

## A Message from Reuse Wastes, Inc: "Science Fiction Is Not So Fiction Anymore"

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The world is changing faster than ever before. Captured dreams of science fictions writers are now becoming realities, many of which are regular features in our households and our pockets. The communicator and replicator from Star Trek are now cell phones and 3-D printing. Video phones popularized by movies like 2001: A Space Odyssey and Spaceballs (Pizza the Hutt, anyone?) are now permanent features of our smartphones. And my personal favorite, Jules Verne's *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865) & *Around the Moon* (1870), materialized a projectile called "Columbia" built in Florida carrying three men to the Moon. Amazingly, Verne imagined this event one hundred years before NASA made it happen (Nostradamus, who?). Today's computers and mobile technology are enabling rapid innovation at a pace never before seen allowing even more fantastic ideas to be turned into reality every day. A perfect example is an early stage company with big ideas and a blistering pace of development, Reuse Wastes Inc. (RUWI pronounced roo-ee)



You may recall, in 1985, Doc Brown created a time-traveling DeLorean in *Back to the Future*. Besides the time-traveling element of the car, one feature was that the car was eventually powered by garbage. The "Mr. Fusion Home Energy Reactor" converted household waste into enough fuel to allow the car the energy it needed to conduct time-travel. While RUWI won't be powering any time-traveling DeLoreans, it does have the technology to turn your family's trash into valuable transportation fuel just like the Mr. Fusion Home Energy Reactor.



Municipal solid waste (or MSW) in the U.S. is picked up from a neighborhood doorstep and sent to a nearby landfill often in the heart of the community. This standard process is a major environmental and social issue across the country, especially in large urban centers. Landfills take up a tremendous amount of space, spew greenhouse gases into the air, and release toxins which are absorbed into the ground. According to the EPA, the amount of household waste has steadily increased since the 1960s and, as of 2017, the average person produces 4.51 pounds of trash per day. That's lower than it was in 2000 at 4.74, but there are also about 40 million more people now than 2000, so do the math.

If you think recycling is a solution, think again. Recycling in the U.S. has been a failure in many regards. East Asian governments have begun to ban or limit U.S. recyclables which means that the U.S. has to deal with its own waste



instead of exporting it somewhere else. And in communities that still have some semblance of a recycling program the impact may not be as significant as residents would like to believe. Often times, non-allowable substances may be put in the recycling bin causing the entire bin to be sent to the landfill. In 2015, only 3 million tons of plastics were recycled and the remaining 26 million tons were tossed into landfills.

The RUWI solution changes the paradigm. The waste is reused for an additional function rather than sitting in a landfill to decay and generate Greenhouse Gases. The RUWI version of the Mr. Fusion Home Energy Reactor is a Submerged Arc Furnace (SAF) and the trash is delivered there instead of to the landfill. Inside a large furnace, the RUWI SAF applies electrical current between an anode and cathode to create a thermal process (1500° C) to dissociate (no burning) the waste into a synthetic gas. The synthetic gas is then converted into renewable fuels. RUWI's patented technology allows them to redirect municipal solid waste from landfills and convert it into low carbon renewable transportation fuels such as diesel and jet fuel in a Zero Waste to Landfill system. Take THAT Doc Brown!

Not only will RUWI help curb the landfill problem, but it will also reduce the carbon footprint of dirty diesel trucks and commercial jet liners. So while we may not be physically stuffing banana peels and Keurig cups into a car, RUWI and its team of engineers will be powering planes, trains, and automobiles WITH YOUR TRASH in the not too distant future.

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*Sources: [Buzzfeed](#), [CNN](#), [RealClearScience](#), [Wikipedia](#), [EPA](#), [The State of Recycling in Illinois – Alex Truelove & Carrie Katan](#)*

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