

BIO-FUEL CAN'T MELT STEEL POSTERS

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Design Statement

Produce 9,780 bbl/day of grade A commercial jet fuel from a renewable corn stover feedstock via gasification and F-T Synthesis.

Process Design

Gasification

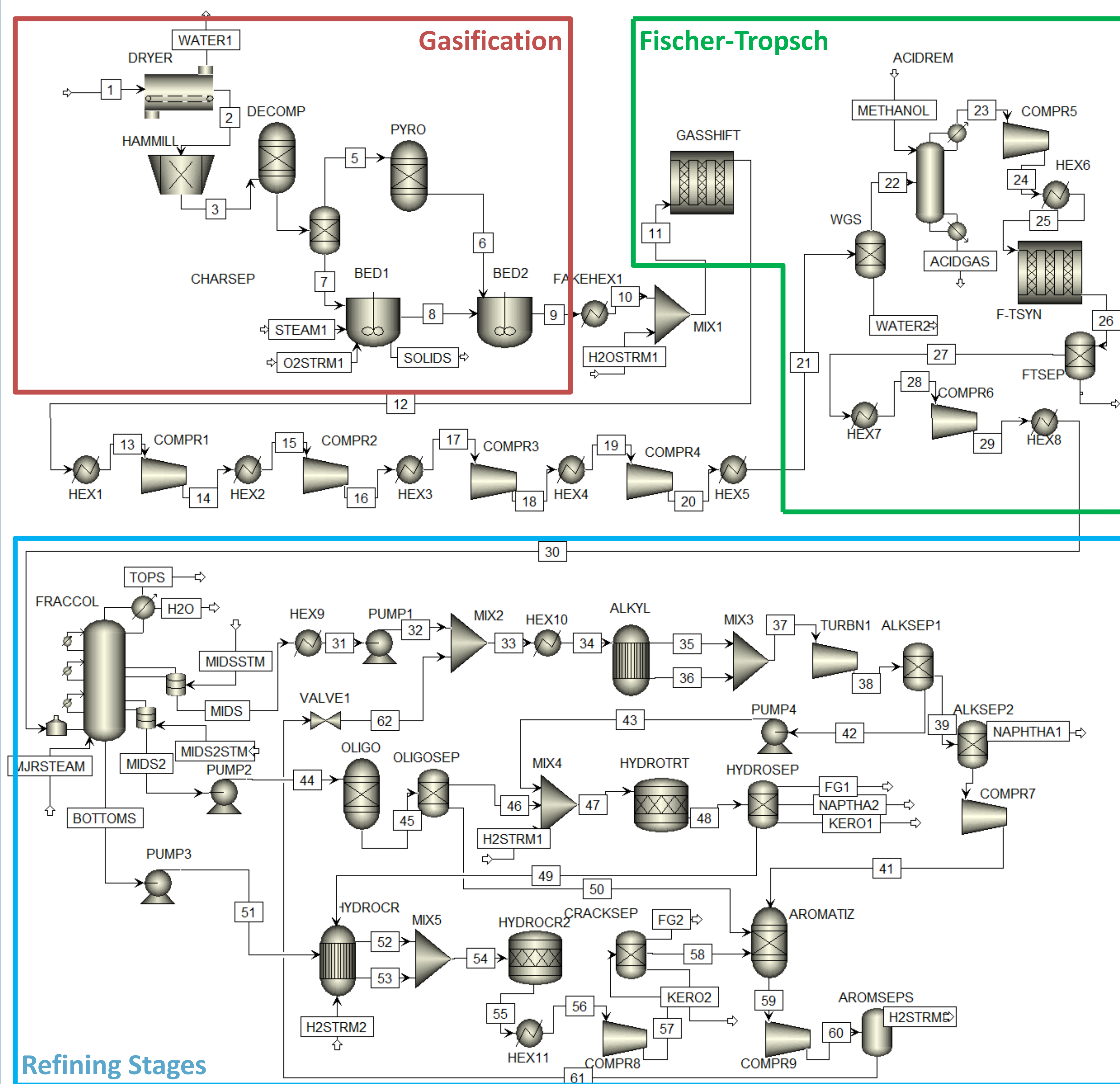
- Dried corn stover was converted to conventional Aspen components based on its elemental composition
- Solid carbon and sulfur are gasified with oxygen and steam according to a kinetic model in a CSTR
- Volatile component reactions are simulated in an RGibbs before reacting with gasification products in a CSTR

Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

- Gasification products undergo a water gas shift to achieve a $H_2:CO$ ratio of $\sim 2.1:1$
- Sulfur compounds and CO_2 are removed by methanol absorption in the Rectisol process
- In Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis H_2 and CO are converted to hydrocarbons. Modeled by a PFR based on a kinetic model for CO conversion and theoretical product distributions

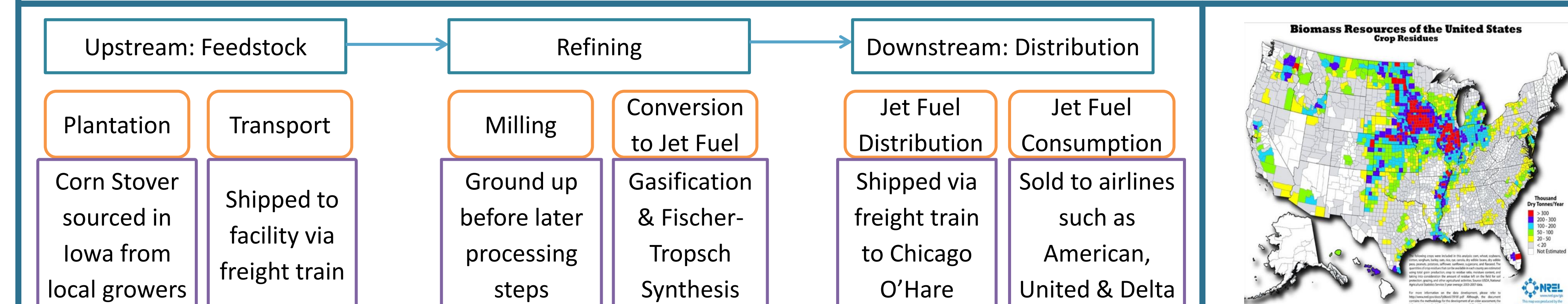
Refining Steps

- A rigorous crude fractionation column separates FT products for refining
- C_{11+} products are sent to the hydrocracker for isomerization and conversion to lower carbon numbers
- A fraction of these products are converted to aromatic compounds to meet ASTM fuel standards
- C_6-C_{10} products are oligomerized to longer hydrocarbons
- C_3-C_5 are alkylated to the aromatics to reduce freezing point according to ASTM standards



Project Scoping

Feedstock: Corn stover due to low cost and abundance in the United States
 Plant location: Fulton, Illinois based on abundance and proximity to consumers
 Consumer: Chicago O'Hare International Airport – 3rd largest airport in the U.S.



Economics

Our initial plant design was not economically feasible

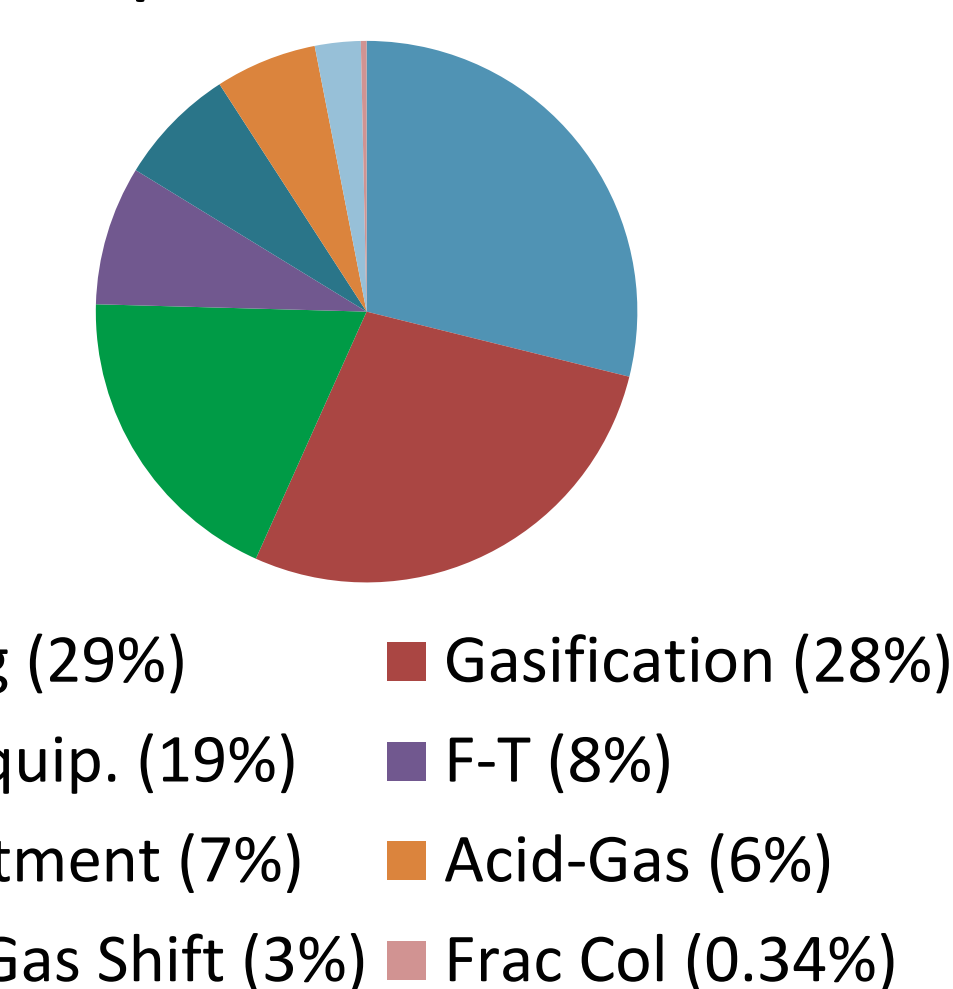
- High capitals costs led us to redesign the plant to eliminate electrical generation and an air separation unit
- A sensitivity analysis was performed, which found that the economic feasibility is most sensitive to capital costs, followed by product sale price and jet fuel production rate

We subsequently increased the plant throughput by a factor of 25 to take advantage of the flattening capital cost curve

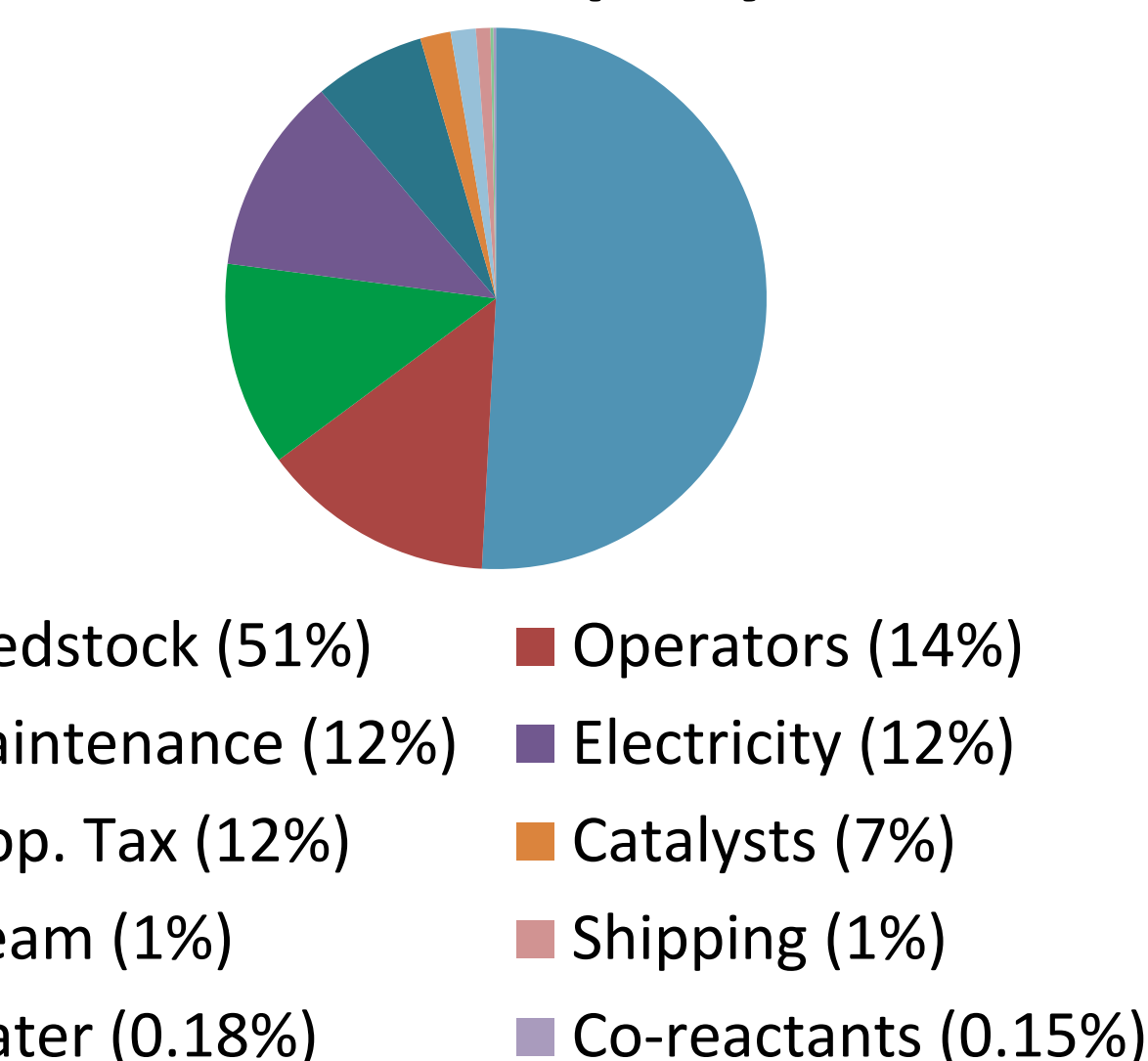
Total Fixed Capital Costs of \$1.2 Billion

Total Corn Stover Feedstock: 3.3 million tonnes/year

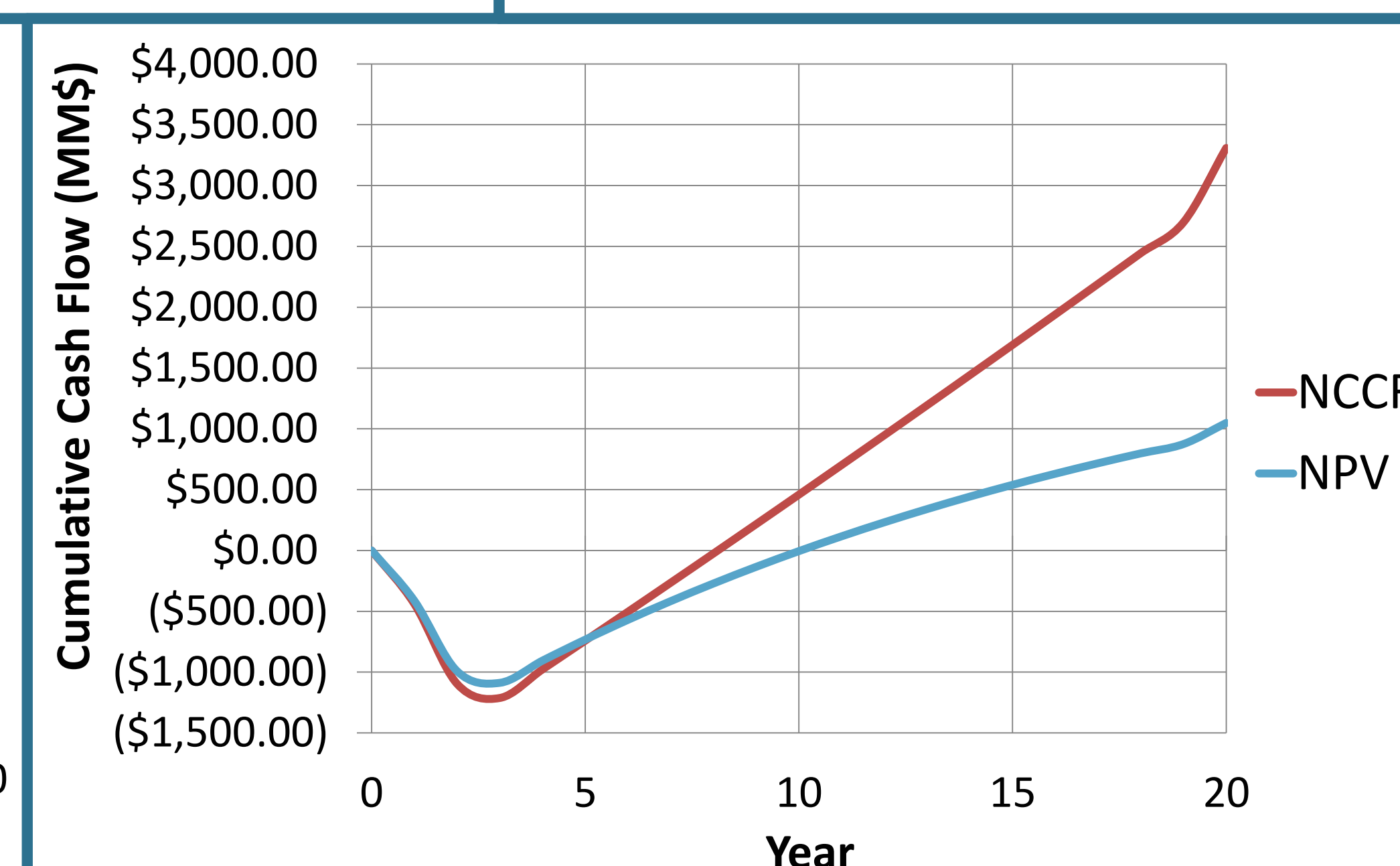
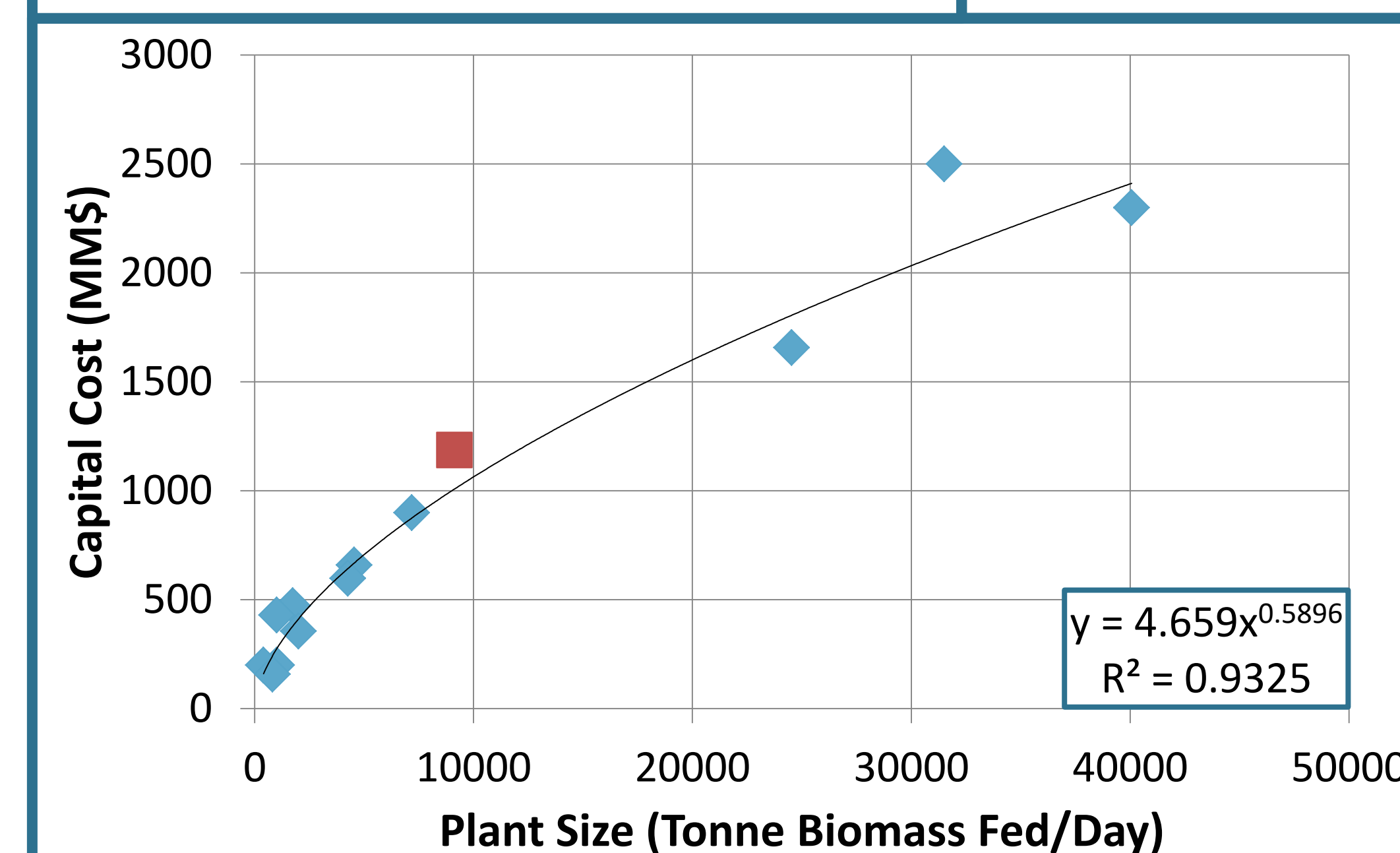
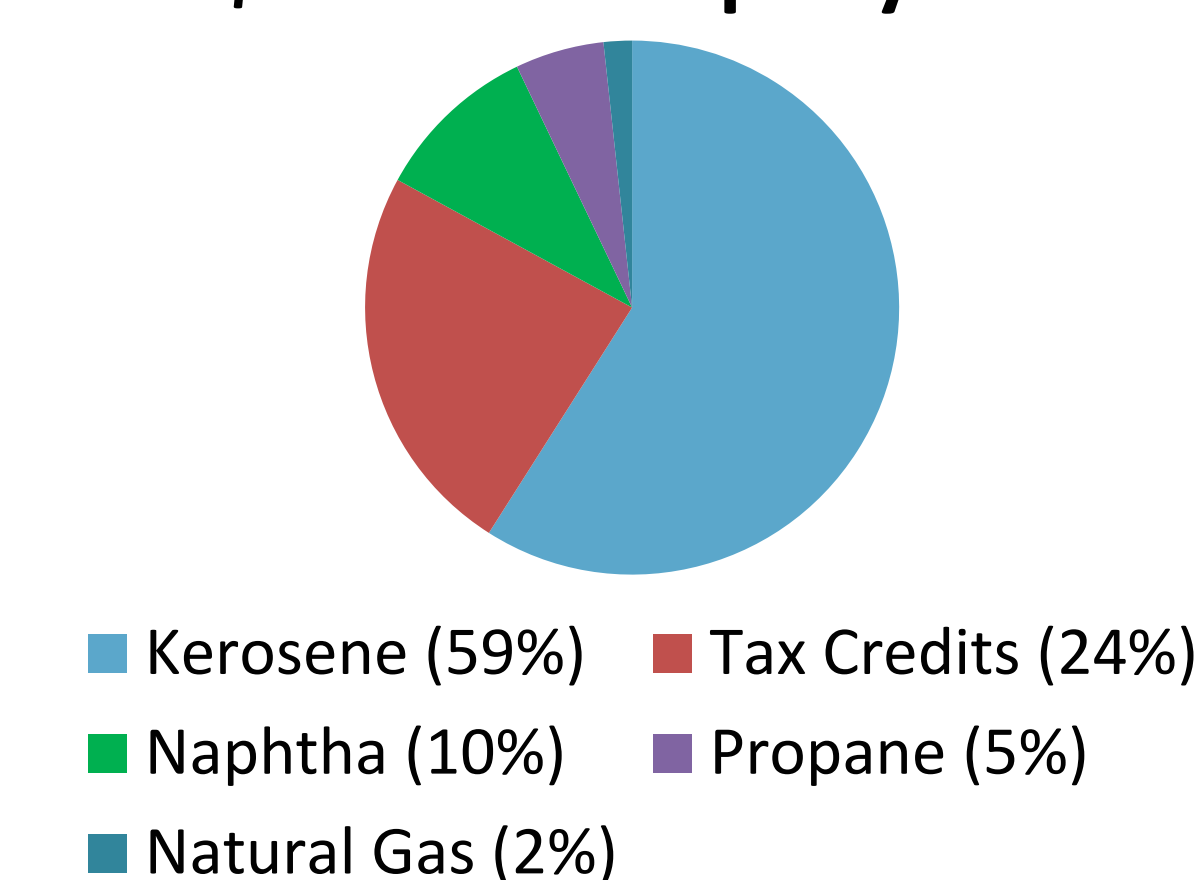
Total ISBL Cost:
\$582 million



Total Operating Cost:
\$358 million per year



Total Revenue:
\$753 million per year



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