



Join us the second Thursday of every month for a series of "brown bag" seminars, sponsored by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Each seminar is held at NREL's Washington office with a videoconference link to Golden, Colorado. Topics focus on new and innovative renewable energy and energy analysis strategies, models, and technologies.



The Ghost of Christmases Yet to Come: What Will Biofuels Look Like by the Middle of the 21st Century?

An analytical seminar presented by DOE and NREL's Strategic Energy Analysis Center (SEAC)

John Sheehan, Senior Strategic Analyst -
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Thursday, August 10, 2006

Noon – 1 p.m. (in Washington, D.C. - bring your lunch)
10 – 11 a.m. (presented in Golden, Colorado, with a videoconference to Washington, D.C.)



John Sheehan

This is an exciting time for biofuels:

- A sea of change in world oil prices
- Unprecedented private- and public-sector interest in biofuels
- A presidential initiative to make biofuels happen
- An atmosphere of "irrational exuberance" about corn ethanol and biodiesel that has spread throughout the investment community.

With so much going on, it's impossible to know what will happen. In this talk, energy analyst John Sheehan will sketch out a picture of what mature biorefinery technologies could do – and what the agricultural sector could contribute to biofuels supply. Using a recently developed system dynamics model, Sheehan will peer into possible futures. However, like the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come, Sheehan cautions that he can't predict exactly what is destined to happen.

"Men's courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead," said Scrooge. "But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me."

- Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*

John Sheehan has more than 20 years' experience in the field of chemical and biochemical engineering. He has served as an analyst and project manager at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) since 1991. During his tenure at NREL, Sheehan has led research on the production and use of biodiesel and ethanol. From 2002 to 2005, he also led strategic planning activities for DOE's Biomass Program. In October 2005, Sheehan joined the newly formed Strategic Energy Analysis Center at NREL. He holds a B.S. and an M.S. degree in chemical and biochemical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and Lehigh University, respectively.

Golden, Colo., information

1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, Colorado
Building 15, Conference Room 375

Please contact Lynne Fenn at lynne_fenn@nrel.gov or 303-384-7439

Washington, D.C., information

901 D Street SW (also the Aerospace Building, 370 L'Enfant Promenade), adjacent to the Forrestal Building

Please contact Wanda Addison, of Midwest Research Institute (MRI), at wanda_addison@nrel.gov or 202-646-5278

If you are interested in participating in the seminar via conference call, please contact Wanda Addison, of MRI, at wanda_addison@nrel.gov or 202-646-5278 for instructions.

For more information on NREL analysis, please visit the Web site at
<http://www.nrel.gov/analysis>