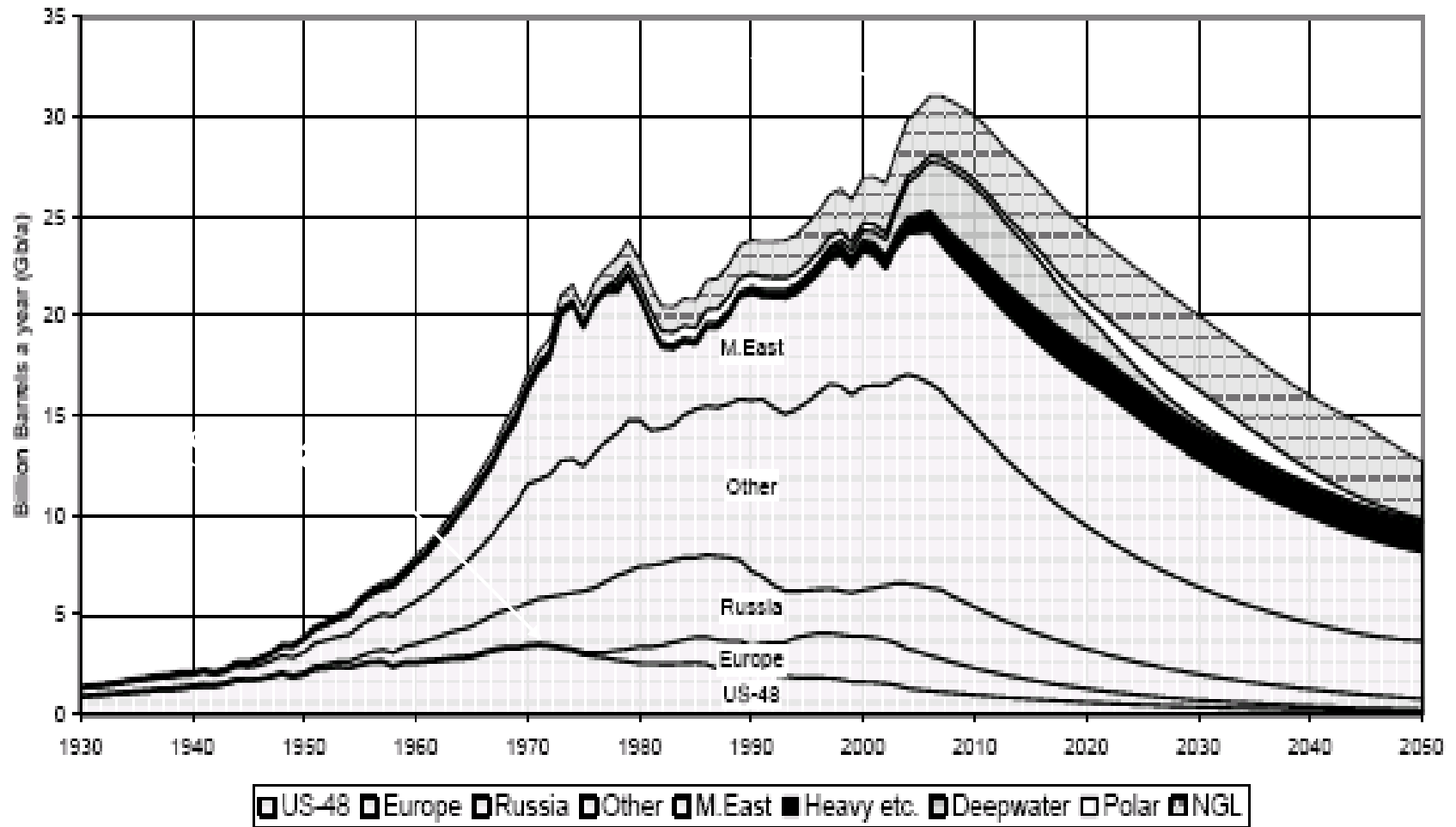
# Think Global Act Regional

Gary Radloff

Director of Policy and Communications

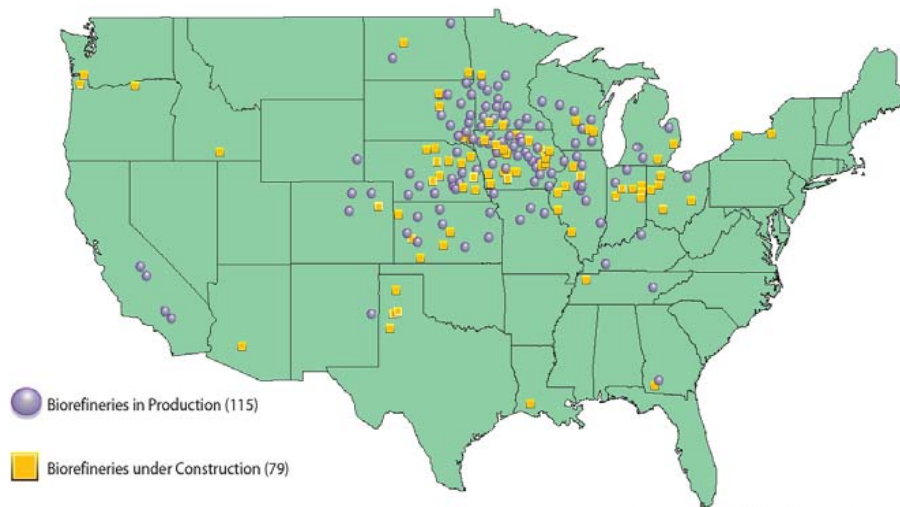
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture  
Trade and Consumer Protection

# Why biofuels?



# North Central Region Epicenter of Ethanol Biorefineries Today

## U.S. Ethanol Biorefinery Locations



Source: Renewable Fuels Association  
4.3.07

# Ethanol Production Capacity 12 North Central Region States

- 87.2 Percent of Nations Ethanol Production Capacity is Currently Located in the 12 North Central Region States
- (Sources Renewable Fuels Association as of June 2007)

# Midwest Ag Energy Network (MAEN)

- Formed in February 2005
- Member States include Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin
- Network = More informal alliance structure
- Focus on policy ideas
- Local ownership a priority issue

# North Central Bioeconomy Consortium

- **North Central States:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin
- North Central Departments of Agriculture
- North Central Cooperative Extension
- North Central Ag Experiment Stations

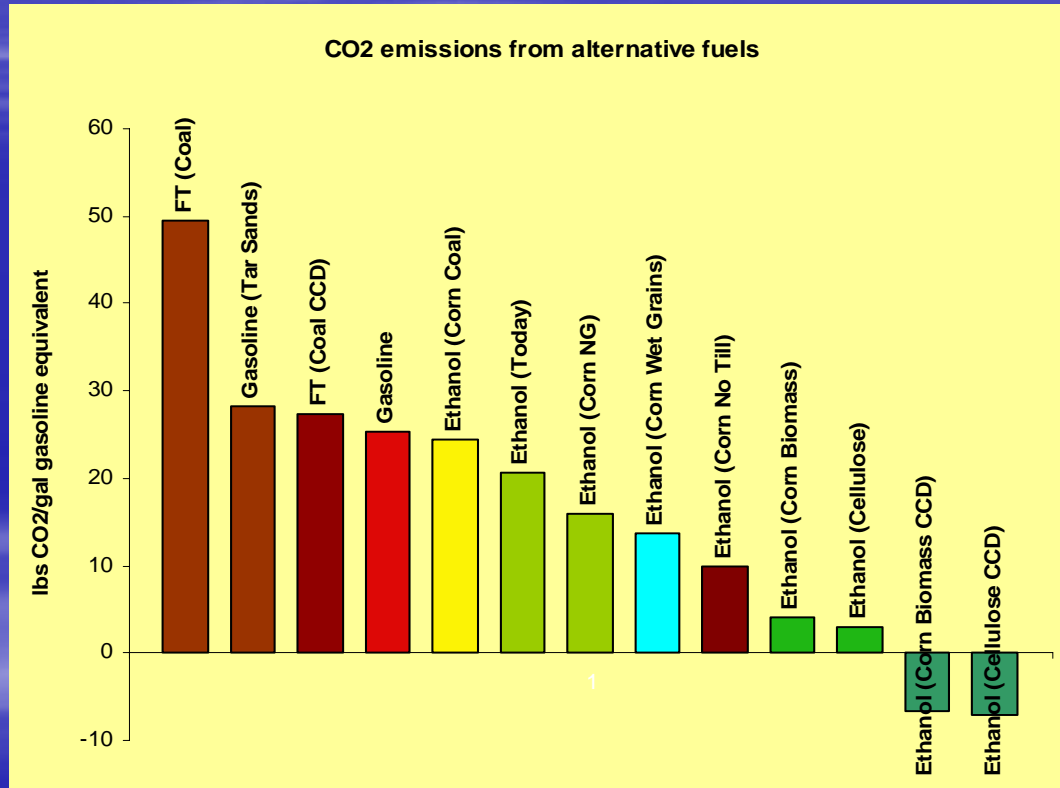
# Why Regional Collaboration?

- This challenges and solutions are bigger than any one state
- States can learn from each other
- Regional research capacity is abundant
- Policies like Cap and Trade Programs will be more successful if regionally done

# Risks Balanced with Opportunities

- Competition with competing land uses (food vs. fuel);
- Failure of ethanol plants;
- Loss of acreage in permanent cover;
- Loss of soil carbon;
- Loss of wildlife habitat;
- Diminished water quality

# Not All Biofuels Are the Same



# Collaborative Research Agenda

- NC506 “Sustainable Biorefining Systems for Corn Ethanol in the North Central Region” – 12 Ag Experiment Stations regional collaboration
- University of Wisconsin-Extension in partnership with Iowa State University recently received funding for a regional water quality coordination project related to biofuels development.

# Large Regional Research Awards

- February 2007 – University of Illinois in partnership with U of California-Berkeley receive a BP \$500 million over 10-years award to research crops to biofuels
- April 2007 – Iowa State University in partnership with Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign receive \$22.5 million over 8-years to develop new sources of energy
- June 2007 – University of Wisconsin-Madison in partnership with Michigan State University and others receive \$125 million over five-years to establish one of three national Bioenergy Research Centers in the U.S. Focus of research includes a suite of new technologies to convert cellulosic plant biomass – cornstalks, wood chips and perennial native grasses – to energy

Governors Energy Summit 2007

Policy Recommendations, Cooperative Regional Initiatives & Other Outcomes

Joyce Foundation sponsorship 2007-2009

Midwestern Governors Association Steering Committee of Governors Staff  
Staffing by MGA with support from Great Plains Institute & World Resources Institute

Bio-Energy Working Group  
North Central Bio-Economy Consortium: Agriculture Commissioners/Secretaries, Extension Service & Exp. Station Directors

Power Sector Working Group  
Industry Executives, State Officials, & NGO Representatives

Carbon Markets Working Group  
State Officials, Industry & NGO Representatives, & Technical Experts

State & Regional Implementation 2008-2009  
MGA Steering Committee supported by Advisory Groups

# Where do we go from here?

- Two year phased implementation of the Midwest Governor's Association policy menu
- Focus on low carbon advanced biofuels
- Strong linkage to greenhouse gas reductions and environmental protection
- Strengthen regional opportunities and remain leaders in innovation and entrepreneurship

# Questions and Contact Info

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