

Growing Energy

How Biofuels Can Help End America's Oil Dependence

Jeff Fiedler

Natural Resources Defense Council

March 22, 2005

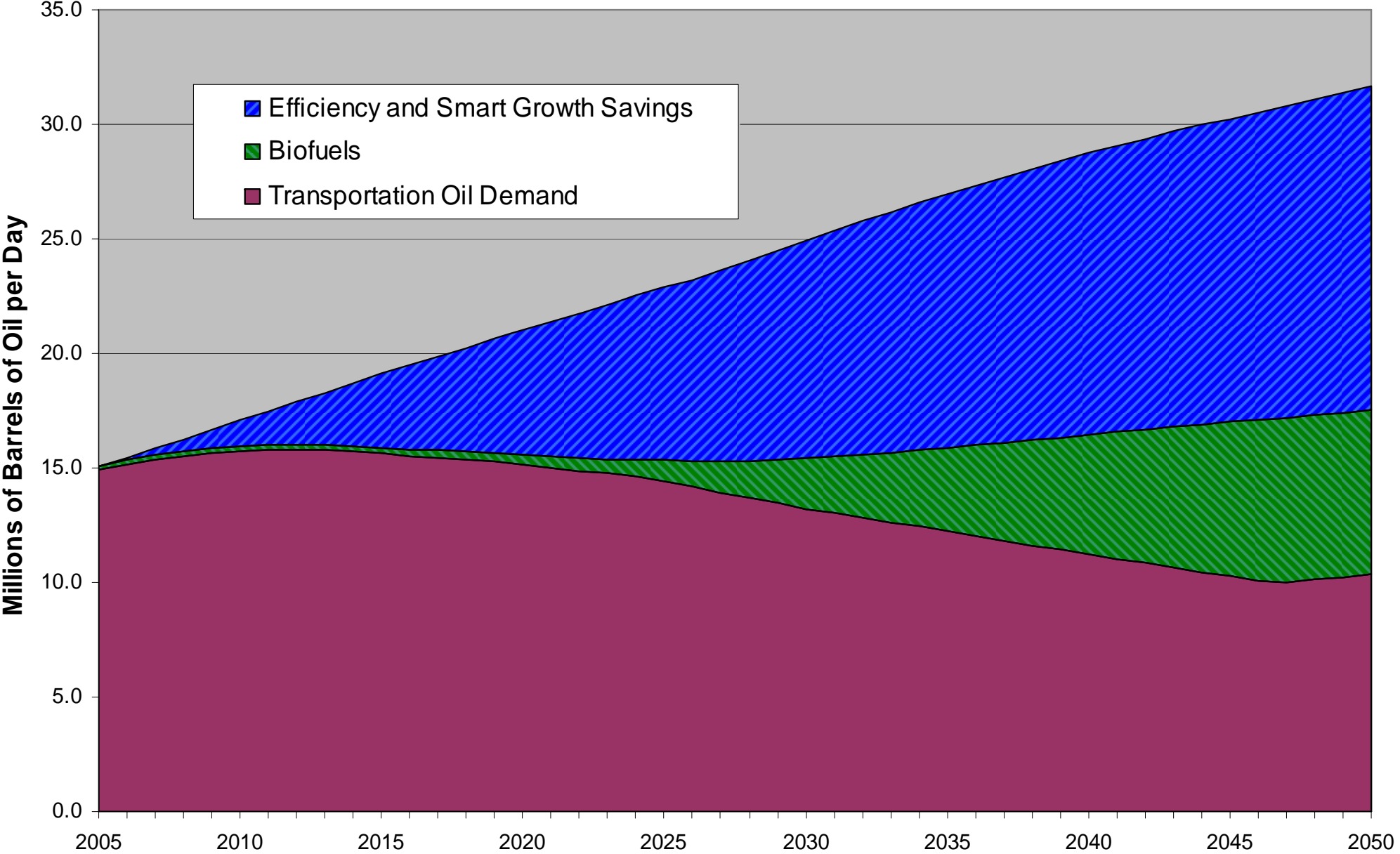
Background

- Funded by National Commission on Energy Policy and Energy Foundation
 - Nathanael Greene, NRDC
- Coordinated with DOE-funded research by:
 - Bruce Dale & Fuat Celik, Michigan State
 - Eric Larson, Princeton University
 - Mark Laser & Lee Lynd, Dartmouth College
 - Jason Mark, Union of Concerned Scientists
 - Samuel McLaughlin, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 - John Sheehan, National Renewable Energy Laboratory
 - Michael Wang, Argonne National Laboratory

Cellulosic Has A Realistic Future

- Land is not a constraint
- Economics are promising
- Environmental benefits
 - Caveat: Air quality concerns with low ethanol blends
- Energy/oil security benefits
- Major new crop for farmers
- Policies are needed to achieve potential:
 - R&D funding
 - Pre-commercial deployment subsidies
 - Production incentives

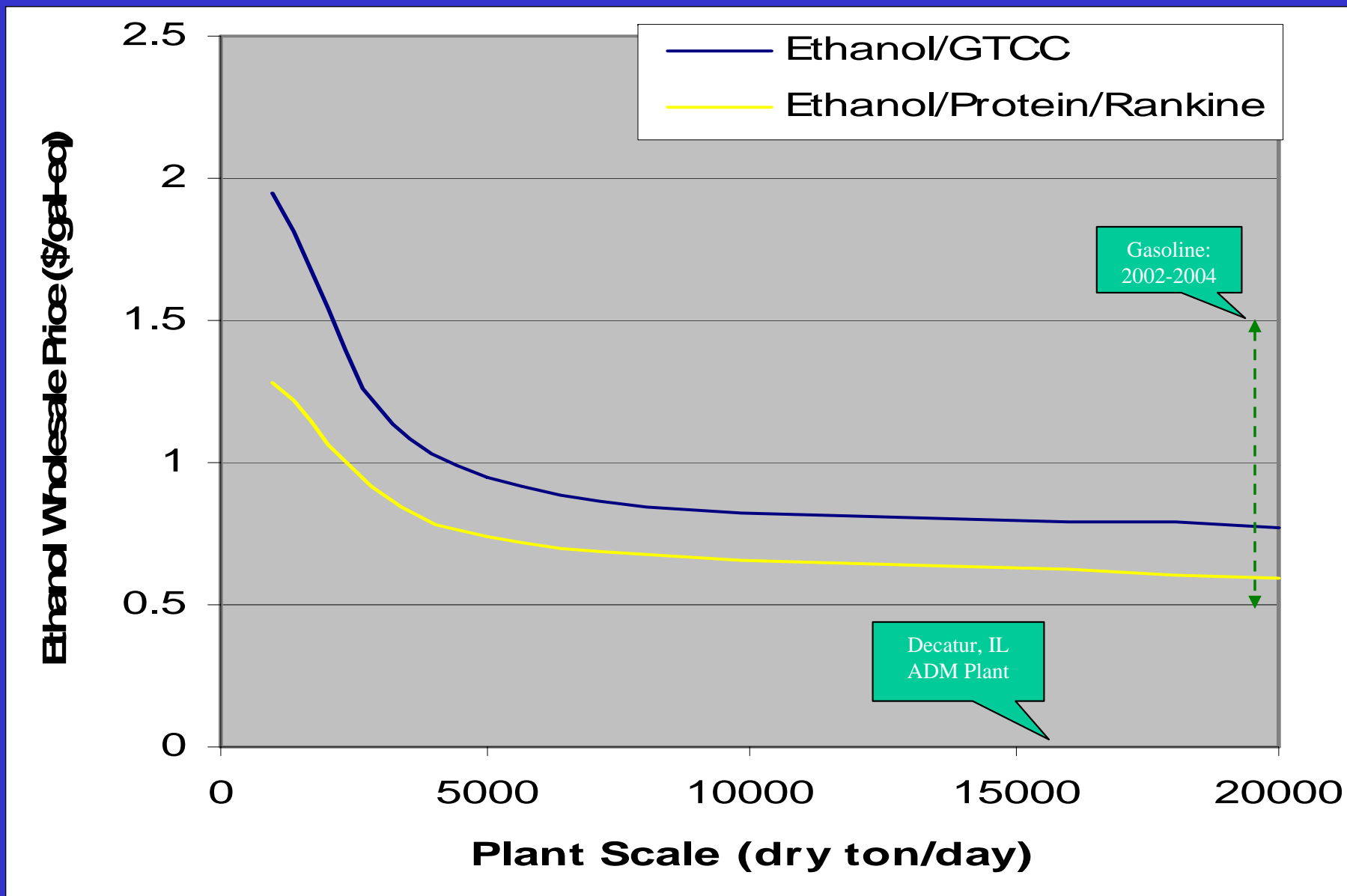
Reduced Oil Demand through Biofuels, Efficiency and Smartgrowth



Land Is Not A Constraint

	<i>Gasoline Demand</i> (B. Gal. Gas-eq.)	<i>Switchgrass Yield</i> (dt/acre/year)	<i>Conversion Efficiency</i> (Gal. Gas-eq/dt)	<i>Land Needed</i> (Mill. Acres)
<i>Status Quo 2050</i>	289	5	33	1753
<i>Production and Efficiency Gains</i>				
<i>Smart Growth/Efficiency</i>	108	5	33	657
<i>Conversion Efficiency</i>	108	5	69	313
<i>Biofuels Coproduction</i>	108	5	77	282
<i>Switchgrass Yield</i>	108	12.4	77	114
<i>Alternative Sources of Land and Biomass</i>				
<i>Protein Recovery</i>	Replace 50-100% of 73 million acres of soybean			41 - 77
<i>Corn Stover</i>	Collect 75% of 323 million tons of corn stover			21 - 58
<i>CRP Land</i>	Convert 33-50% of CRP acreage into switchgrass			6 - 48

Economics Are Promising



What It Means For Farmers

- Biomass can be a major, valuable crop:
 - 107 M acres in switchgrass by 2050
 - \$200-500/acre: 4-10 times CRP contract payment
 - Regionally diverse sources
- Proactive response to emerging policy drivers:
 - Energy security: diversified, domestic sources
 - Mandatory climate policies
 - WTO pressure on support for traditional crops
- Managing the transition:
 - Equipment, knowledge, markets...?
 - Protect investments in corn ethanol

You CAN Get There From Here

- Where's "There"?
 - Cellulosic ethanol cost competitive with gasoline
 - 1 Billion Gallons of production capacity by 2015
- How? \$2B from 2006-2015
 - R&D: \$1.1B
 - Biomass conversion; co-products; feedstock production
 - Pre-commercial deployment: \$900 M
 - Maintain private sector due diligence, financing
 - Phase out over time, leaving self-sufficient industry

Commercial Production Incentives

- Provide consistent driver for biofuels:
 - RFS that includes cellulosic biofuels
 - Recognize that all biofuels are not created equal
 - Oil savings/energy security
 - Vehicle efficiency and smart growth are key
 - Climate policies. GHG limits:
 - Internalize GHG incentive in fuels market
 - Other Ag options also rewarded: C sequestration, on-farm wind, methane capture, reduced nitrogen runoff

Parting Thoughts

- This isn't about corn vs. cellulosic ethanol
 - Corn (starch) ethanol is the present technology
 - Cellulosic has big long-term potential
 - Energy and environmental goals
 - New, major, regionally diverse agricultural market
 - Opportunities for achieving joint objectives
- Inevitability of oil dependence, climate policies
 - Miss the boat without 10 year R&D, deployment

More Parting Thoughts

- Ag – Enviro Cooperation Possible
- Managing the transition is key for all sides
 - Environmental performance
 - Air quality backsliding
 - Level playing field for cellulosic
 - Integration with corn/corn ethanol production
- Cooperation Takes Work