



# Energy from Algae

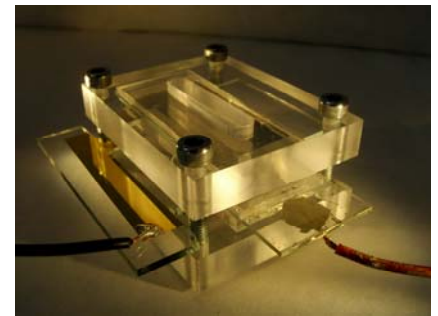
## Why do we need it?

We need energy to power our lives. But the world is running out of non-renewable energy sources like coal, oil and natural gas. Algae grow very fast and don't compete with food crops for farmland. Could they provide a more **sustainable source of bioenergy**?



An artist's view of an algal farm in the future

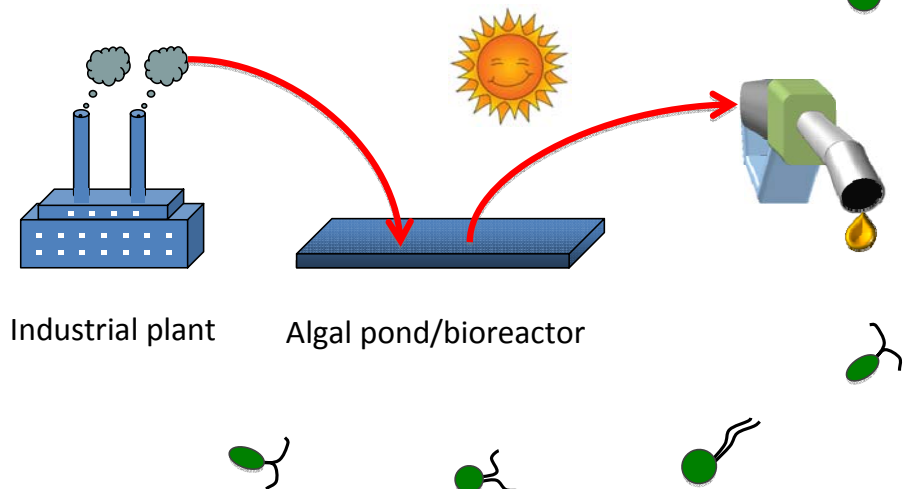
Algal photosynthesis can be used to generate **electricity** using a photovoltaic device.



Photovoltaic test device

## CO<sub>2</sub> is food for algae

Algae grow best when given CO<sub>2</sub> so can thrive in the waste gases of industrial plants. Algal biomass can then be used to make **biodiesel** or **biogas** in a bioreactor.



## What's next?

There are still many challenges to be overcome before our cars or buildings will be powered by algal energy. Talk to the researchers here to find out how they are addressing them!