

# Novel Algae Technology to Utilize CO<sub>2</sub> for Value Added Products (DE-FE0031710) F. Harrington\*, B. Lam, H. Lin (UB), J. J. Maloney\*, and R. Prasad

# **Project Overview** For CO<sub>2</sub> capture to be cost competitive, a revenue stream is required to offset cost of capture **Overall Objectives** 1. Develop scalable, multi-stage, & continuous algae technology (MSC) for high $CO_2$ capture efficiency and high productivity from coal flue gas 2. Reduce capture cost via operational efficiency, credits and product revenue **Concept Schematic** Capture - MSC ~12% CO2 > Vent 1-2% CO2 Make-up Harvested Water Recycle **De-Aqua** Culture Water Products

# **Specific Project Objectives**

- Develop & demonstrate scalable, high performance MSC design
- Validate potential to produce 2 nutraceuticals with high value
- Develop dewatering technology with 50% reduction in energy use
- Conduct field test of MSC with real flue gas
- LCA and validate potential for significant net CO<sub>2</sub> reduction
- Perform TEA and demonstrate modeled algae production cost <\$200/ton



#### Sunlight Variation – Amherst, NY 100,000 90,000 80,000 70,000 60,000 50,000 40,000 **5** 30,000 20,000 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 lime (Hr)



#### Large intra- and inter-day sunlight variation observed

Month	Month Average Light Intensity (Lux)				
Wonth	Internal GH	External GH			
Apr-19	6893				
May-19	9423				
Jun-19	11306				
Jul-19	12877	23243			

- Substantial inter & intra-day variation
- Improving sunlight from spring to summer
- ~2x light loss from outside to GH

# **MSC Background**

#### **Key Features**

- Continuous process
- Natural sunlight, top lit
- Closed system
- Stable algae concentrations
- High water recycle
- Scalable, predictable, controllable



PBR Type	Light		Feed Gas		# of	Overall Performance	
	Source	Intensity Avg (Lux)	CO2	Post FGD Cont	Stages	% Productivity of Target	Total C
E	Artificial	~9,000	12.0%	N/A	3	56%	54%
R	Artificial	~9,000	12.0%	N/A	3	80%	80%
Н	Sunlight	~11,000	12.0%	SOX/NOX + HM	3	85%	73%
С	Sunlight	~14,500	12.0%	SOX/NOX + HM	2	<b>123</b> %	74%

Performance dependent on sunlight and PBR design/operation

# **Product Generation**

## **Strain Features:**

- Strains are product dependent
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture and productivity
- High protein content
- High value product content

## **Products:**

- Nutraceuticals, Food additives
- Animal/Aquaculture Feed
- Biofuels



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# Algae Dewatering: Anti-fouling Membrane

#### Grafting zwitterions to improve hydrophilicity and antifouling properties





#### Advantages:

- Simple at room temperature in the aqueous solutions
- Covalent bonds to achieve long-term stability







- Multi-stage process incorporating membrane
- Long-term goal: Dewater culture to concentrations required for downstream applications



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