



Online Ethics Center  
FOR ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

# Sustainable Development of Algal Biofuels in the United States

## Description

Link to the National Academies Report, *Sustainable Development of Algal Biofuels in the United States*

## Body

Biofuels made from algae are gaining attention as a domestic source of renewable fuel. However, with current technologies, scaling up production of algal biofuels to meet even 5 percent of U.S. transportation fuel needs could create unsustainable demands for energy, water, and nutrient resources. Continued research and development could yield innovations to address these challenges, but determining if algal biofuel is a viable fuel alternative will involve comparing the environmental, economic and social impacts of algal biofuel production and use to those associated with petroleum-based fuels and other fuel sources. Sustainable Development of Algal Biofuels was produced at the request of the U.S. Department of Energy.

[Read Sustainable Development of Algal Biofuels in the United States](#)

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## Resource Type

Expert Reports

## **Topics**

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## **Discipline(s)**

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## **Publisher**

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