Governments, businesses and the public are increasingly concerned about the security of supply, the sustainability and the environmental impact of our energy sources. Waste Management is responding to the demand for alternatives to fossil fuels through the development of waste-based energy from the waste we all generate.

About Waste Management

As the leading provider of comprehensive waste management and environmental services in North America, Waste Management serves municipal, commercial, industrial and residential customers throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Headquartered in Houston, Texas, the company serves more than 20 million residential and two million commercial customers through its network of collection operations, transfer stations, landfill disposal sites, waste-to-energy plants, recycling plants, landfill gas to energy projects and other related services.

Landfill gas from the Waste Management facility provides a reliable and consistent energy source for the Dairyland Power Cooperative in Wisconsin. Landfill gas replaces a portion of the natural gas used at the nearby Cheese Factory paper mill. The mill’s energy contract is set up to purchase landfill gas and a consistent energy source is needed with helping the plant stay operational after fuel costs threatened to shut down the plant.

Landfill gas from Waste Management’s Ste. Sophie landfill north of Montreal, Canada, is replacing 75 percent of the natural gas used at the nearby Cascades paper mill. The mill’s energy contract is set up to use landfill gas as a cost-effective, alternative energy source.

Using trash as fuel to generate electricity, Wheelabrator’s North Broward Waste-to-Energy plant in Pompano Beach, Florida generates approximately 20,000 megawatt hours of energy enough to power about 35,000 homes.

Landfill gas from two Waste Management landfills provides a reliable and constant energy source for the Dairyland Power Cooperative to power 4,000 homes in the communities of Bruce, Wisconsin, and Lake Mills, Iowa, each day.

Meeting the demand for green energy.
Landfill gas is used as a fuel to generate electricity at small receiving area facilities where it is used for heating, in place of or in combination with fossil and solar power, landfill gas is a natural resource that can be harnessed to produce green energy and has many applications for natural gas.

Waste Management has a dedicated renewable energy group with experience gained from three decades of developing clean, renewable waste-based energy resources. This group works closely with businesses, industries and public entities to develop beneficial use projects, from landfill gas to waste-to-energy, providing us economic and environmentally friendly alternative to fossil fuels, produced from the waste we all generate.

We currently supply landfill gas to more than 100 beneficial-use gas projects in North America, providing the equivalent of more than 175 megawatts of energy-power to more than 60,000 homes as well as saving the equivalent of more than seven million barrels of oil per year.

When you think renewable energy, Think Green. Think Waste Management.

Landfill gas is a natural byproduct of the decomposition of waste in landfills. This resource is known as landfill gas or methane. Our company collects and transports methane gas produced at Waste Management landfills and sells it to customers as an alternative fuel source.

For instance, one of our customers, Wheelabrator Technologies, uses trash as fuel to generate electrical power through its waste-to-energy projects. These 17 plants have a combined generating capacity of 686 megawatts of electricity, enough energy to power more than 700,000 homes.