


SEAS

Scalable Energy from Aquatic Sources

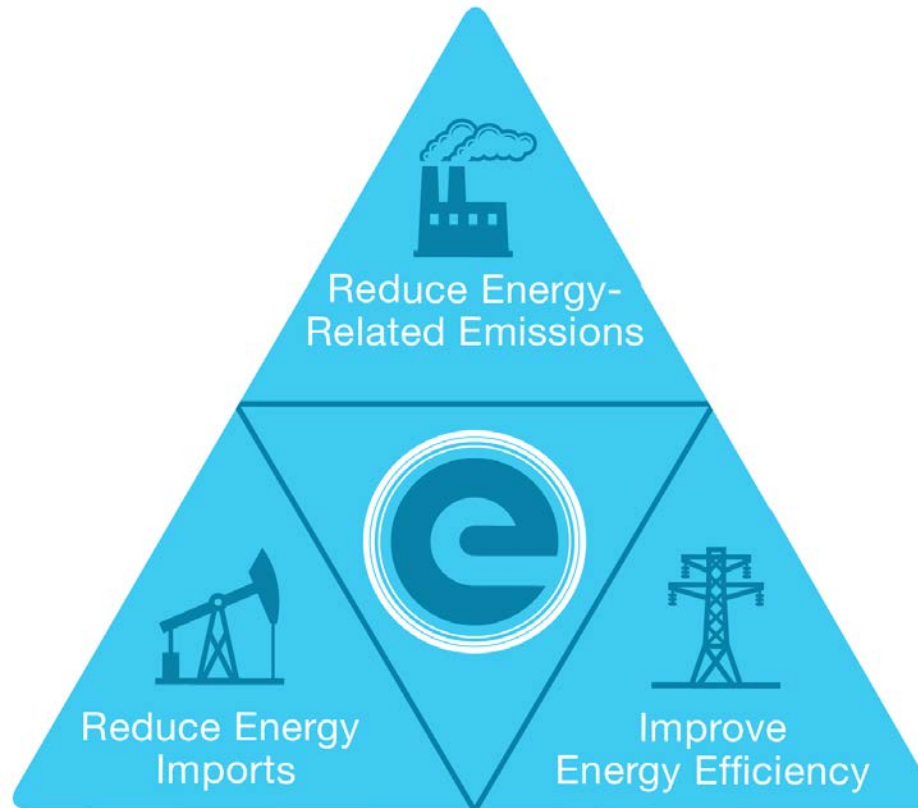
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Presentation to Alaska Mariculture Task Force
Juneau, Alaska
November 9, 2016



ARPA-E Mission

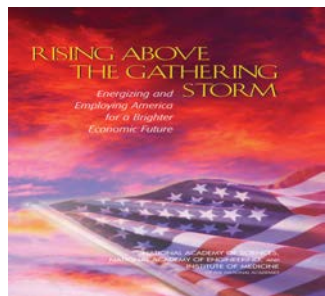
Catalyze the development of transformational,
high-impact energy technologies



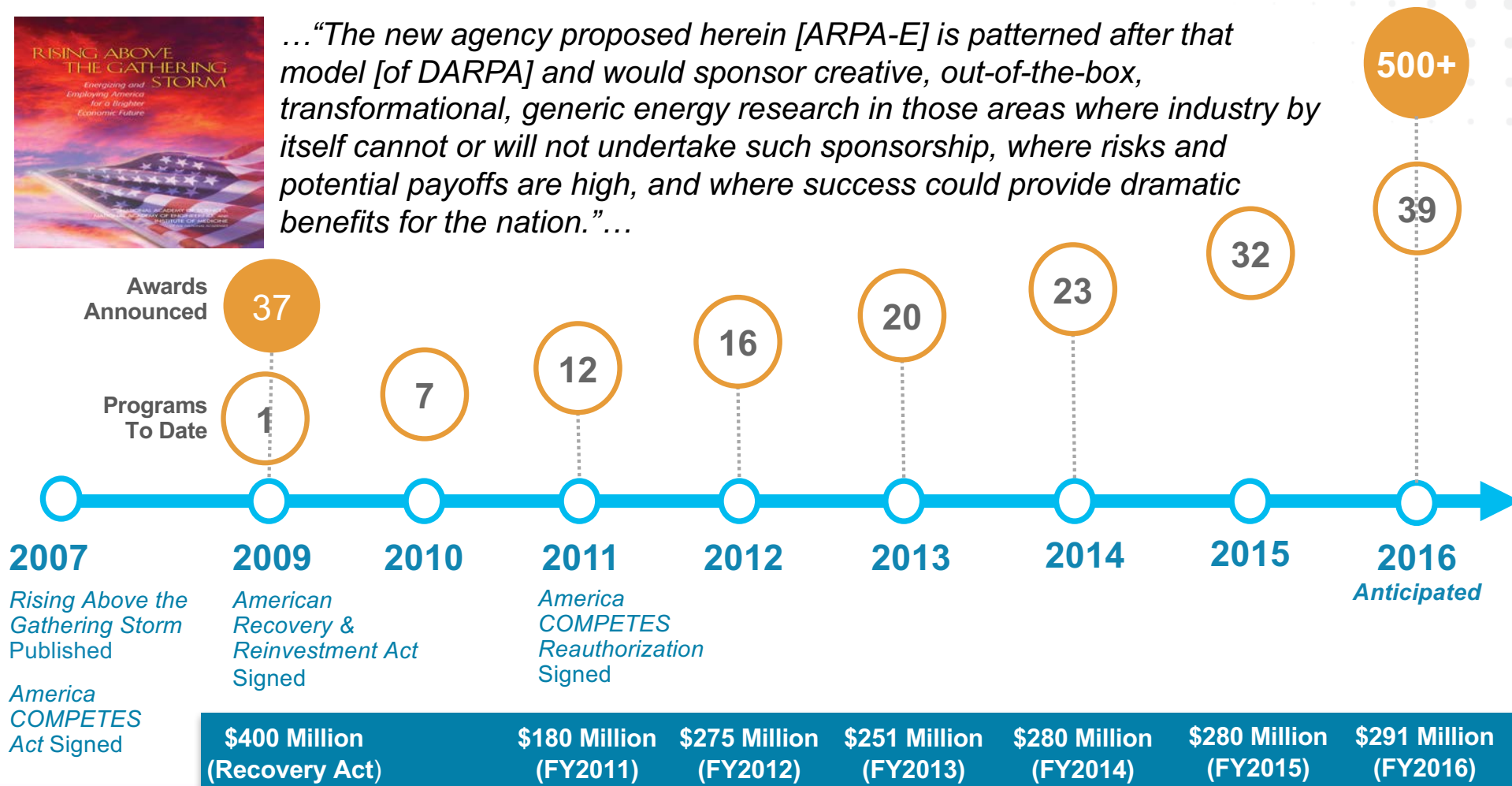
Ensure the U.S. maintains a lead in the development
and deployment of advanced energy technologies

ARPA-E's History

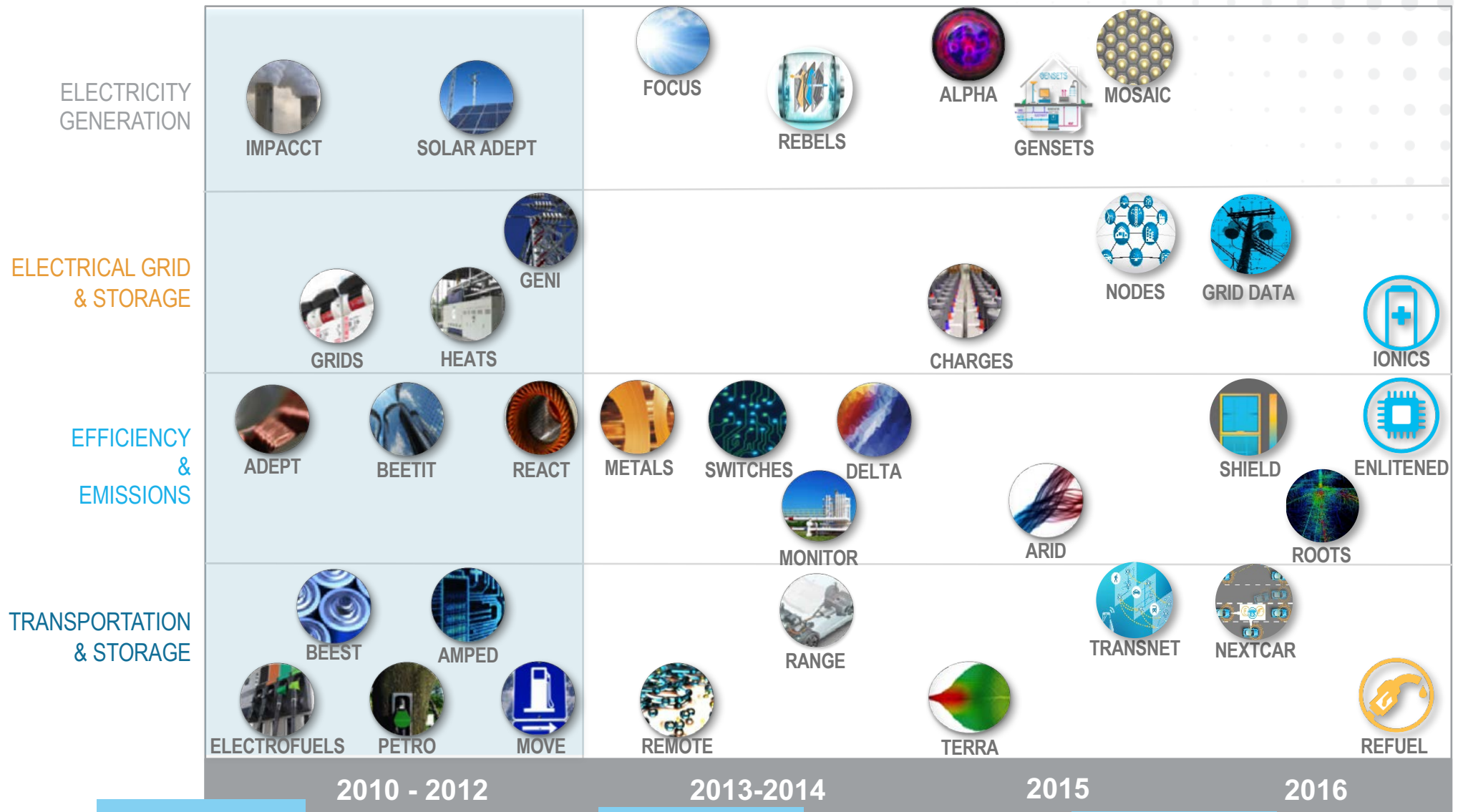
In 2007, The National Academies recommended Congress establish an Advanced Research Projects Agency within the U.S. Department of Energy*



...“The new agency proposed herein [ARPA-E] is patterned after that model [of DARPA] and would sponsor creative, out-of-the-box, transformational, generic energy research in those areas where industry by itself cannot or will not undertake such sponsorship, where risks and potential payoffs are high, and where success could provide dramatic benefits for the nation.”...



ARPA-E Programs and OPENs



OPEN 2009
36 projects

OPEN 2012
66 projects

OPEN 2015
41 projects



If it works...

will it matter?

Measuring ARPA-E's Success

Since 2009 ARPA-E has invested approximately \$1.3 billion across over 500 projects, through 32 focused programs and 3 open funding solicitations.

For all alumni and current projects:

- ▶ Follow-on Funding
 - 45 projects have attracted more than \$1.25 billion from the private sector
- ▶ Partnerships with other government agencies
 - 60 government projects
- ▶ New company formation
 - 36 new companies formed





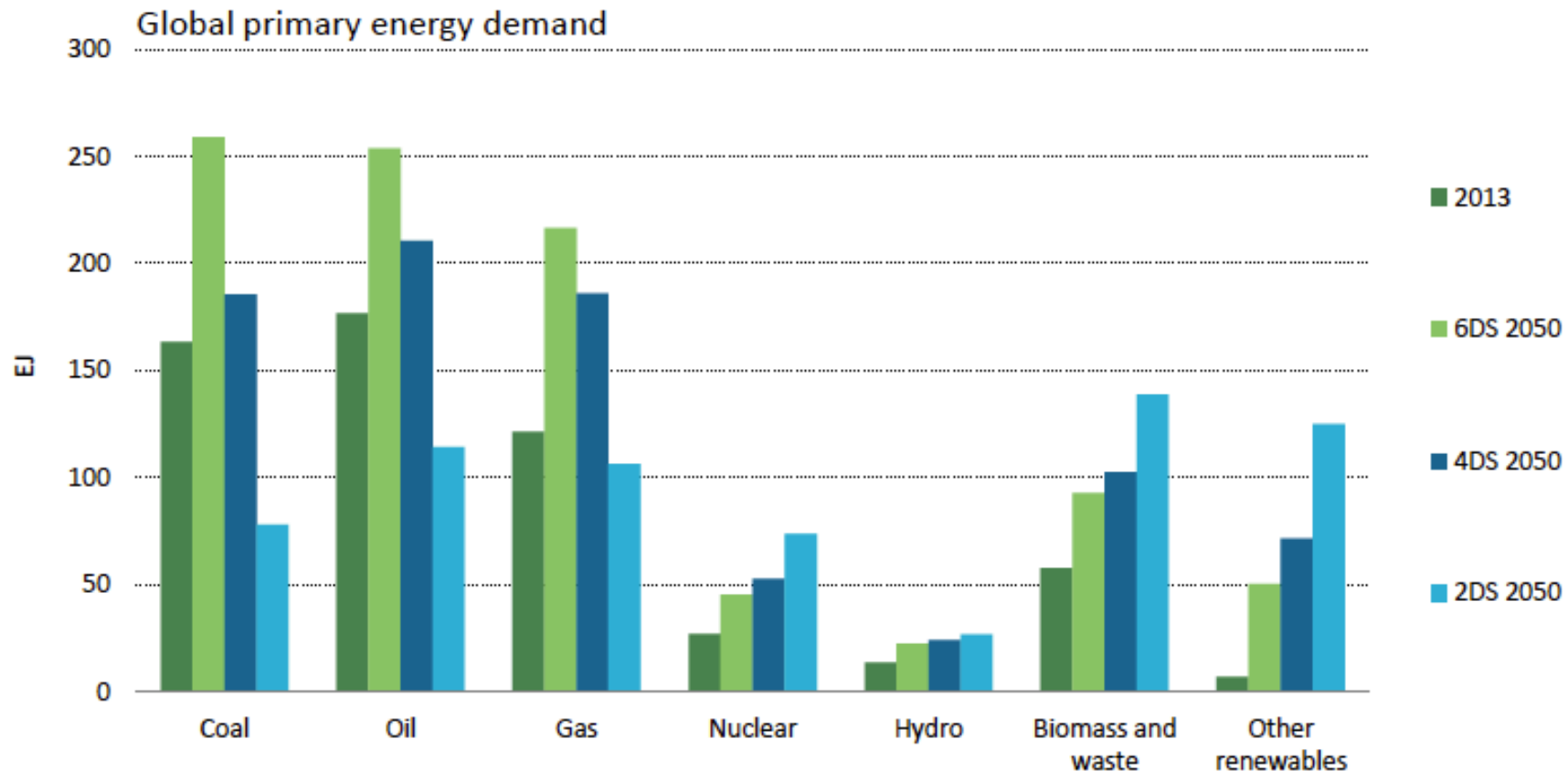
**Oceans are the largest untapped
growth opportunity for biomass**

70% of world's surface

Water

Nutrients

Biomass critical for reducing GHG emissions



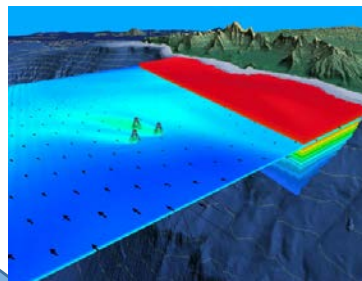
Share of fossil fuels in primary energy is in the 2DS with 45% almost halved by 2050 compared to today (81%), biomass becomes the largest energy source in 2050 in the 2DS.

Source: ETP 2016, IEA

Scalable Energy from Aquatic Sources



Satellite Imaging
& Remote Sensing



Computational
Modeling

**Advanced
Macroalgae
Cultivation &
Harvest
Systems**

Scalable

Resilient

Economical



Robotics & Automation



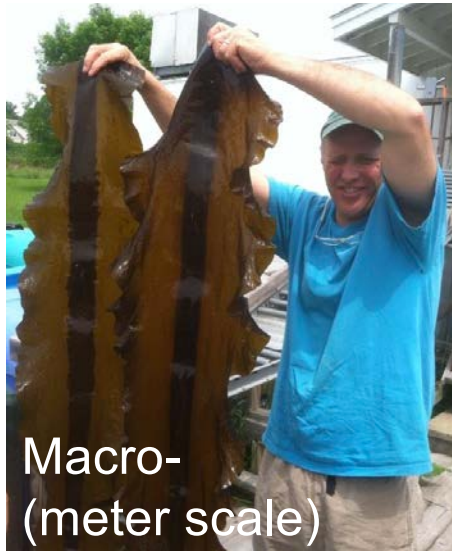
Breeding & Genetics

Mariculture Biomass:

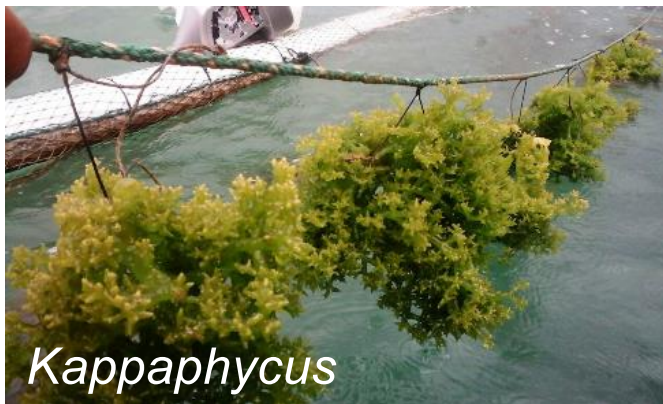
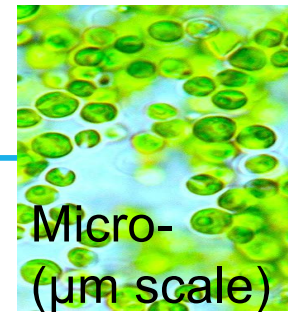
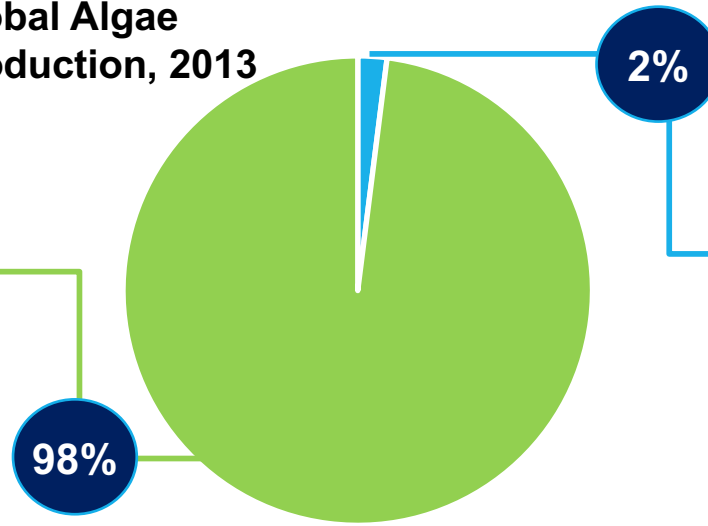
- No Land
- No Freshwater
- No Fertilizer

FOA to be release in Dec. 2016

Macroalgae (aka seaweed) – the quintessential ocean crop



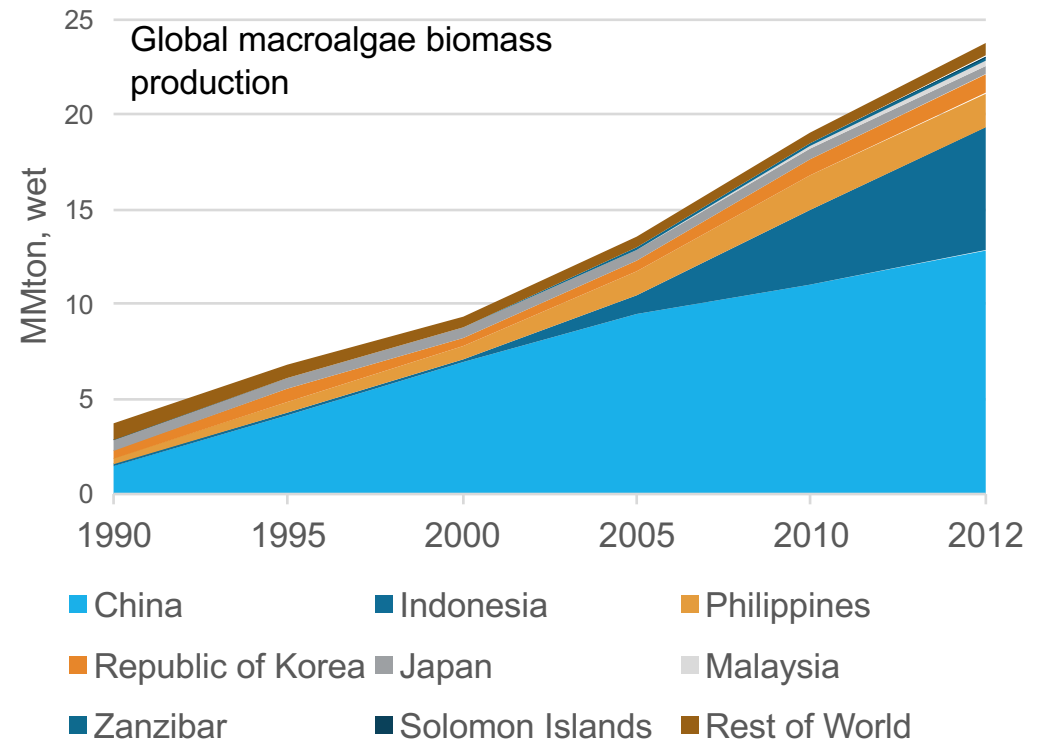
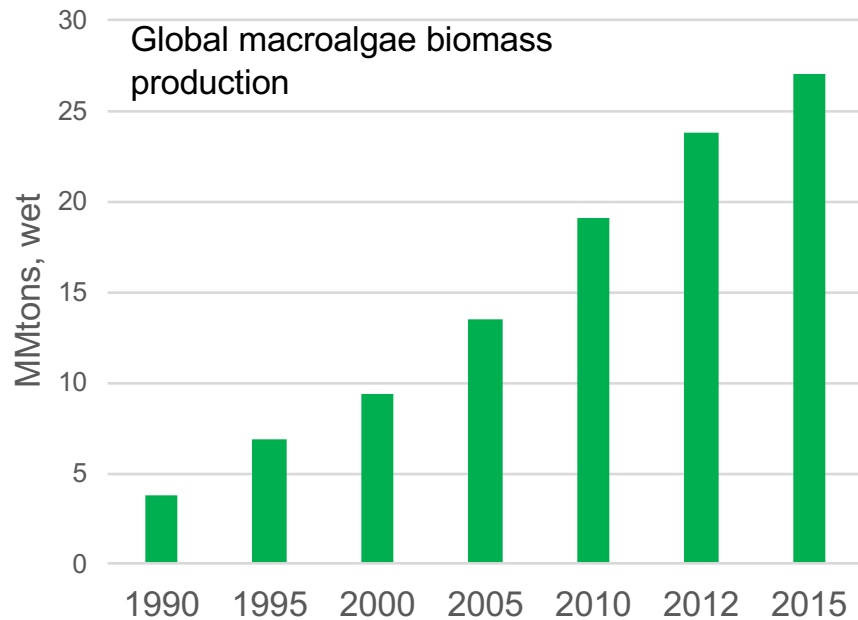
Global Algae
Production, 2013



- Amenable to cultivation & harvest
- Mostly carbohydrate & protein

- Many different species
- Fast growth rate

An existing & growing industry



<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=85747>

Key Questions for ARPA-E:



Can macroalgae ever be
energy-relevant ?

Photo: MBARI

How much is enough?

1 Quad (10^{15} BTU) Ethanol (~13 billion gal)

210 million MT of dry seaweed (~2.1 billion MT wet)

100x current world production

18 million acres (~28,000 square miles)

$\frac{1}{2}$ Size of Iowa

Photo: MBARI

Where should we focus our effort?



Focus on scalable, cost-competitive, and sustainable biomass production

- ▶ Production system should be scalable to millions of tons of dry biomass
- ▶ Target to be cost competitive with terrestrially produced biomass (at “ocean” farm gate)
- ▶ Energy input requirement should not be higher than for cellulosic biomass crops

Key requirements for macroalgae energy farms

- ▶ Accessing “free” nutrients predictably and reliably
- ▶ Expanding beyond the inter-tidal zone into deeper, off-shore waters
- ▶ Energy-efficient harvesting
- ▶ High productivity of individual plant and the whole system

Photo: Erik K Veland

Program Structure Overview

Core Program Area

**Cultivation &
Harvesting System –
Design & Demonstration**

Tools Program Areas

Modeling

Current & Hydrodynamics
Spatial Planning
Nutrient distribution
Macroalgae growth

Monitoring

Biomass growth/health
Biomass composition
In situ nutrients

Breeding

Hybridization Technologies
Sequencing
Genetic marker identification

An underwater photograph of a kelp forest. Tall, brown kelp stalks rise from the bottom, with green leaves at the top. A scuba diver is visible in the center, swimming horizontally. The water is a clear, deep blue.

Thank you !

Questions?

Teaming List – Building the Community

- ▶ <https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov> (RFI-0000027)
- ▶ Opportunity to connect with interested parties in the field
- ▶ Tell people what your capabilities and relevant resources are
- ▶ Spell out areas of expertise you are looking for, if you are trying to form a team
- ▶ Link to enter your profile:
<https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/Applicantprofile.aspx>

ARPA-E Macroalgae Workshop

ARPA-E Macroalgae Workshop Agenda

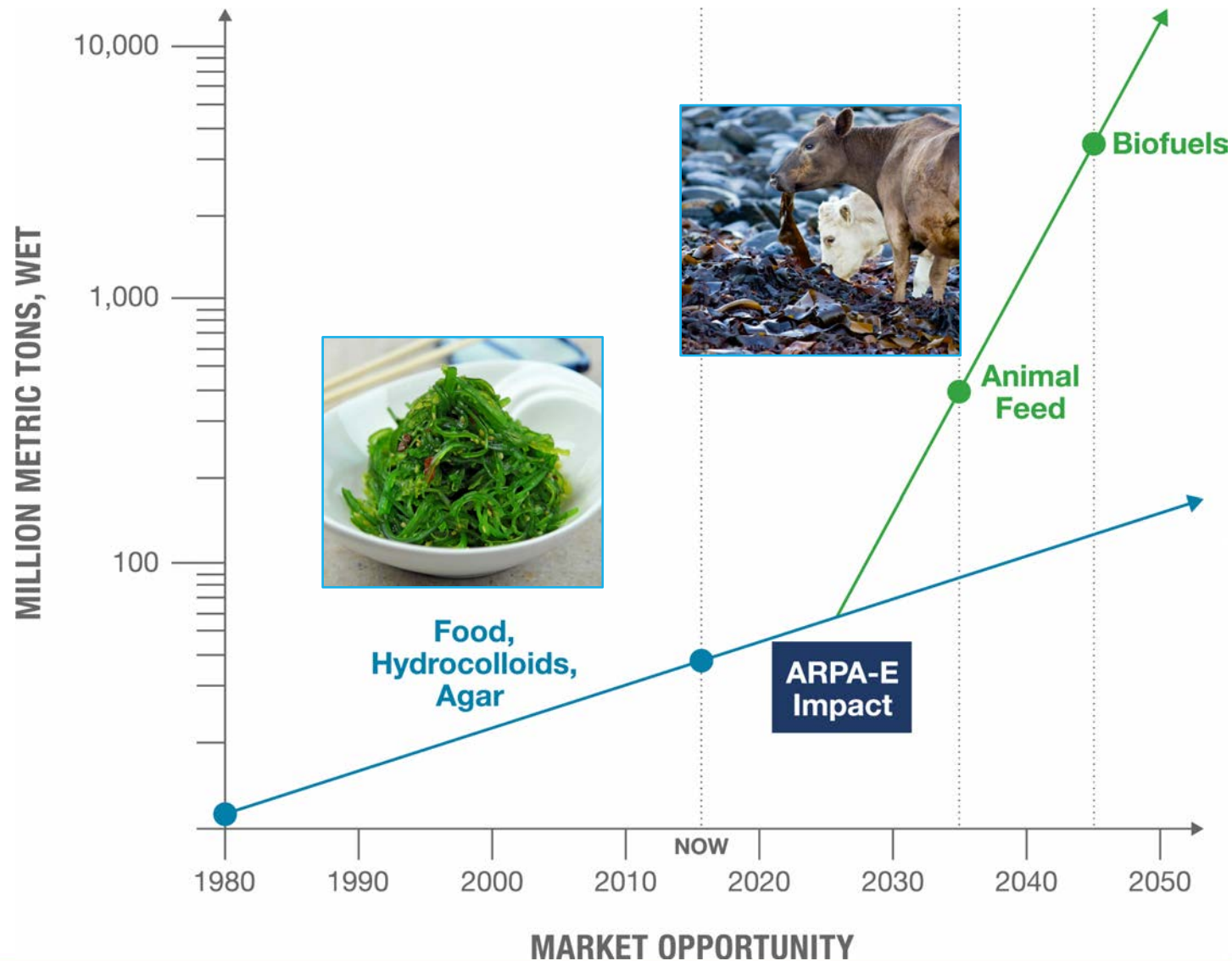
February 11-12, 2016

Capital Hilton, 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

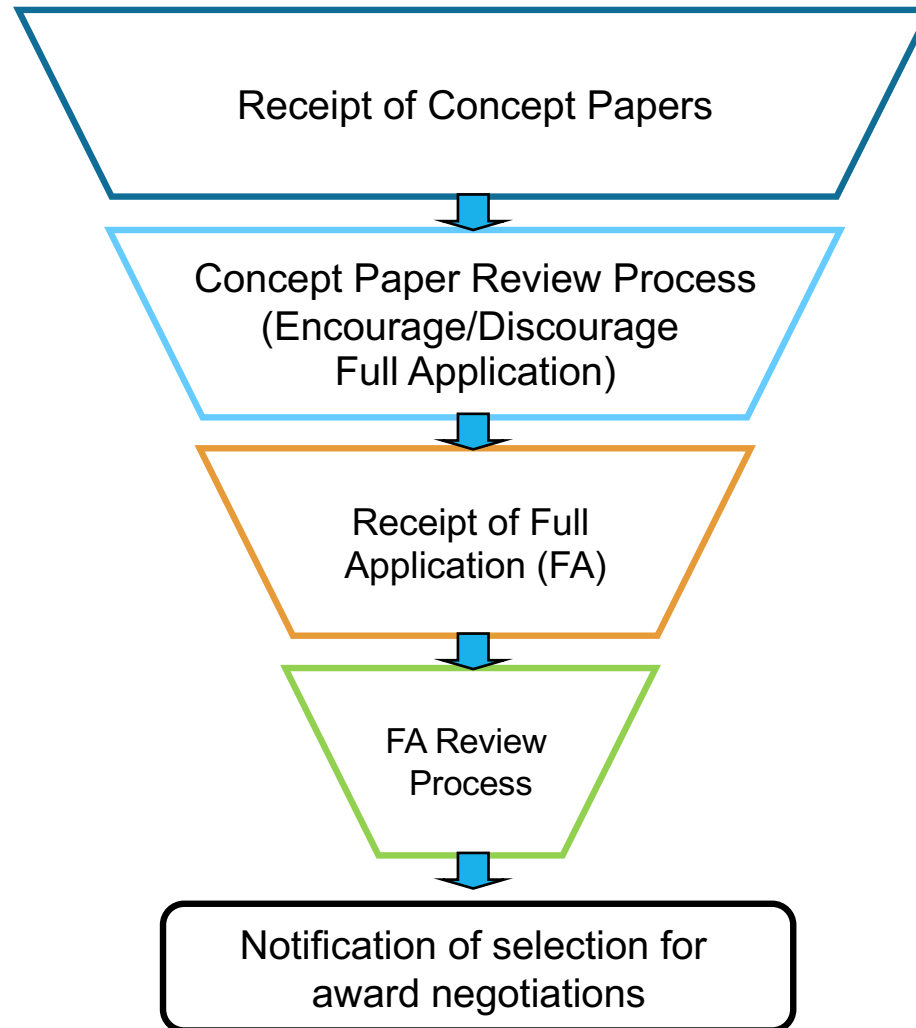
Webpage

<http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=workshop/macroalgae-workshop>

The path to fuels will likely go through the animal feed market



Proposal Review Process (High-level view)

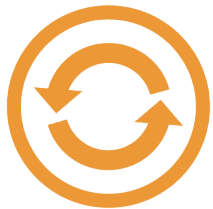


What Makes an ARPA-E Project?



IMPACT

- ▶ High impact on ARPA-E mission areas
- ▶ Credible path to market
- ▶ Large commercial application



TRANSFORM

- ▶ Challenges what is possible
- ▶ Disrupts existing learning curves
- ▶ Leaps beyond today's technologies



BRIDGE

- ▶ Translates science into breakthrough technology
- ▶ Not researched or funded elsewhere
- ▶ Catalyzes new interest and investment



TEAM

- ▶ Comprised of best-in-class people
- ▶ Cross-disciplinary skill sets
- ▶ Translation oriented