



# BIOCLEANTECH: NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADA'S FOREST SECTOR

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BIOLOGICAL GHG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
ALBERTA INNOVATES

# HONOURING DOUG LITTLE

DOUG LITTLE, R.P.F.



Senior VP Forest Operations, Northwood Pulp and Timber

Founding Supporter of UNBC

Respected for his dedication to forest sustainability

Honoured by an endowment from Northwood Pulp and Timber

# ABOUT ERA AND AI

## Emissions Reduction Alberta

Established to address GOA climate leadership priorities  
Connects gov policy, industry needs, technology solutions

## Alberta Innovates

Supports research for the growing global bio-economy

## Biological GHG Management Program

Partnership program hosted by AI and supported by ERA

# THE GLOBAL DISCUSSION ON CLIMATE

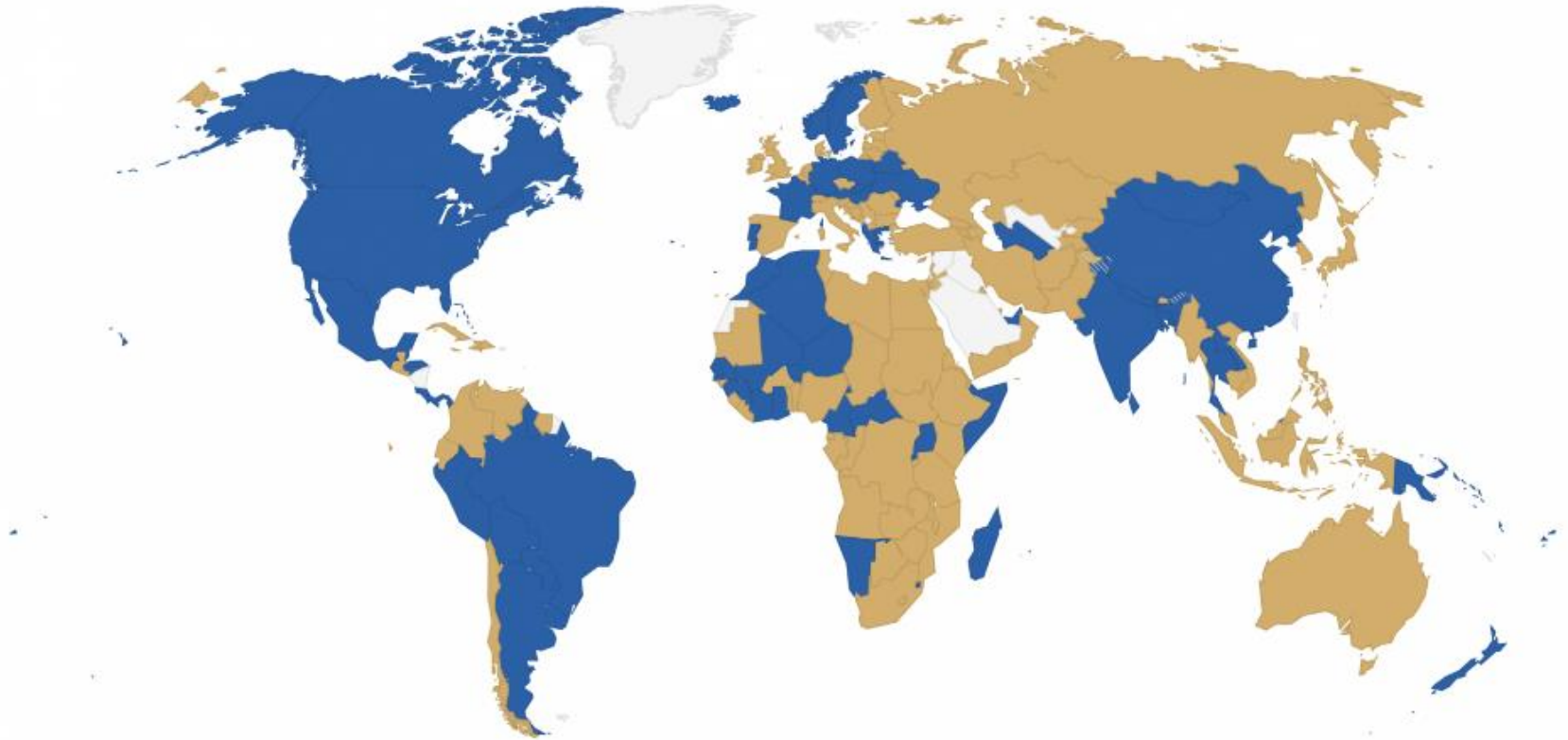


“Climate change has happened because of human behaviour, therefore it’s only natural it should be us, human beings, to address this issue. It may not be too late if we take decisive actions today.”

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations



# THE GLOBAL RESPONSE: PARIS ACCORD



# NOW THE REAL WORK BEGINS: MARRAKESH

*What is the significance of the Paris Accord?*

1. Increasing ambition - We need deep and real emissions reductions that increase over time
  - To keep < 2C (450ppm CO<sub>2</sub>) = 80-90% GHG reduction
  - To keep < 1.5C (350ppm) = 95% GHG reduction
2. Enhanced international cooperation – through trading and finance (GCF)
3. Seize opportunity – for Green Growth and investment

# ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH CARBON MANAGEMENT

*If too much atmospheric carbon is the problem, what can we do?*

- Reduce emissions of ancient carbon, **and**
- Increase sequestration for longer term storage

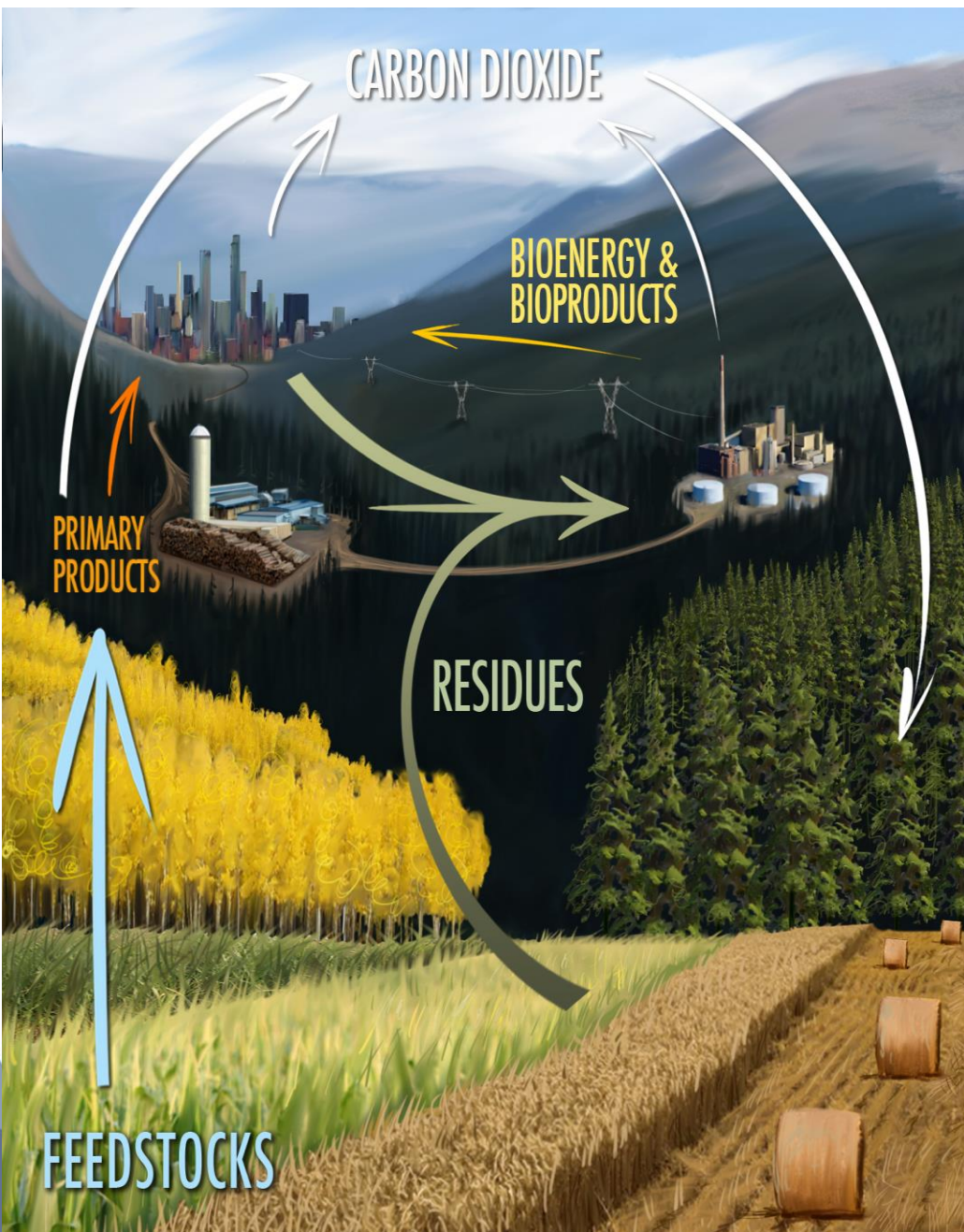
# ABOUT GHGS

*In natural systems*

- Carbon is sequestered by plants through photosynthesis
- Carbon is lost through decay and combustion

## Key GHGs/GWP

- $\text{CO}_2 = 1 = \text{CO}_2\text{eq (Mt)}$
- $\text{CH}_4 = 21$
- $\text{N}_2\text{O} = 310$

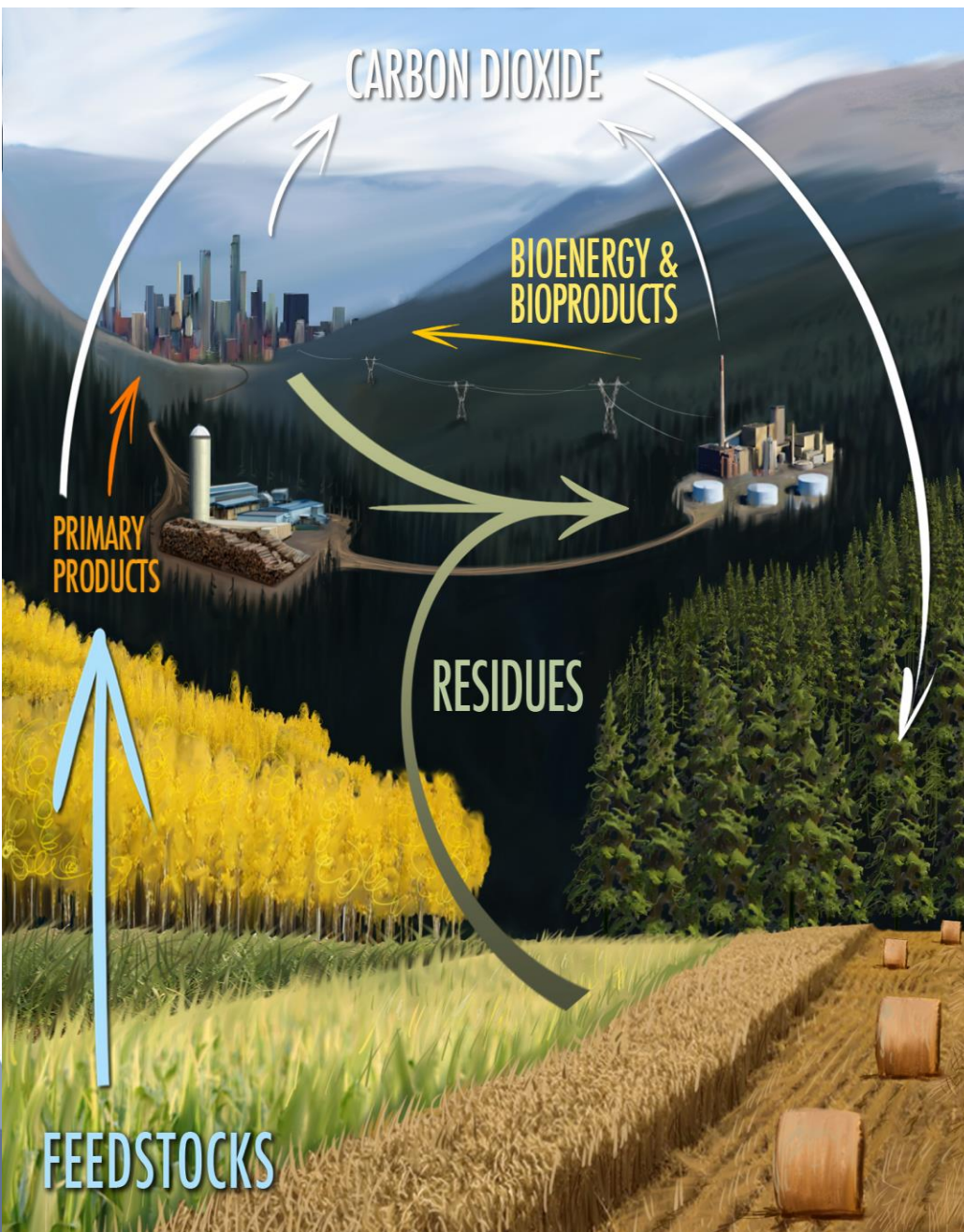




# ABOUT GHGS

*In managed systems*

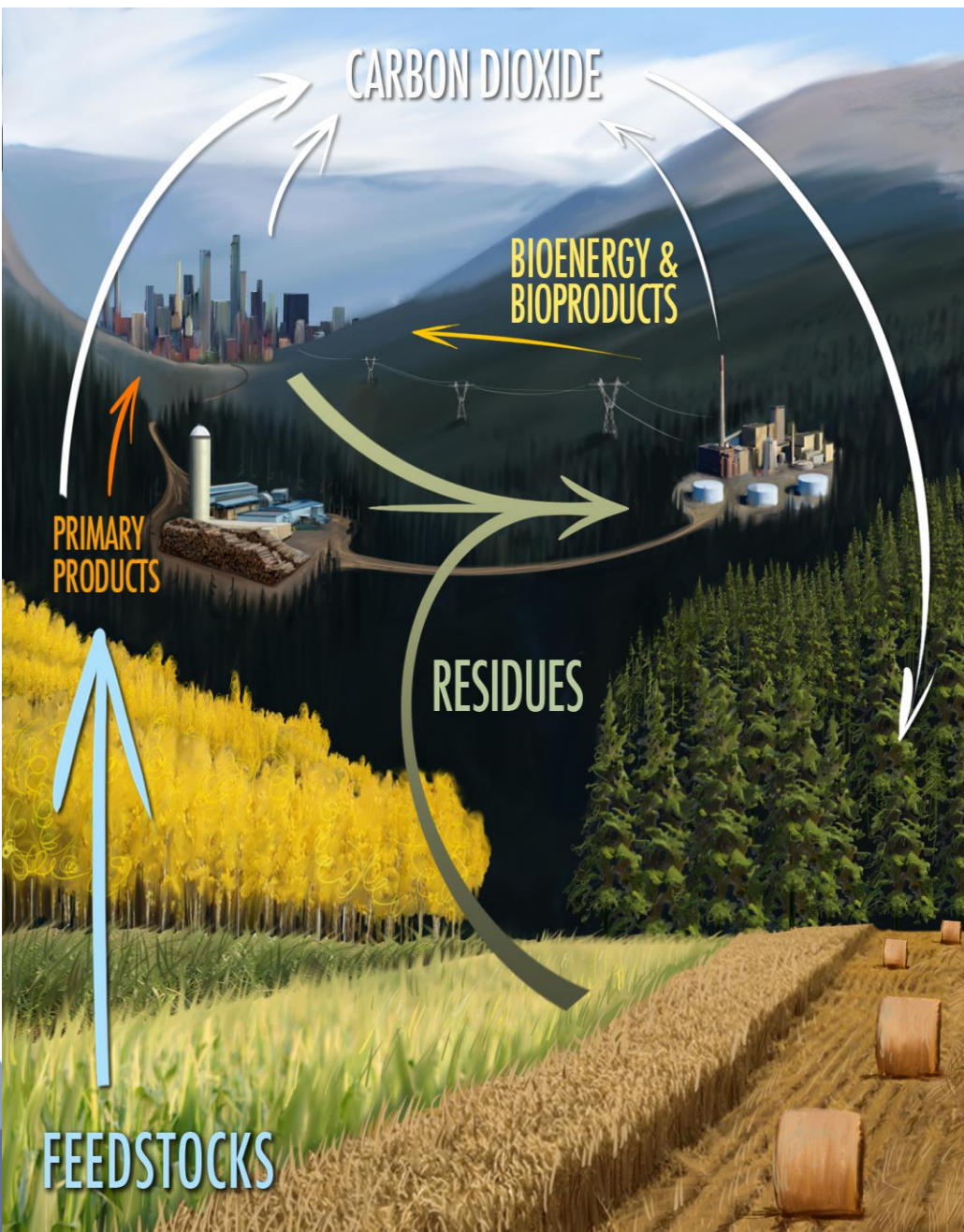
- Carbon is sequestered by forests and crops through photosynthesis
- Carbon is lost through decay and combustion
- Harvested carbon is used to manufacture products; some stabilized for long term storage, some lost almost immediately



# ABOUT GHGS

*In current energy systems*

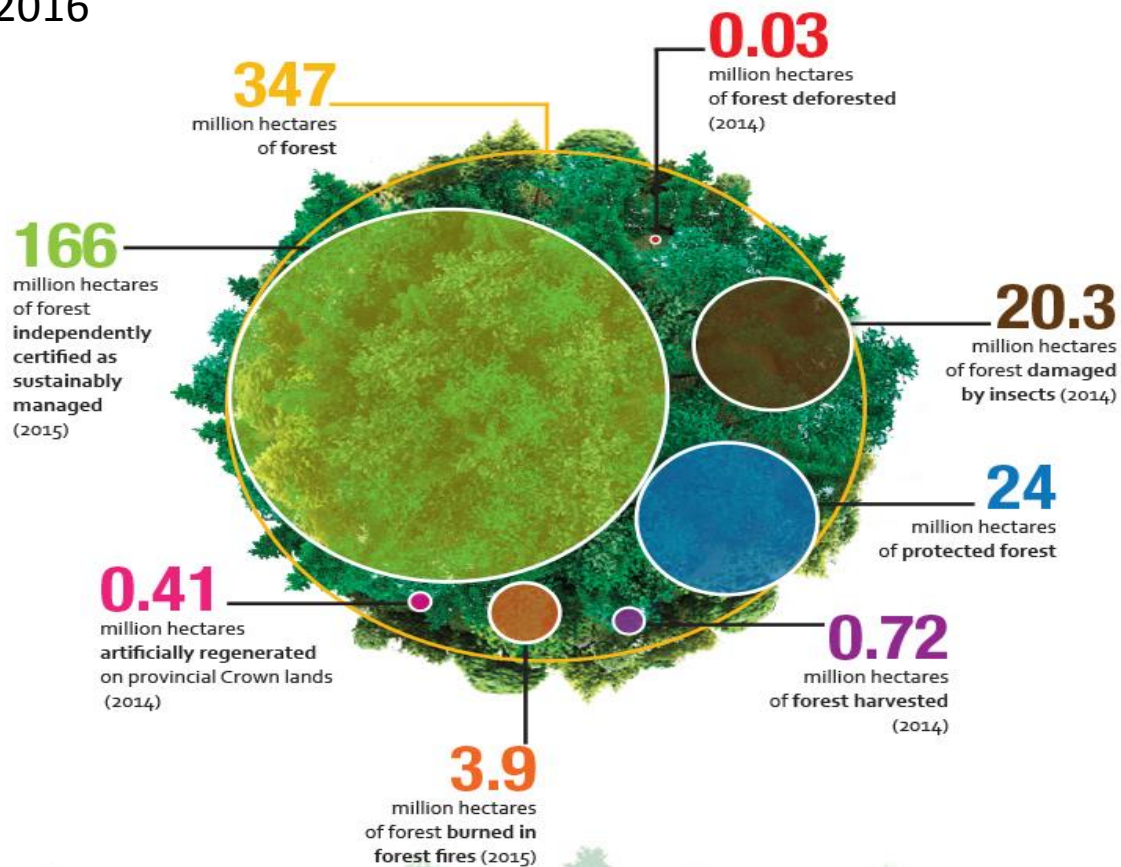
- Ancient carbon from fossil resources is used for energy, releasing long-stored carbon
- Losses from ancient carbon tip the natural seasonal cycle



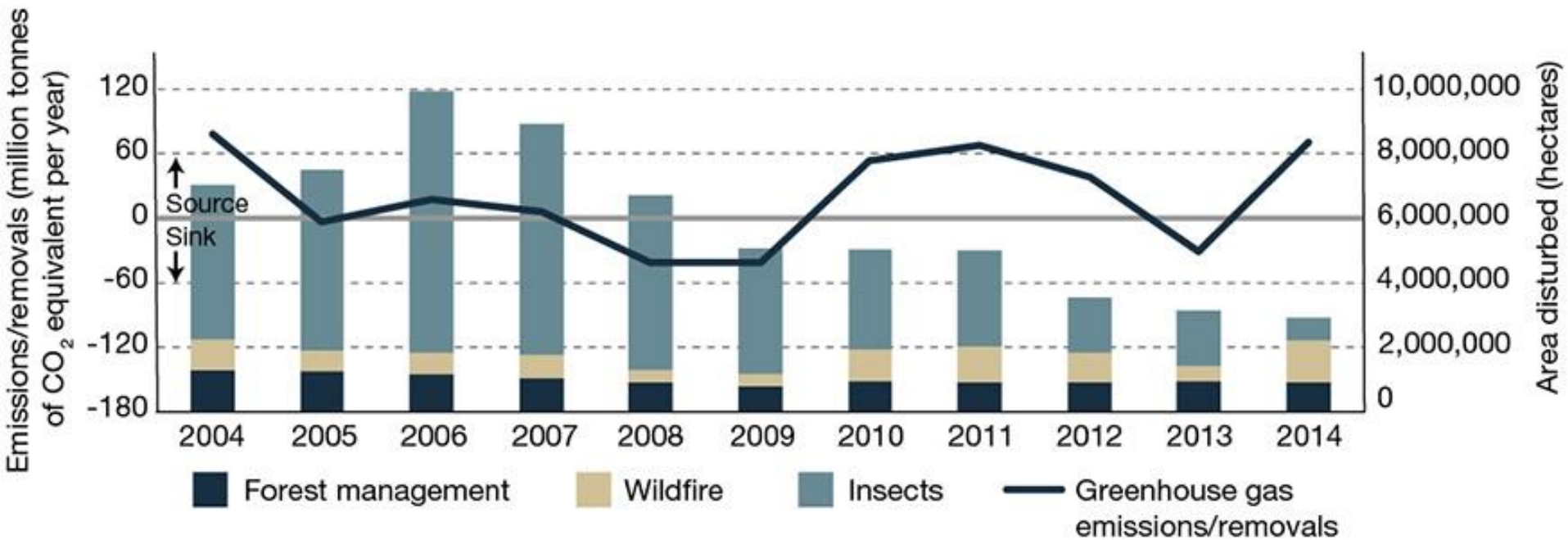


# Canada's forests by numbers

2016

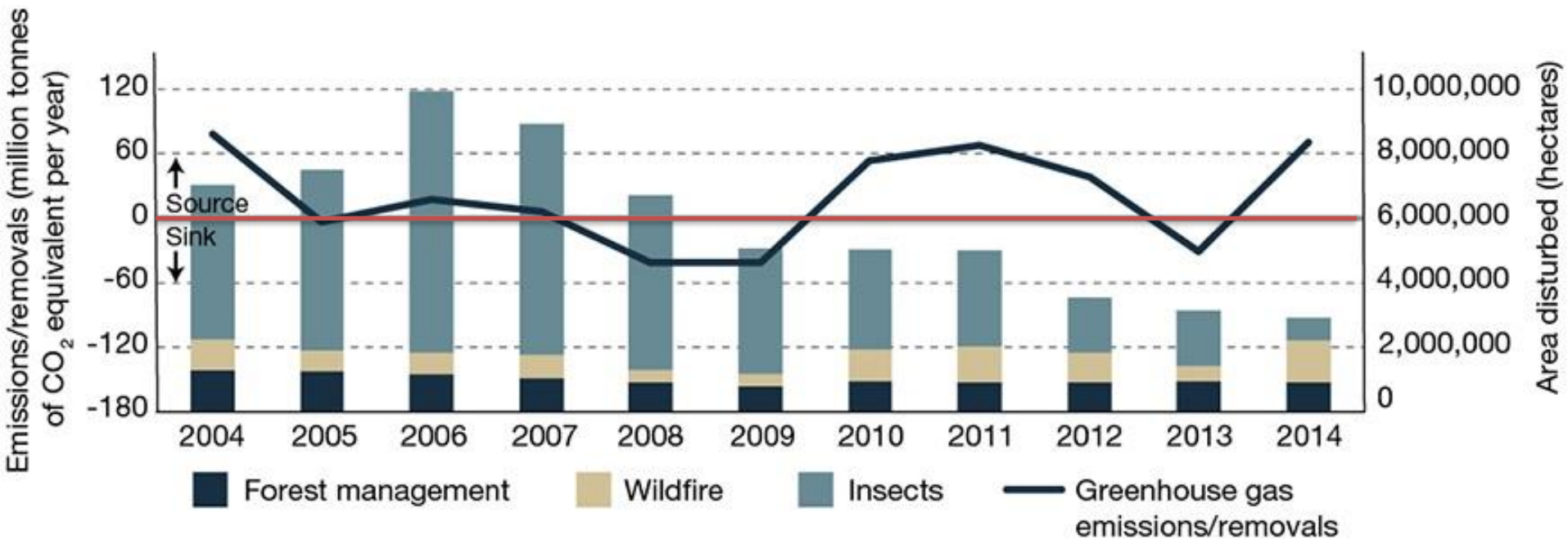


# CANADIAN FOREST CARBON REMOVALS

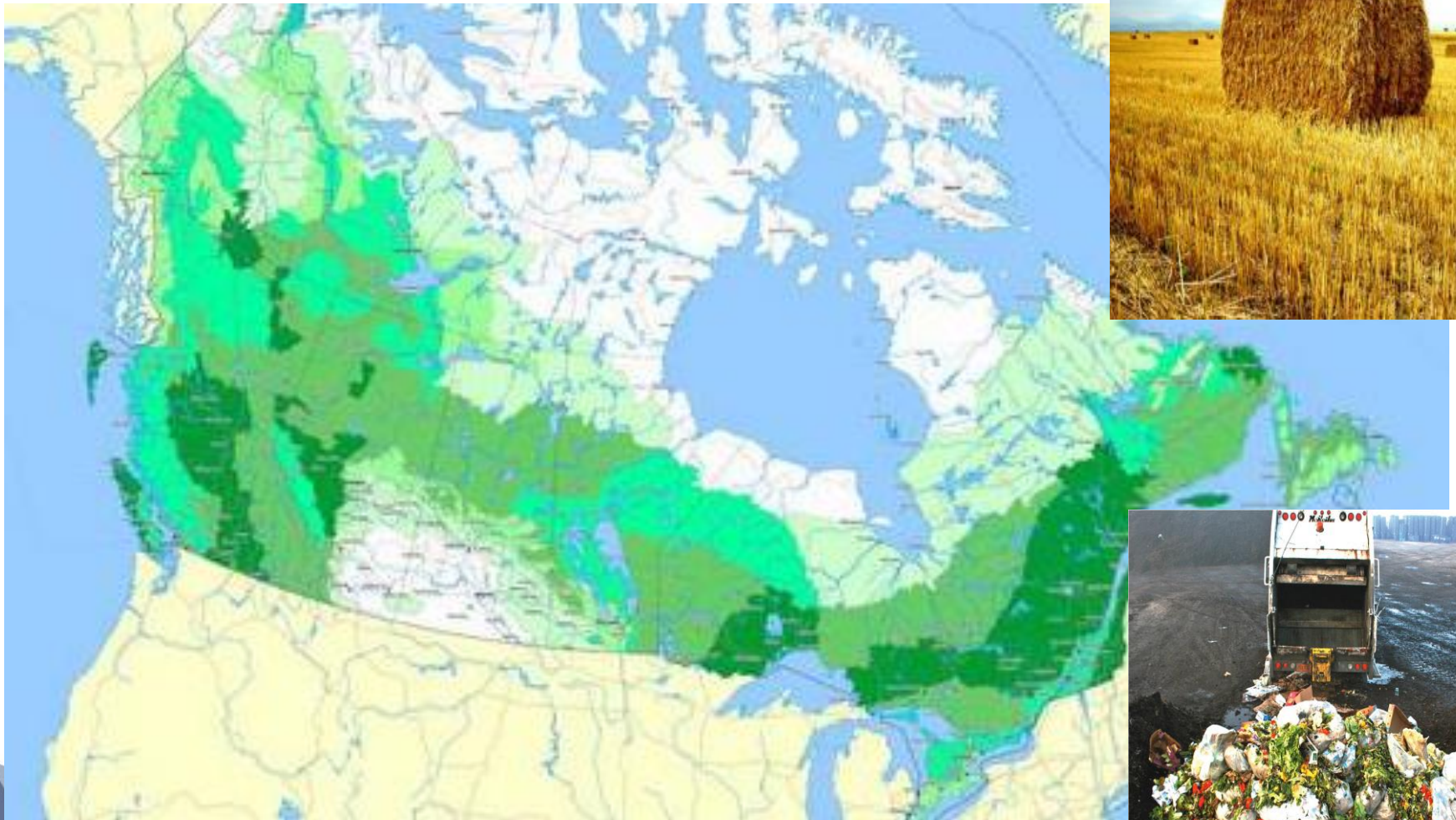




# CANADIAN FOREST CARBON REMOVALS

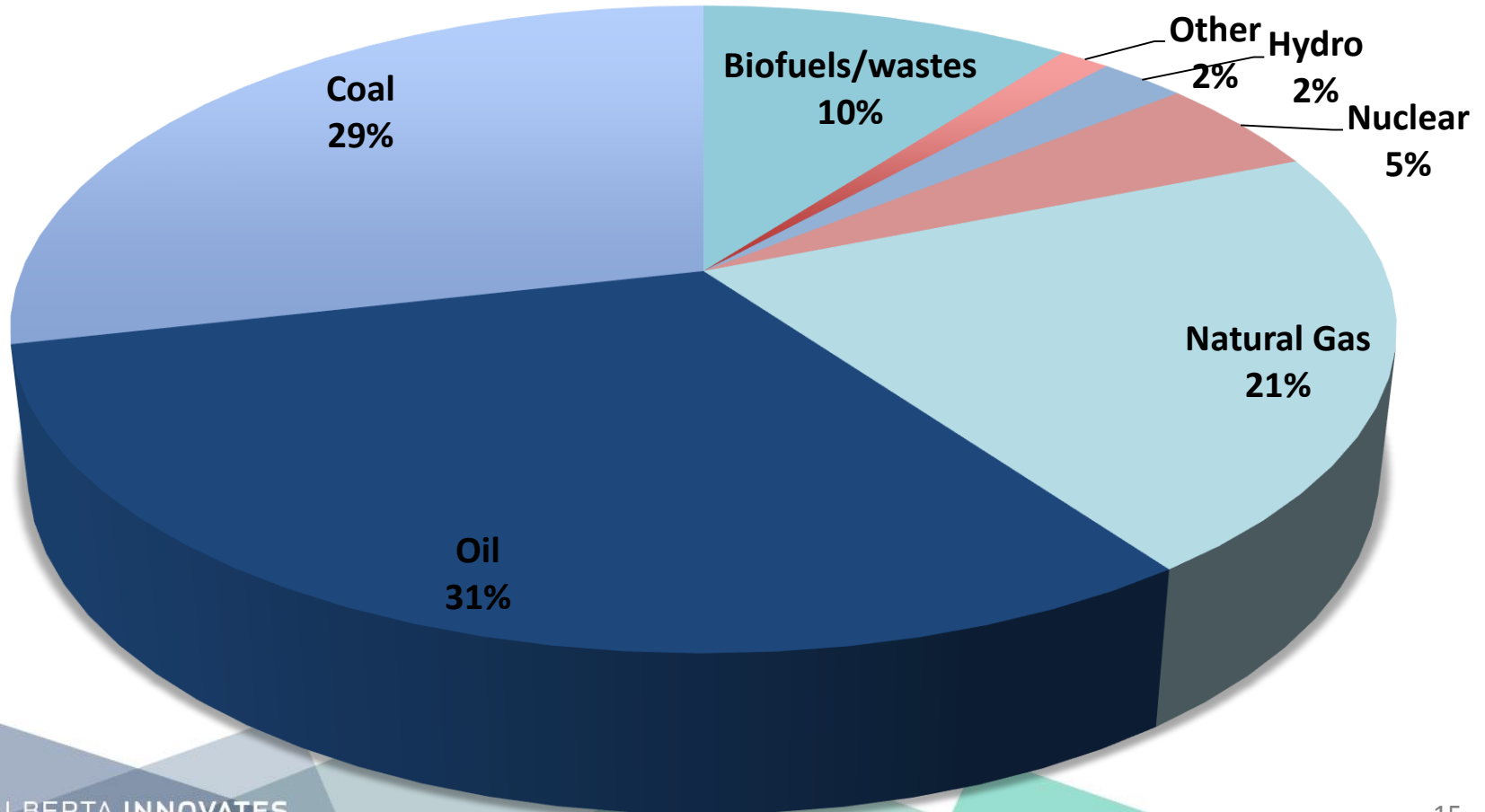


# CANADA'S ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF BIOMASS (NOT FORESTS ALONE)



# WHY IS BIOGENIC CARBON IMPORTANT?

*Global energy supply is dominated by carbon*





# BENEFITS: AVOIDING STRANDED ASSETS

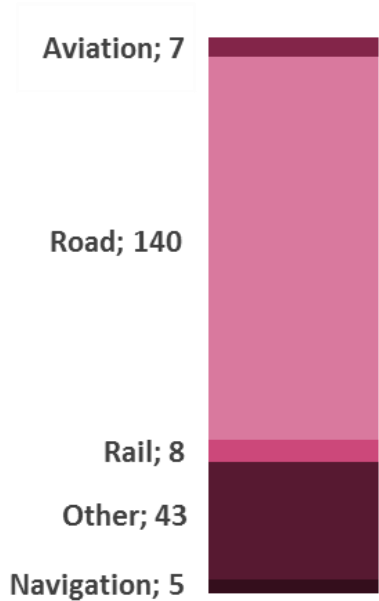
Renewable carbon fits existing fossil-fuel infrastructure



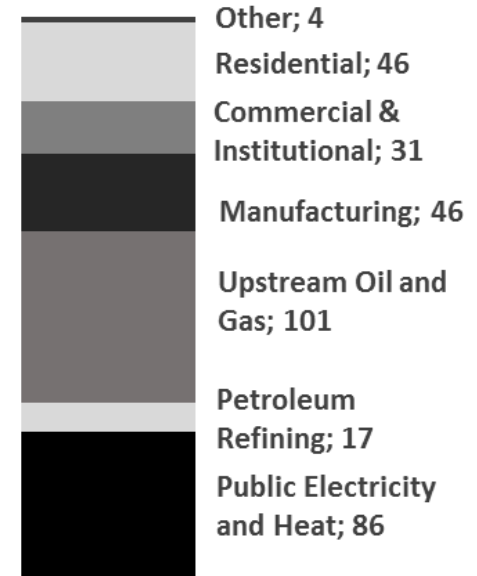


# CANADA'S GHG EMISSIONS (2014)

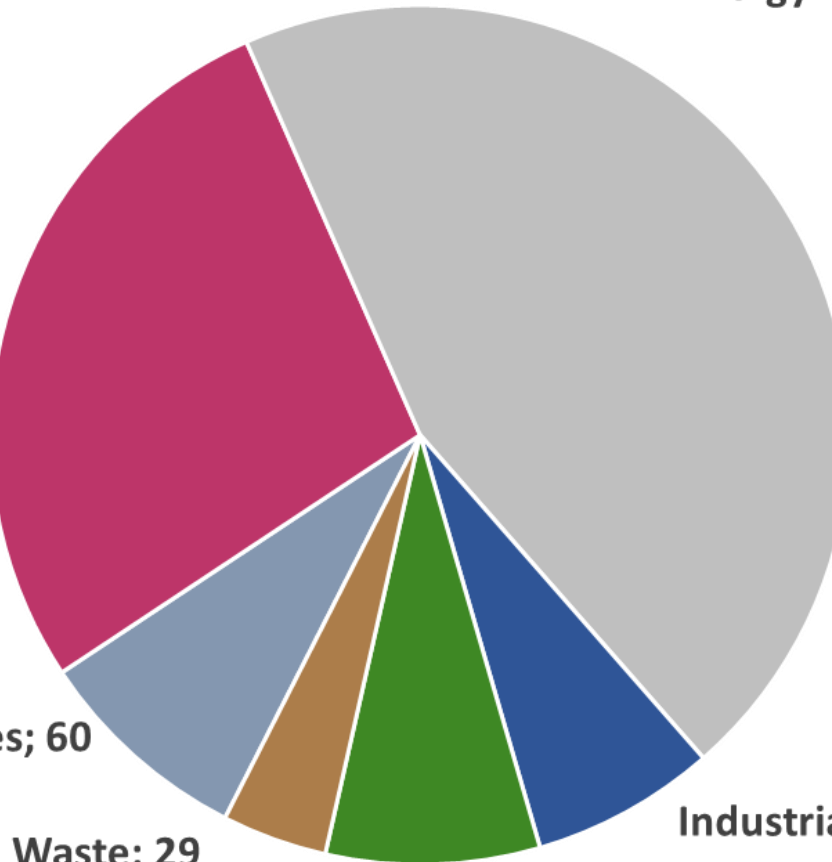
Energy - Transport; 203



Energy - Stationary Combustion; 331



Energy - Fugitive Sources; 60



Waste; 29

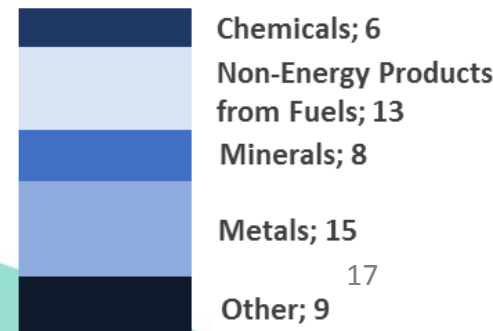
Wastewater; 1

Landfills; 27

Incineration; 1



Industrial Processes & Product Use; 51



Agriculture; 59

Livestock; 33

Ag Soils; 23

Fertilizers; 3



# CANADA'S UNIQUE GHG PROFILE

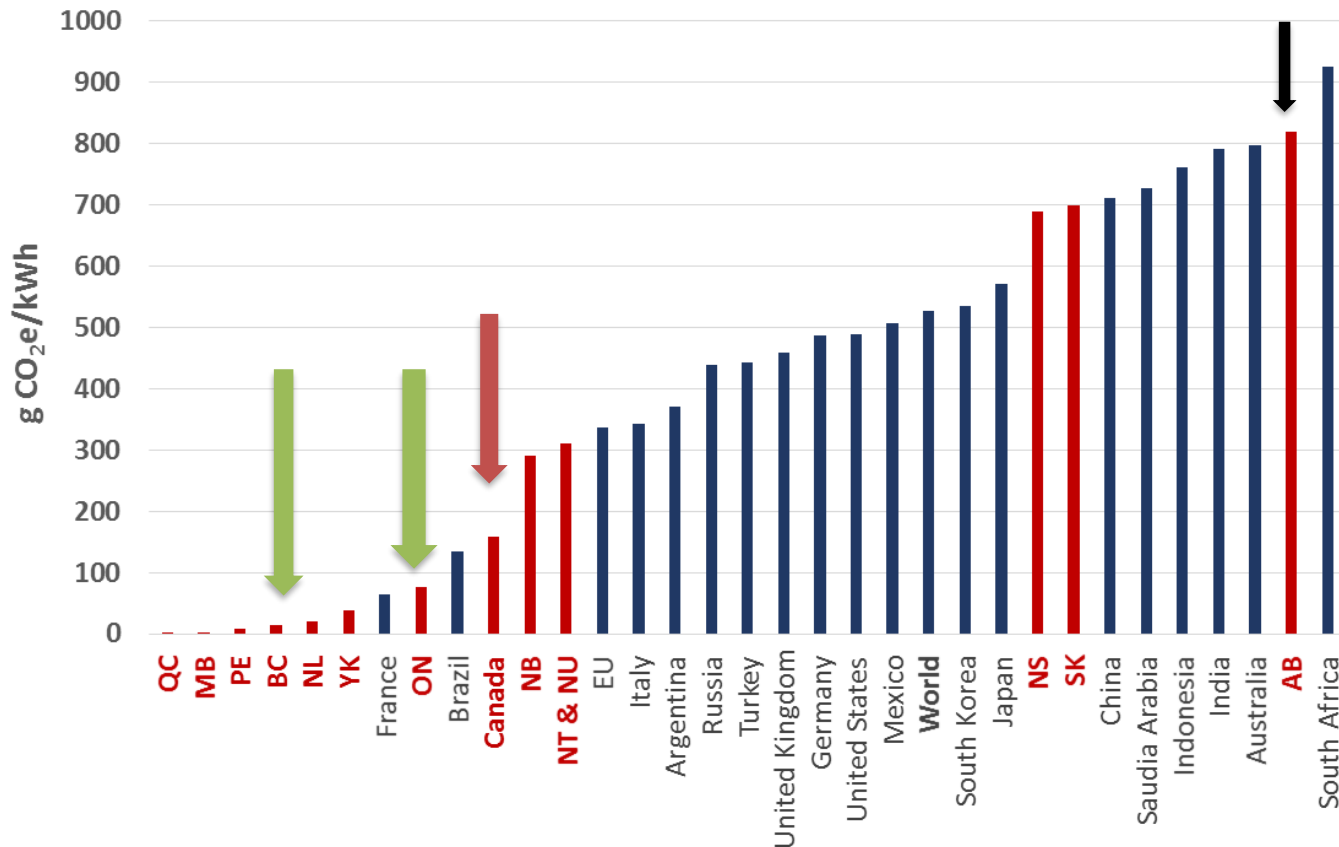
*Biomass addresses largest and fastest growing GHG sources*

- **Large landmass** results in transportation emissions
- **Northern climate** demands space heating
- **Resource-based economy** requires process heat

*Canada has a low electricity GHG intensity*

# CANADA'S ELECTRICAL GRID INTENSITY

*A regional challenge, not a national challenge*



*Forest companies as bioenergy producers - recognizing the value of behind the fence production and feeding the grid*

# LARGE IMPACT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Bioheat including District Energy
2. Renewable Natural Gas in Pipelines
3. Liquid Transportation Fuels
4. Co-Processing Biocrude in Upgraders & Oil Refineries
5. Firing in Coal-fired Power Plants – AB, SK, NS, NB
6. Process Heat for Cement Production



# BIOHEAT FOR DISTRICT ENERGY



- A. Pellet Boiler
- B. Fortum Värtan
- C. Spittelau
- D. Creative Energy

# BIOHEAT FOR DISTRICT ENERGY



## UNBC Bioenergy Project

Forest residues to heat, with GHGs saved



# RENEWABLE NATURAL GAS



- A. Manure Biogas
- B. Hamburg
- C. GoBiGas
- D. Biotransport

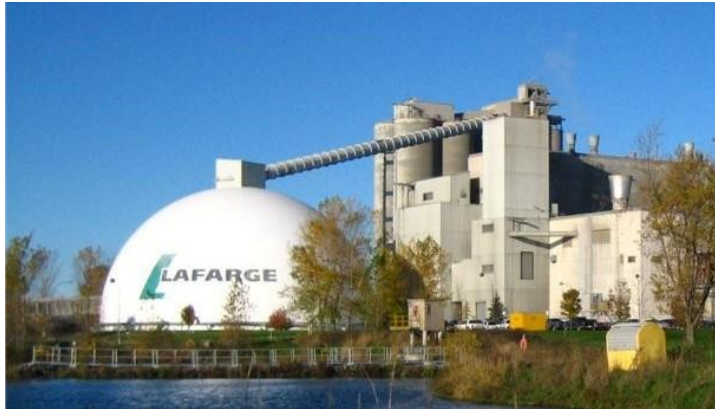
# TRANSPORTATION FUELS AND CO-PROCESSING



- A. DuPont Nevada
- B. Neste Rotterdam
- C. Great Green Fleet
- D. Biojet



# CO-FIRING AND PROCESS HEAT



- A. Drax
- B. Vaasa - Valmet
- C. Lafarge Bath
- D. ArcelorMittal BR



# BIOMASS INNOVATION\* (BIOCLEANTECH)

(50 MT/18% REDUCTION IN ALBERTA)

- Displace Coal in Generating Stations: 15.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- RNG & Biogas Management: 6 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Bioheat: 5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Co-generation at Oil Sands *In Situ* sites: 11 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Cellulosic Ethanol & Renewable Diesel: 2.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Biocrude Co-Processing: 6 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Biomass for Cement Process Heat: 0.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq
- Agricultural Management Practices: 3.5 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> eq

\*Biomass Innovation

[http://biocleantech.ca/Biomass\\_GHGEconomy\\_Canada\\_2016.pdf](http://biocleantech.ca/Biomass_GHGEconomy_Canada_2016.pdf)

# BENEFITS: JOBS AND COMMUNITIES

- Job opportunities related to biocleantech
  - Higher quality jobs in resource management
  - Operational rather than installation
- Linked to production of higher-value products, such as lumber, agricultural products, chemicals
- Requires services of high tech sectors for GIS, mapping, remote sensing, drones, autonomous vehicles, research

# Canada's clean technology jobs reach 55,600 and grew 11.4 percent





# BENEFITS: JOBS AND COMMUNITIES

- Engagement of First Nations essential
- Local energy prevents drain of financial resources

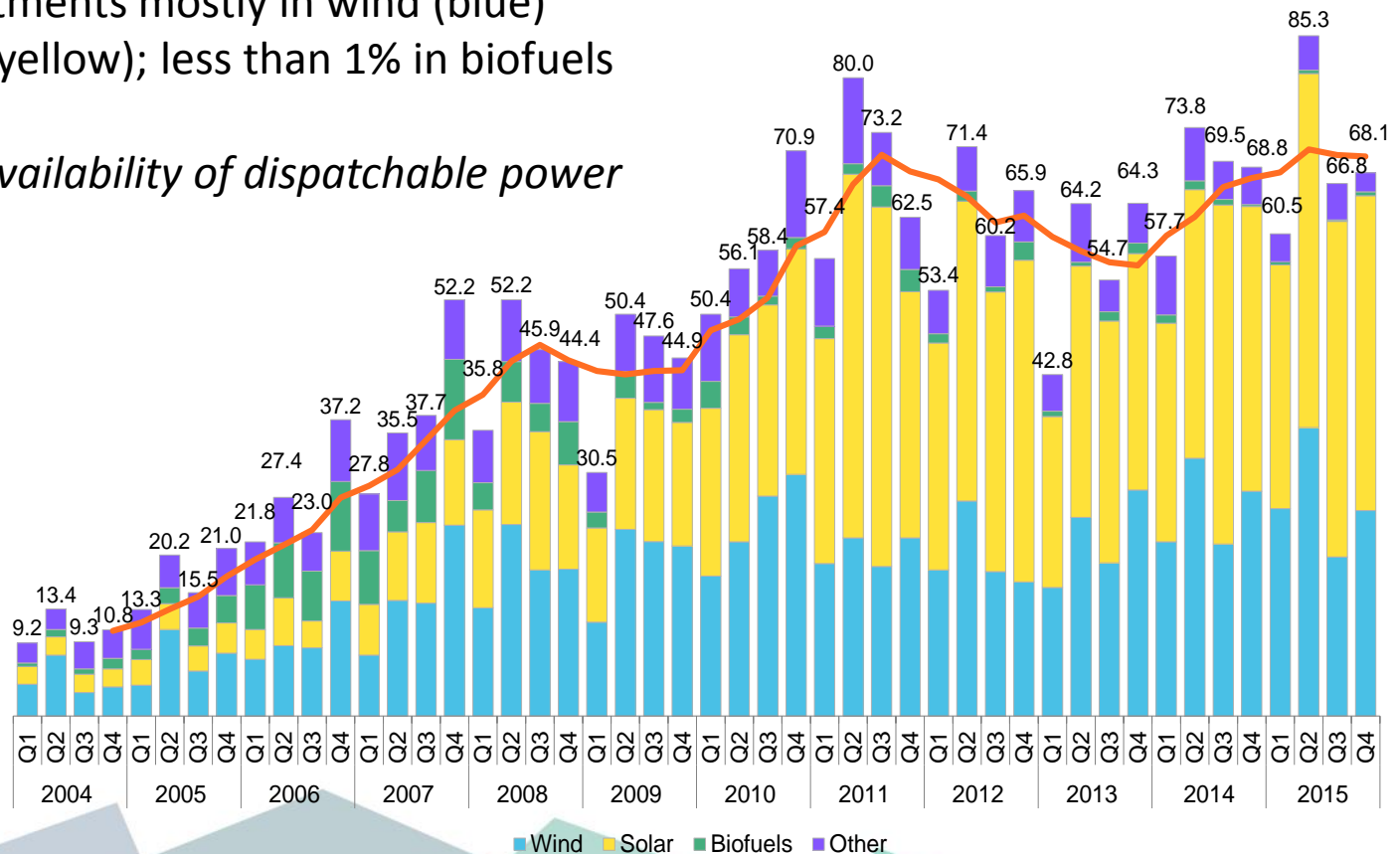




# THE ECONOMICS

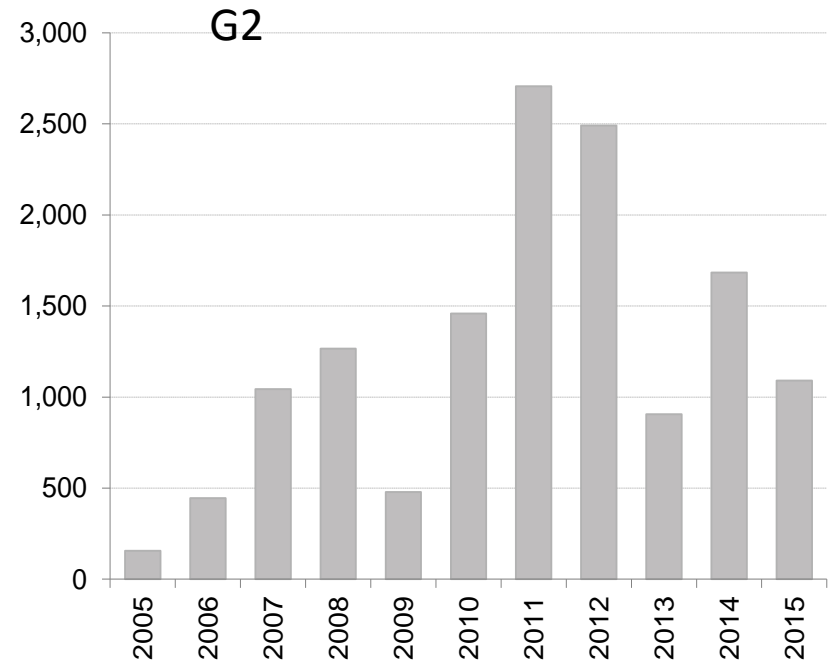
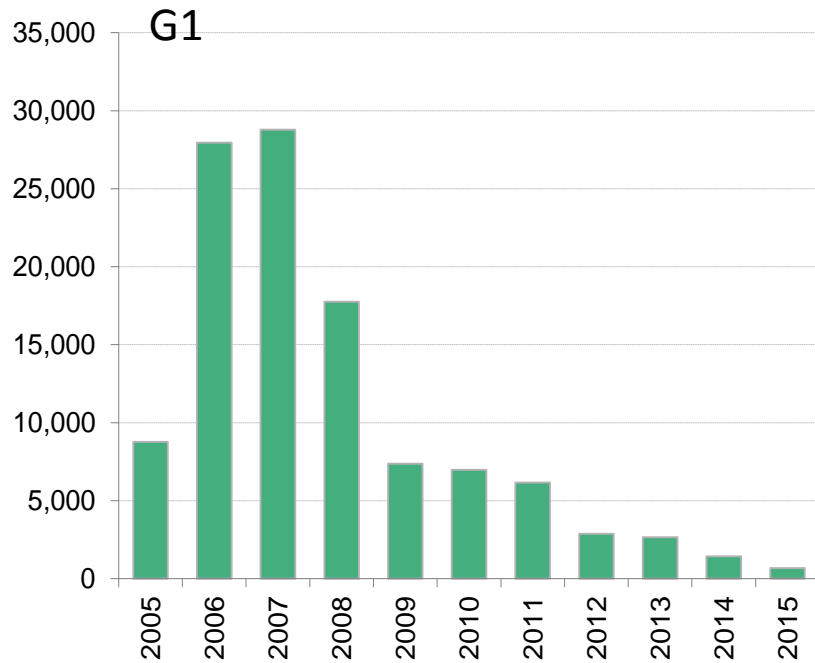
## Global Investment in the Renewables Sector 2004-2015 (\$BN)

- New investments mostly in wind (blue) and solar (yellow); less than 1% in biofuels since 2004
- *Assumes availability of dispatchable power*



# THE ECONOMICS

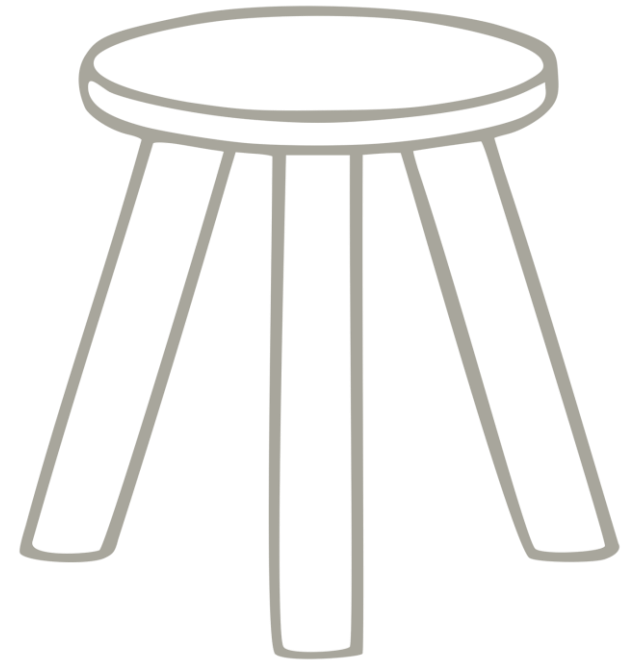
Global Investment in Biofuels by Technology Q1 2005 – Q2 2015 (\$M)



Source: Bloomberg New Energy Finance, Nawitka

# ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY

- Environmental sustainability
  - Forest certification, understanding CC impacts, management for multiple markets
- Economically sustainable
  - Access to patient capital
  - Enabling policy
- Social sustainability
  - Community engagement, jobs
  - Public assurance



*Balance of affordability and effectiveness*

"Canadians understand that a healthy environment and a strong economy are not competing priorities. Now is the time for Canadian companies to capture their share of the global market for clean technology. From waste management to biofuels to greener solutions for the oil and gas industry, these Canadian companies are leading the world in intelligent, environmentally responsible and economically sound solutions in a number of key economic sectors."

*The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, 2016*





THANK YOU

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# SHIFT TO A LOW CARBON ECONOMY

- Definition of term
- Time frame
- Requirements – reduction of emissions, shift away from fossil fuels
- Enhanced interest in sustainability – forest sector has much to teach in this regard sustainability certification/measurement and modeling as well as certification
- We need to understand carbon in natural cycles, managed cycles, as part of our energy system