



# Optimization and Carbon Caps

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# Introduction

- **ProSys, Inc.**
  - Process Controls Consultants
  - Basic/Advanced Controls, Alarm Management, DCS upgrades, HMI

# Introduction

- **Carbon Cap and Trade**
- **Carbon Capture and Sequestration**
- **Impacts of Requirements on Refining**

# Waxman-Markey Bill (HR 2454)

- **American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009**
- **Passed by the U.S. House**
- **Placed on Senate calendar**

# Terms

## **“CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent” (CO<sub>2</sub>e)**

- Measure of greenhouse potential
- Includes CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and other gases

## **“Allowance”**

- The right to emit a metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e without penalty

## **“Offset credit”**

- A financial instrument representing CO<sub>2</sub>e removed or prevented

# HR 2454

- Limited CO<sub>2</sub>e allowances
- Penalty = 2× allowance price

**2012: Limits begin for most industries**

**2014: Limits begin for refineries**

2009



# Refinery Allowances Required

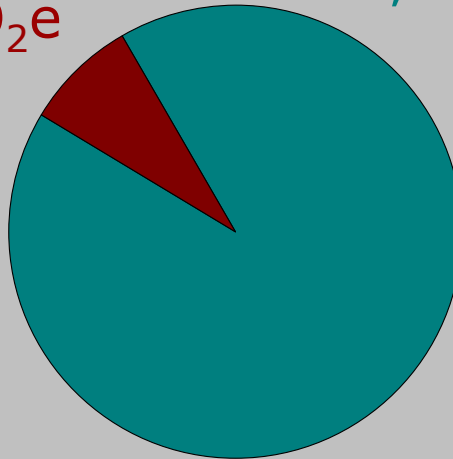
≈ 2,650 Million tons CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (2006)

**Refinery emissions**

215 Million tons CO<sub>2</sub>e

**Fuel products**

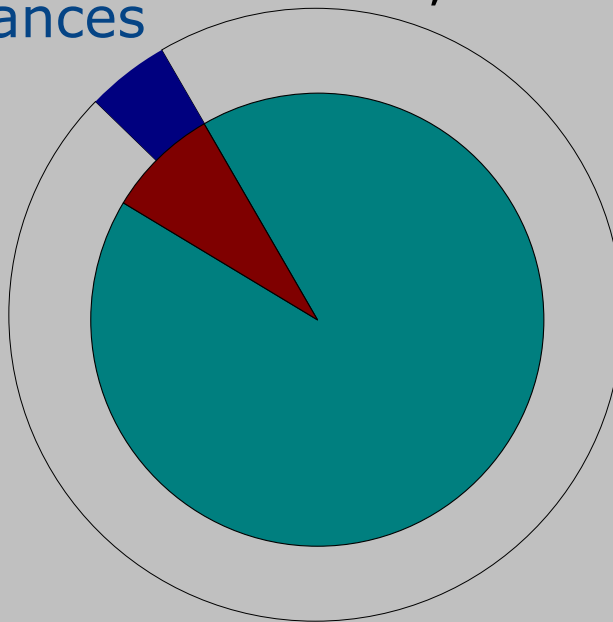
2,437 Million tons CO<sub>2</sub>e



# Allowances Allocated to Refineries

**Allocated at no cost**  
115 Million allowances  
(2014)

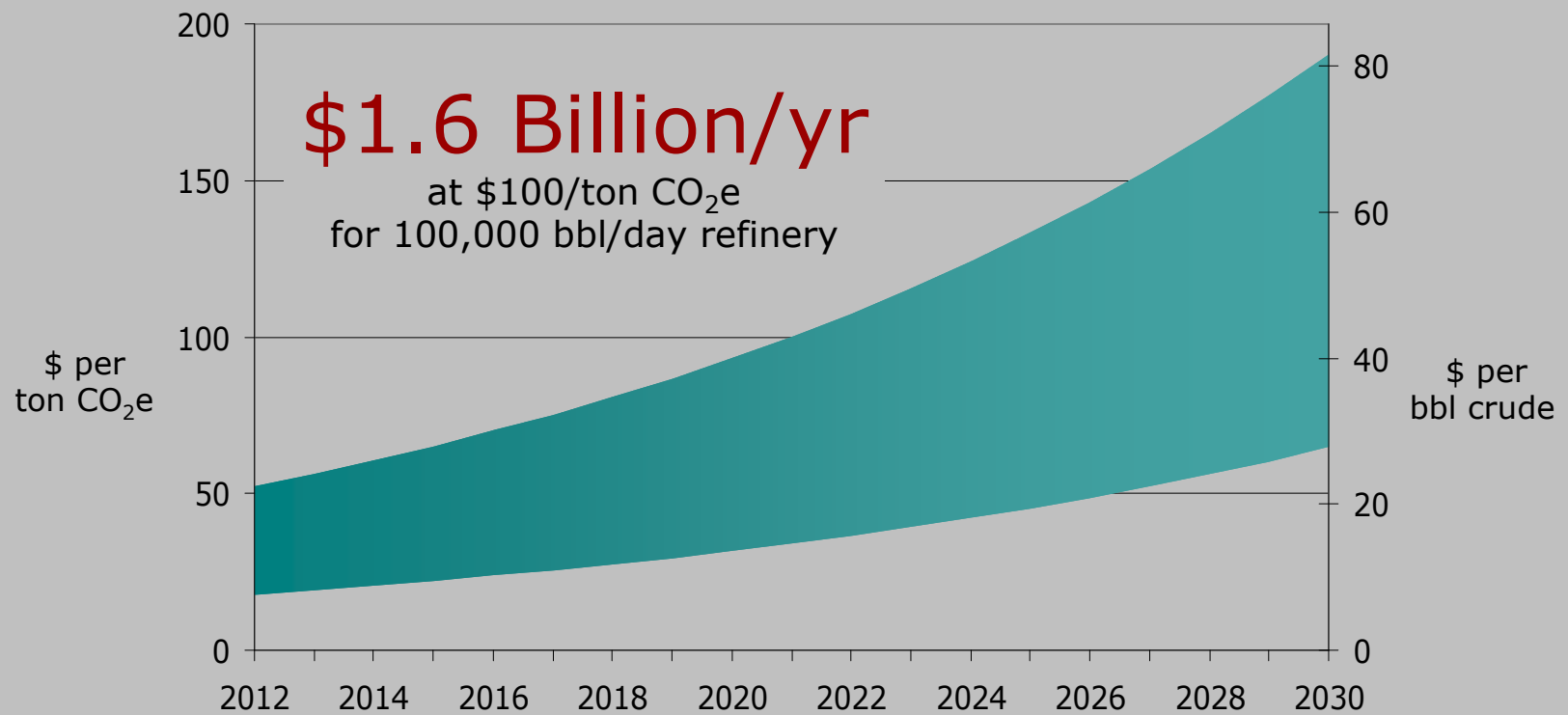
**Refiners need to obtain**  
2,535 Million allowances  
(2014)



# What's a Refiner to Do?

- **Pay for allowances and offsets**
- **Reduce emissions**
  - Optimize processes
  - Capital investment; optimize again
- **Capture CO<sub>2</sub>**
- **Capture and optimize**

# Purchasing More Allowances



Source: Energy Information Administration, "Energy Market and Economic Impacts of H.R. 2454"

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# Receiving a Larger Allocation

**Among refiners, allowances distributed based on:**

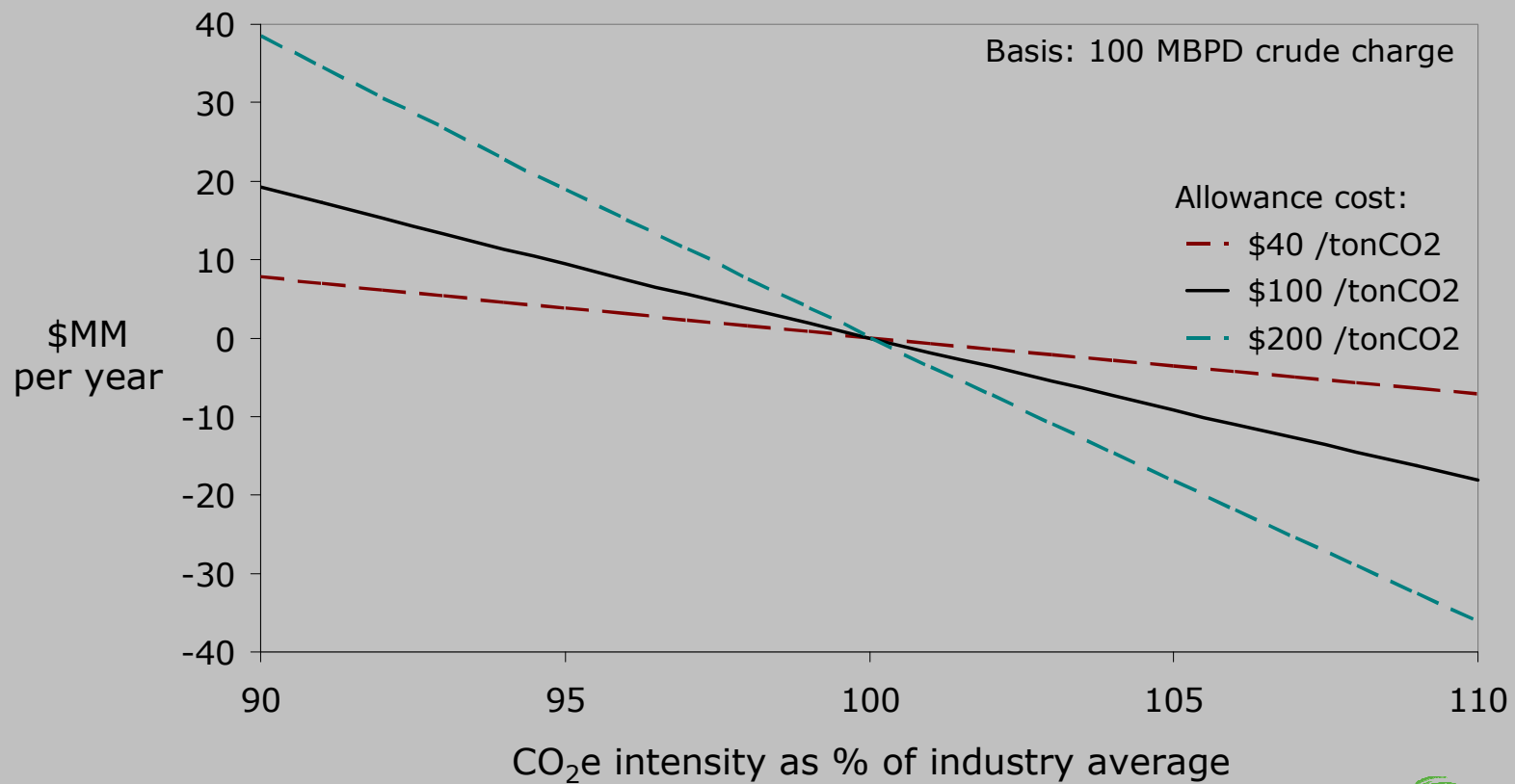
- **Quantity of fuel produced**
- **Intensity**

CO<sub>2</sub>e emitted + CO<sub>2</sub>e from electricity

Fuel production

Efficient refiners **receive more** allowances  
and **require fewer**

# Value or Cost of CO<sub>2</sub> Intensity



# Achieving Efficiency Improvements

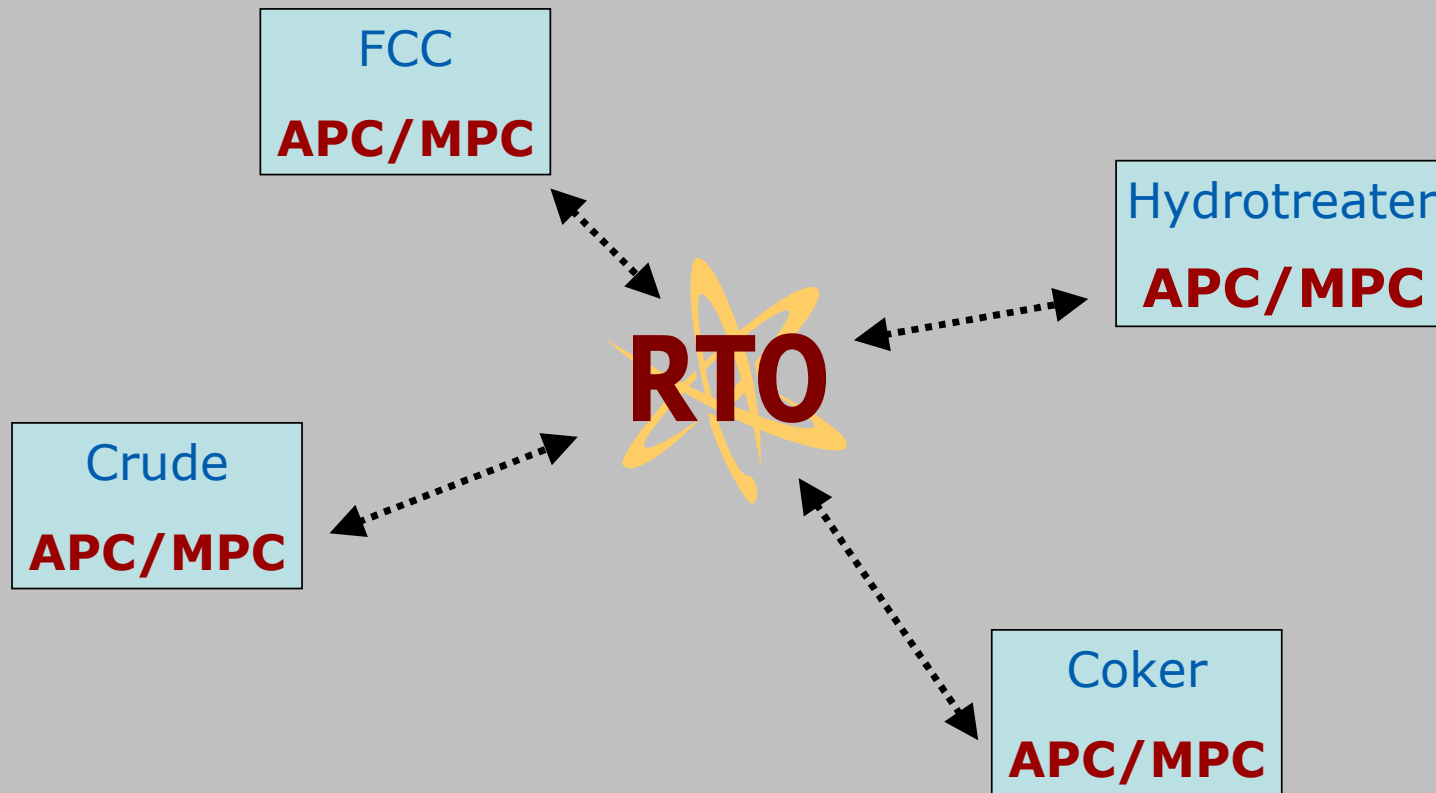
- **Historically, APC and MPC have been cost-effective methods to increase efficiency**
- **APC/MPC provide handles to respond to changing economic conditions**
- **Allow units to operate closer to limits**

# APC/MPC: New Objectives

- **Combustion: CO<sub>2</sub>e/heat ratio**
  - Include electrical power and steam
- **Process: CO<sub>2</sub>e/throughput ratio**
  - Question old assumptions about process limits

**No longer about maximizing throughput**

# Levels of Optimization



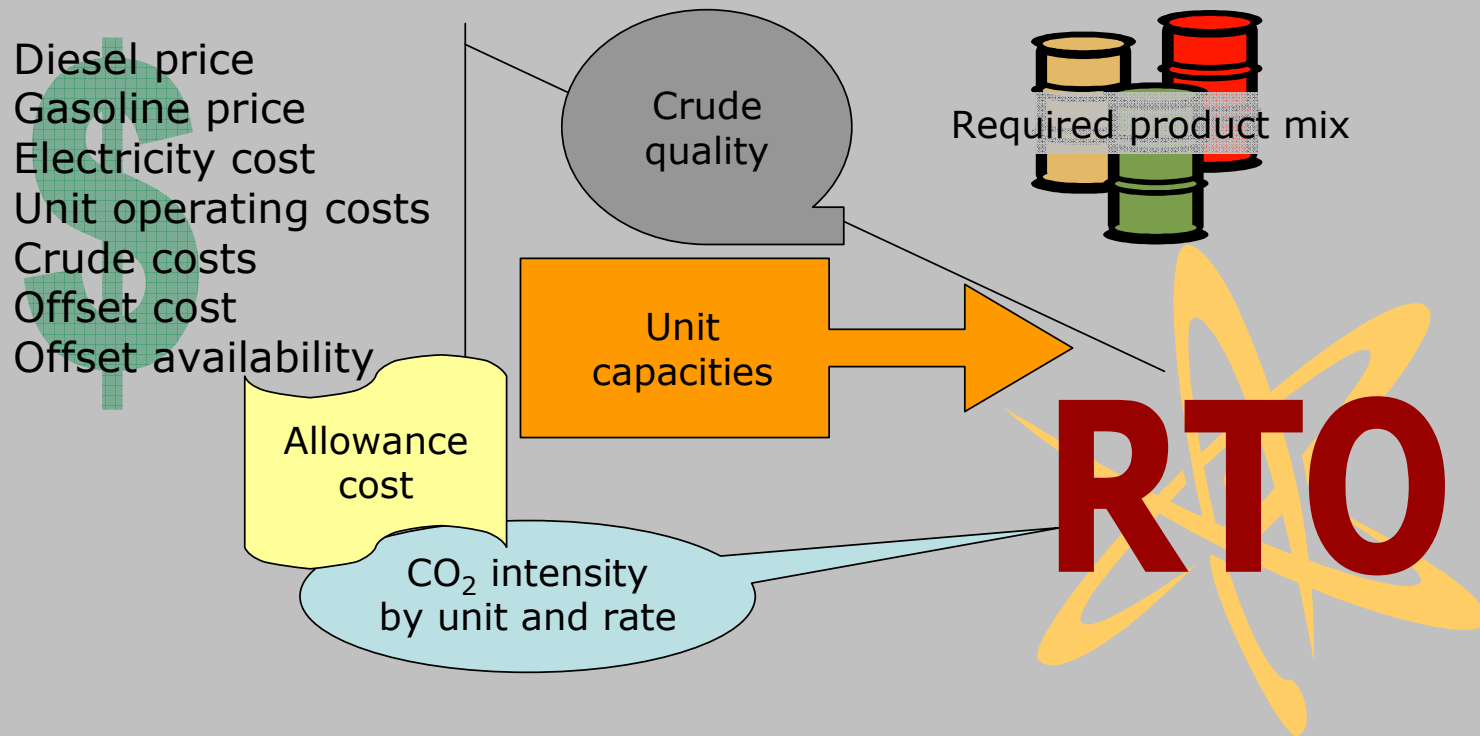
# Real-Time Optimization (RTO)

- **Process optimization model incorporating intra-day adjustments**
- **Capable of modeling interactions among units**

# Real-Time Optimization (RTO)

- **Optimize over refinery as a whole**
  - Throttle use of carbon-intensive processes
  - Consider effects of turn-downs on carbon intensity
  - Find most profitable way to achieve product slate

# Lots of Variables



# RTO Outputs



- **Writes values to MPC/APC**

- Targets
  - Unit product rates
  - Unit operating parameters
  - Product parameters
- Steady-state gain adjustments

# Real-Time Optimization (RTO)

## **RTO can:**

Bias forecasts

Follow market trends

Set medium-term refinery targets

# What's a Refiner to Do?

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# Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> – Capital Investment

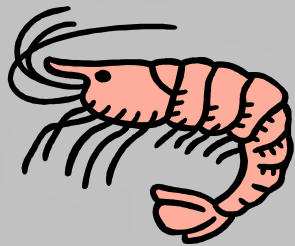
- **Additional heat exchange capacity**
- **Additional reactor volume, reduce severity**
- **Waste heat recovery; economizers**
- **Compressor improvements**
- **Cogen units**
- **Variable-frequency drives**

Capital investment increases optimization opportunity

# What's a Refiner to Do?

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# CO<sub>2</sub> Capture & Sequestration (CCS)



- **Deep sea**

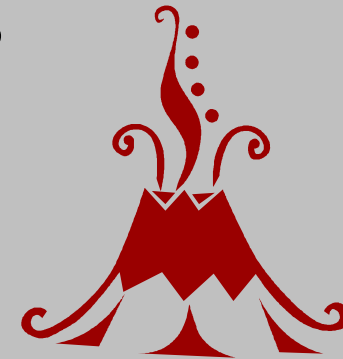
- Cost of CO<sub>2</sub> transport?
- Kill marine life?

- **Underground**

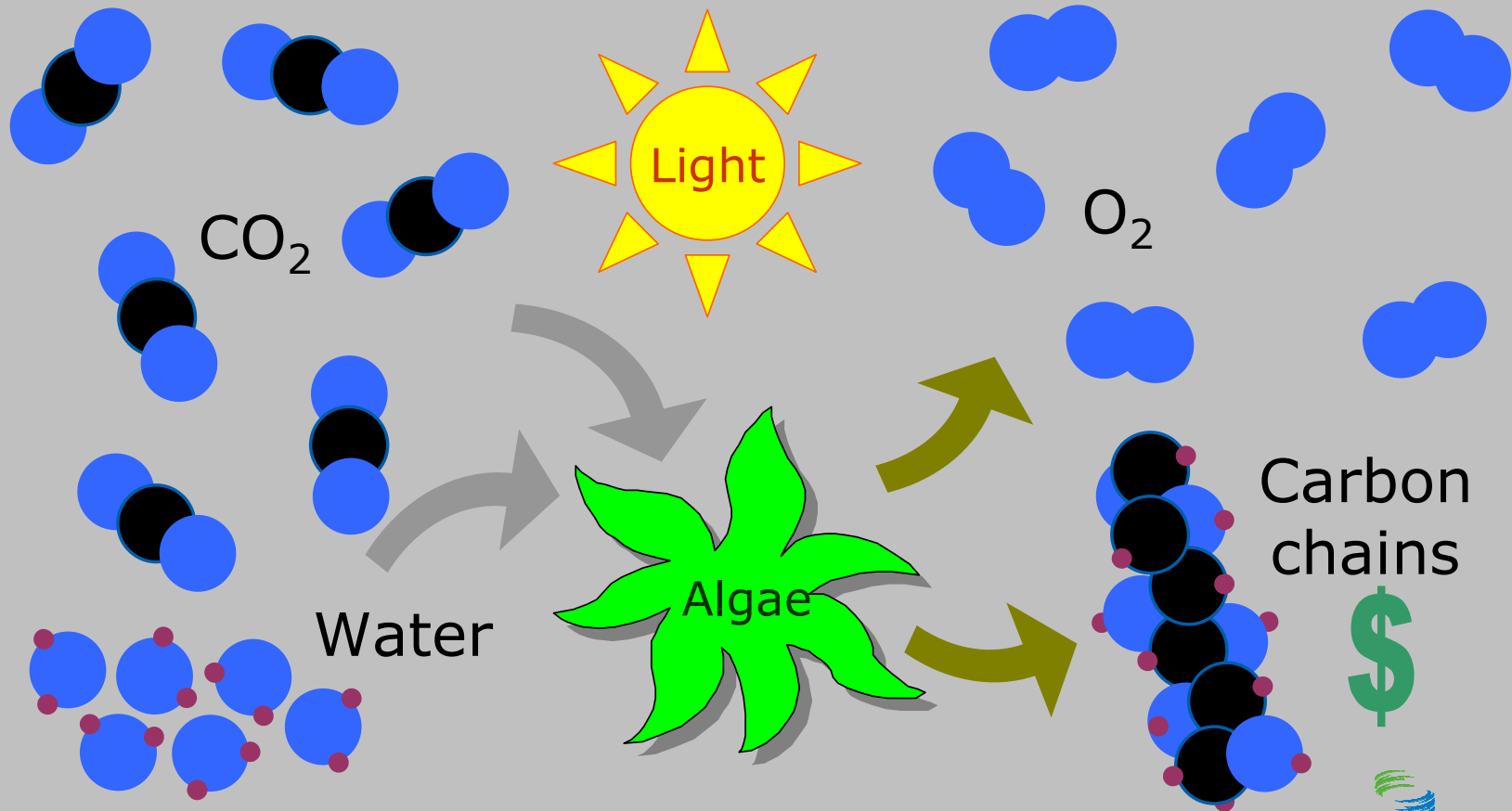
- Permanent? Safe?

- **Oil algae**

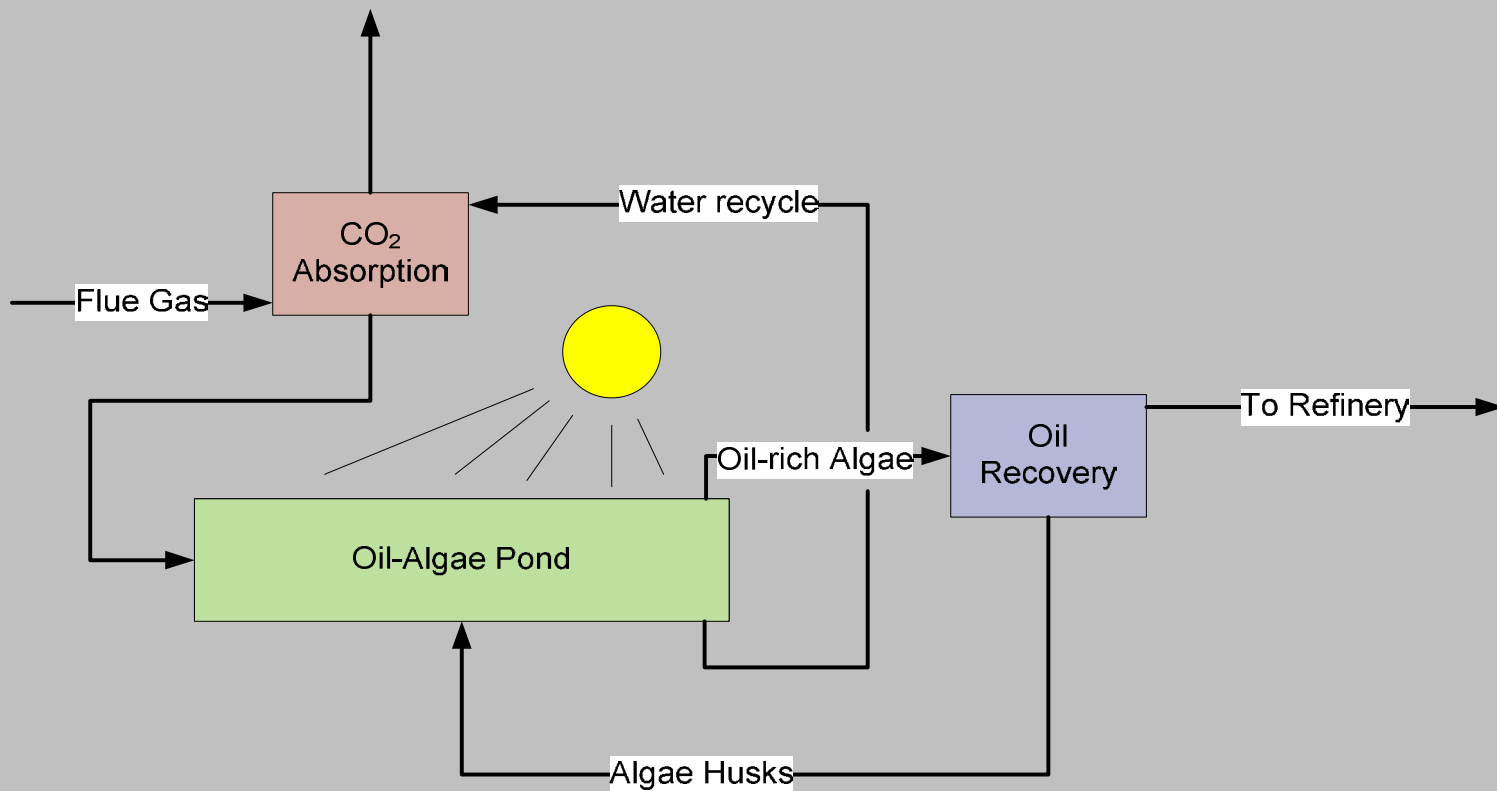
- Land, water, light requirements
- Potential to create value



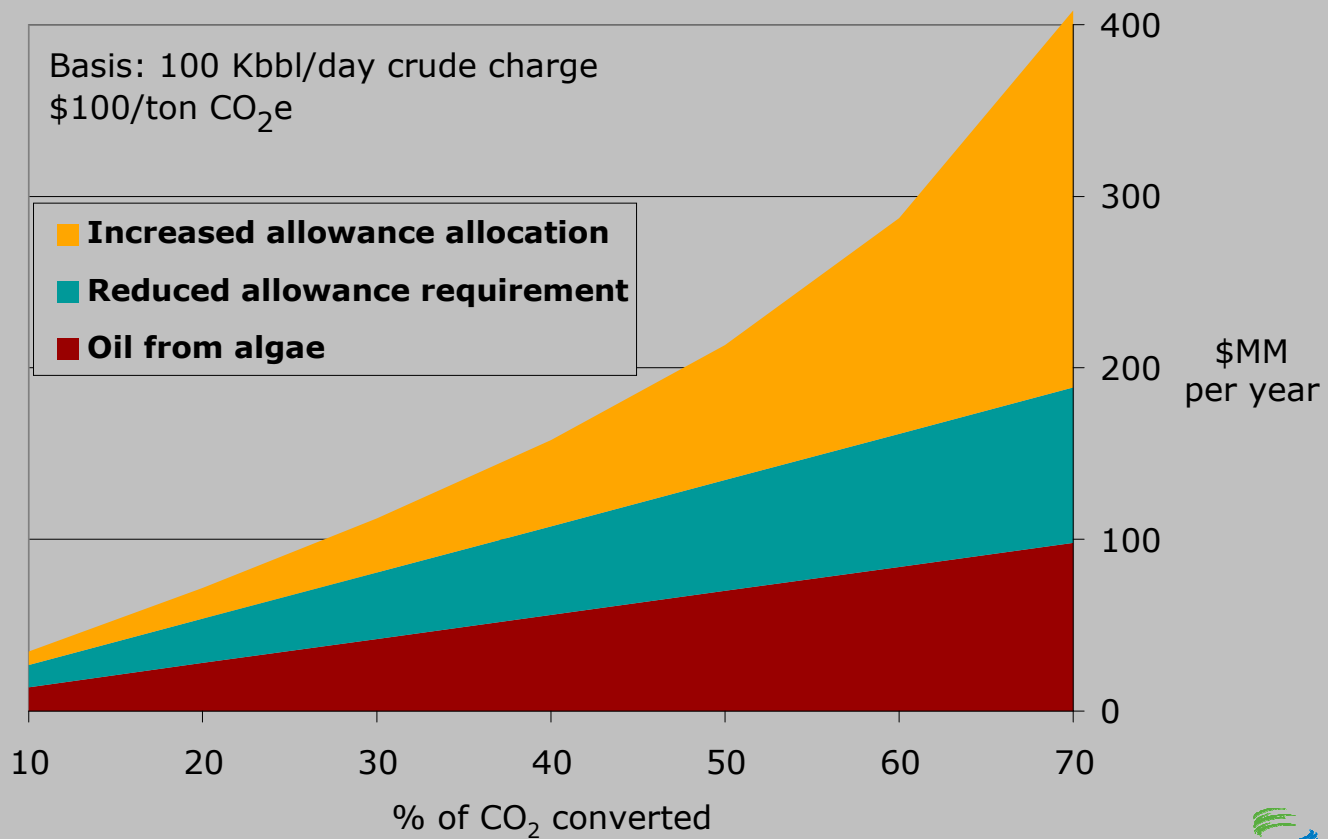
# Photosynthesis



# Oil Algae in Refining



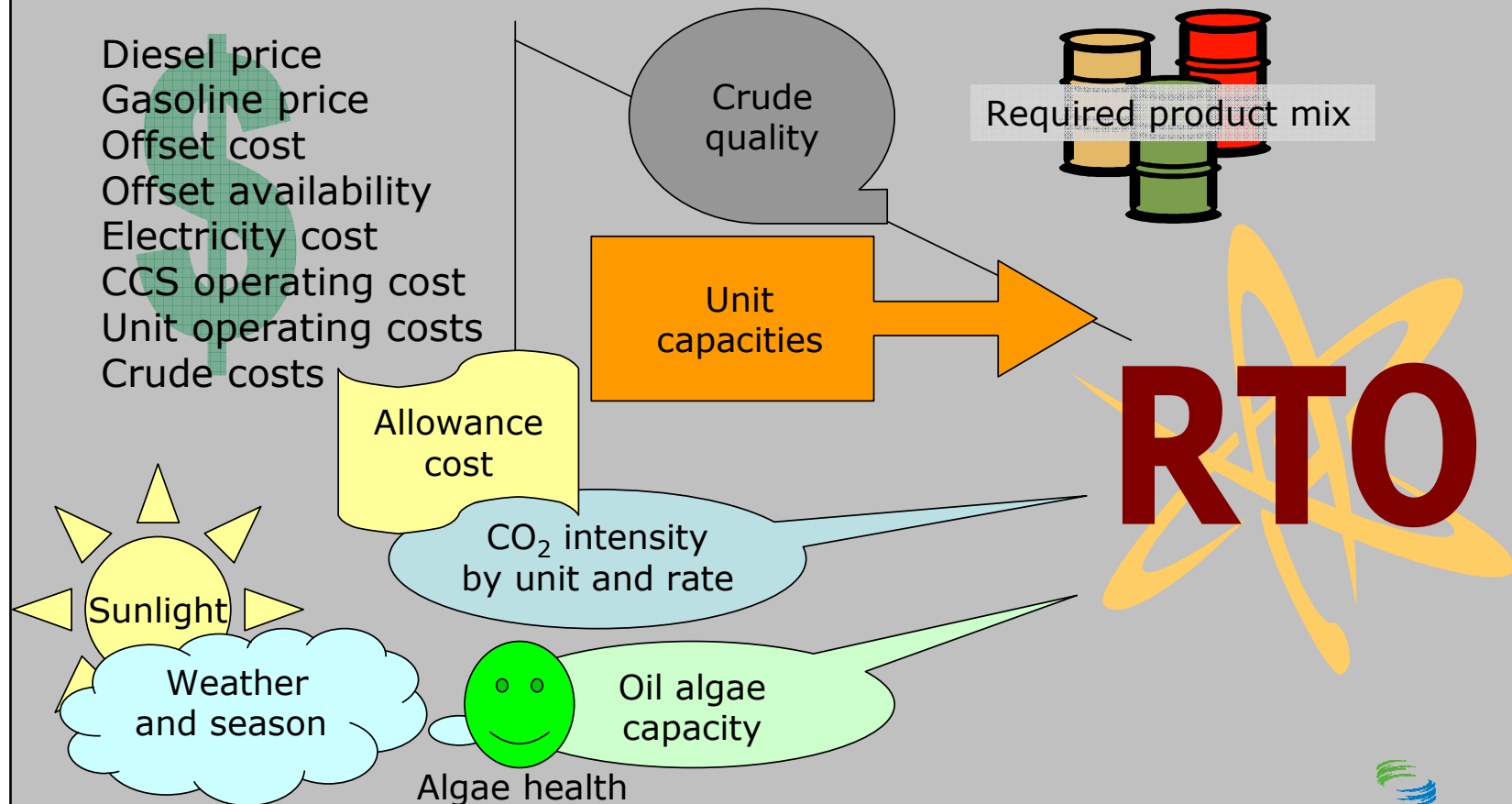
# Value of CO<sub>2</sub> Capture via Oil Algae



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# Even More Variables



# RTO Outputs



- **Writes values to MPC/APC**

- Targets
  - Unit product rates
  - Unit operating parameters
  - Product parameters
  - Oil algae targets
- Steady-state gain adjustments

# Real-Time Optimization (RTO)

## **RTO can:**

Bias forecasts

Follow market trends

Set medium-term refinery targets

Set shorter-term targets based on algae  
or sequestration capacity

## After CCS and Optimization

- **How long can fuel producers utilize optimization and CCS alone?**
  - About 15 years
  - Year 2024, total allowances available fall to 96% of current emission levels
  - Year 2050 and later, only 22% of current CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will be allowed

# After CCS and Optimization

- **Refineries must change to survive**
  - Shift toward non-fuel products
  - New feedstocks (biofuels?)
  - Export more; sell less domestically

# Winners and Losers

- **Winners will have captured carbon and optimized effectively**
- **Winners will gain allowances left behind by the losers**

# Timeline

- **Today's APC/MPC investments aren't wasted**
- **Rethink future economics of RTO**
- **Investigate CCS technologies**

# Conclusion

**You don't need to outrun  
the bear; you just need to  
outrun the guy next to you!**

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