

## Opportunities of Methane Fermentation for the UK Bioeconomy

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Methane conversion to higher value products offers a means of converting a volatile compound into liquid or solid commodities, which are easier to store and often have higher value than the feedstock. However, to make the technology economically viable, feedstock costs and products value must be considered. Proposed sources of lower cost methane include biogas derived from anaerobic Digestion (AD) and/or landfill, of which dual-purpose facilities could be the key to generate the bio methane for methanotrophic fermentation to higher value chemicals.

Whichever feedstock will be favoured by industrial users, policy makers will have to ensure incentives are in place. At the time of writing, liquid fuel from gas is not eligible for credits under the RTFO, despite it being a potential waste product. If biomethane from AD is used for methanotrophic conversion, which in itself is eligible for RTFCs, it has to be ascertained that this will hold true for products thereof.

Full report @ <http://c1net.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Methane-and-the-UK-Bioeconomy.pdf>

*This report was compiled by the above authors through cofounding from C1Net and Sasol Ltd. During preparation of this report Sasol Ltd acted solely in an advisory role and did not influence its outcome and conclusions.*



“The development of biological methane fermentation for most products is still at an early stage. In view of potential future applications in onshore unconventional gas extraction, there is a mutual interest for policy makers and funding bodies to support further research into these promising organisms”