



# NETL Life Cycle Inventory Data

## Process Documentation File

**Process Name:** CBTL Operation with Coal and Switchgrass Feed  
**Reference Flow:** 1 kg of Fischer-Tropsch diesel (FTD)  
**Brief Description:** Inputs and outputs for Fischer-Tropsch diesel production by a 30,000 to 50,000 barrel per day CBTL plant using Illinois No. 6 coal and switchgrass feed. Includes scenarios for CCS and ATR (autothermal reforming). Naphtha is a co-product.

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### Section I: Meta Data

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**Geographical Coverage:** US                      **Region:** Midwest  
**Year Data Best Represents:** 2009  
**Process Type:** Energy Conversion (EC)  
**Process Scope:** Gate-to-Gate Process (GG)  
**Allocation Applied:** No  
**Completeness:** All Relevant Flows Recorded

**Flows Aggregated in Data Set:**

Process             Energy Use             Energy P&D             Material P&D

**Relevant Output Flows Included in Data Set:**

Releases to Air:     Greenhouse Gases     Criteria Air Pollutants     Other  
Releases to Water:  Inorganic Emissions     Organic Emissions     Other  
Water Usage:       Water Consumption     Water Demand (throughput)  
Releases to Soil:     Inorganic Releases     Organic Releases        Other

**Adjustable Process Parameters:**

COALFEED                      *Feedrate of coal to CBTL plant  
(ton/day)*

BIOFEED                      *Feedrate of biomass to CBTL  
plant (ton/day)*

BIOPERCENT                      *Ratio of biomass feed to total  
feed to CBTL plant  
(dimensionless)*

HHVBIO                      *Higher heating value of biomass  
feedstock (MMBtu/ton)*



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DIESELFLOW	<i>Production rate of FT (Fischer-Tropsch) diesel (barrels/day)</i>
CAP_FAC	<i>Capacity factor of CBTL plant (dimensionless)</i>
HHVI6COAL	<i>Higher heating value of Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal feedstock (MMBtu/ton)</i>
NAPFLOW	<i>Production rate of naphtha, a co-product (barrels/day)</i>
CO2SEQFLOW	<i>Mass capture rate of CO<sub>2</sub> from CBTL plant (ton/day)</i>
CO2FLOW	<i>CO<sub>2</sub> released to atmosphere from CBTL plant (ton/day)</i>
STACK_OUT	<i>Volumetric flow rate of stack gas from CBTL plant (ft<sup>3</sup>/hr)</i>
PROD_OUT	<i>Volumetric flow rate product gas from CBTL plant (ft<sup>3</sup>/hr)</i>
SOLIDFLOW	<i>Mass flow rate of solid waste from CBTL plant (lb/hr)</i>
H2O_CCS	<i>Rate at which water use increases with addition of a CCS or CCS+ATR system (dimensionless)</i>
H2OFLOW_IN	<i>Water input to CBTL plant (L/MMBtu)</i>
H2OFLOW_OUT	<i>Water output from CBTL plant (L/MMBtu)</i>
HG_RECOVERY	<i>[dimensionless] Fraction of mercury that is not removed from flue gas and is released to air; based on 90% recovery.</i>

### Tracked Input Flows:

Hard Coal (Illinois No. 6) [Intermediate]	<i>Bituminous coal input to CBTL plant</i>
Switchgrass	<i>Switchgrass input to CBTL plant</i>



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### Tracked Output Flows:

FTD	<i>1 kg of Fischer-Tropsch diesel production (reference flow)</i>
Naphtha (NETL)	<i>Mass of naphtha is co-produced per kg of Fischer-Tropsch diesel production</i>
CO2 sent to sequestration	<i>Mass of CO2 that is captured for sequestration per kg of FTD production</i>

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## Section II: Process Description

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### Associated Documentation

This unit process is composed of this document and the data sheet (DS) *DS\_Stage3\_O\_CBTL\_SG\_2010.01.xls*, which provides additional details regarding calculations, data quality, and references as relevant.

### Goal and Scope

This unit process accounts for the operating activities for a CBTL (coal and biomass to liquids) plant that uses Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal and switchgrass as feedstocks. The unit process is based on the reference flow of 1 kg of FT (Fischer-Tropsch) diesel production. The inputs to the process include water, bituminous coal, and switchgrass. Water is used for cooling and other process-related utilities; water is assumed to enter the boundaries of this unit process having no upstream resource consumption or environmental emissions.

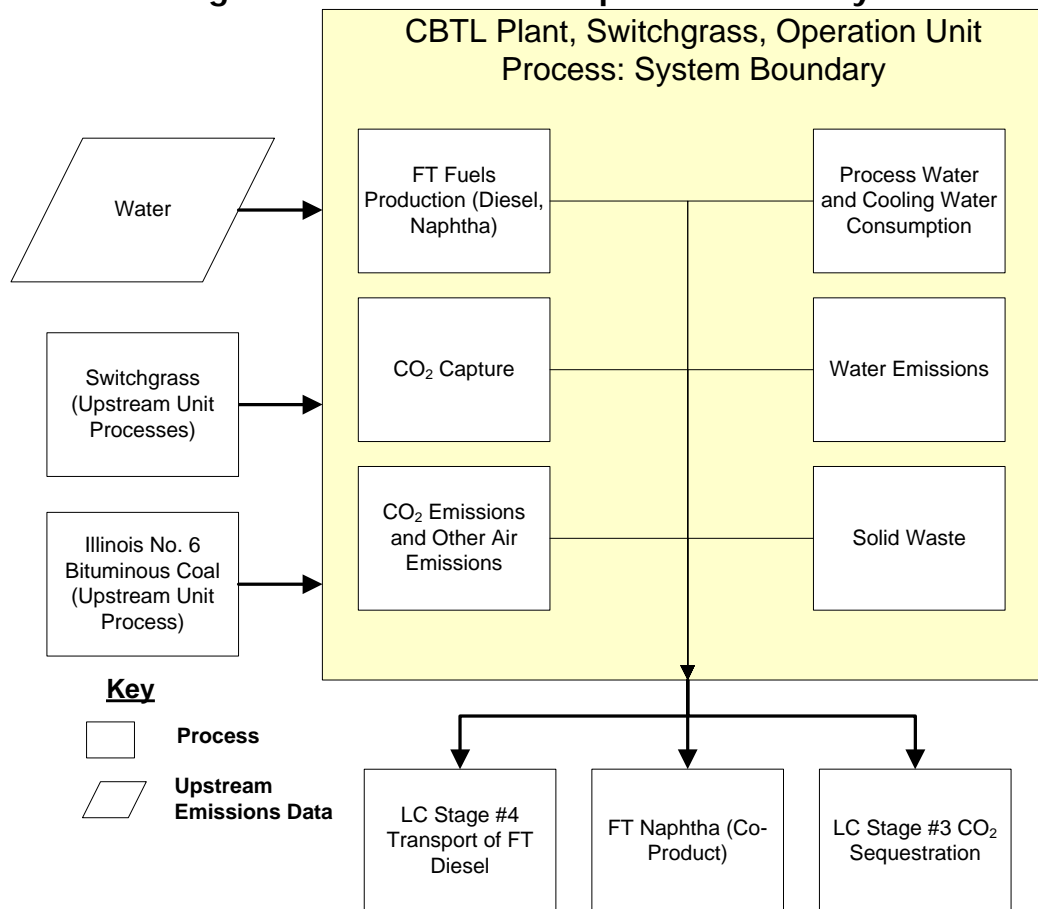
Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal is a fossil feedstock that is converted to diesel via gasification, followed by catalyzed synthesis; the resource consumption and emissions associated with the upstream production and delivery of Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal to the CBTL plant are not included in the boundaries of this unit process but are accounted for in separate unit processes. Switchgrass is a biomass feedstock that is converted to diesel via gasification followed by catalyzed synthesis; the resource consumption and emissions associated with the upstream production and delivery of switchgrass to the CBTL plant are not included in the boundaries of this unit process but are accounted for in separate unit processes. The outputs of this unit process are FTD (the reference flow of this unit process), naphtha (a co-product of this unit process), water, air emissions, and water emissions.

### Boundary and Description

This unit process models the production of diesel fuel via coal and switchgrass gasification and FT synthesis. The energy inputs and outputs for this process were provided in the NETL CBTL Baseline Report (NETL 2009). This unit process describes activities that occur within Life Cycle (LC) Stage #3 of FTD production. The steps that precede this unit process include the production of feedstocks (Illinois No. 6 coal and switchgrass) in LC Stage #1, the rail transport of Illinois No. 6 coal in LC Stage #2, and the road transport of switchgrass in LC Stage #2. The step that immediately follows this unit process is the pipeline transport of FTD in LC Stage #4.

**Figure 1** provides an overview of the boundary of this unit process. Rectangular boxes represent relevant sub-processes, while trapezoidal boxes indicate upstream data that are outside of the boundary of this unit process. As shown, upstream resources and emissions associated with the production and delivery of coal are accounted for outside of the boundary of this unit process, while water is assumed to enter the boundary of the unit process with no upstream resources or emissions. The methods for calculating these operating activities are described below.

**Figure 1: Unit Process Scope and Boundary**



This unit process has 17 adjustable parameters, which enhance the versatility of this unit process and allow the modeling of several scenarios. Unless noted otherwise, these

adjustable parameters are based on data from the NETL baseline report on CBTL plants (NETL 2009). "COALFEED" is an adjustable parameter that is based on NETL data for CBTL plants, and describes the rate at which the CBTL plant consumes fossil feedstocks. "BIOFEED" is an adjustable parameter for the feedrate of switchgrass to the CBTL plant. "BIOPERCENT" is an adjustable parameter that represents the fraction of the CBTL feedstock that is switchgrass, and allows the user to adjust NO<sub>x</sub> emissions for different fossil and biomass mixes. "HHVBIO" is an adjustable parameter that specifies the higher heating value of switchgrass, and allows the calculation of the extent to which biomass contributes to the heat content of process streams.

"DIESELFLOW" is an adjustable parameter for the production rate of FTD. "CAP\_FAC" is an adjustable parameter that describes the operating time of the CBTL plant and allows an accurate translation between instantaneous and annual flows of the CBTL plant; the default value for "CAP\_FAC" is 0.85 (i.e., 85 percent), which is specified in the baseline document for this unit process (NETL 2009), and accounts for interruptions in biomass supply and periodic facility maintenance. "HHVI6COAL" is an adjustable parameter that describes the higher heating value of Illinois No. 6 coal (NETL 2007) feedstock, and is a necessary factor for the normalization of water use rates and stack flow rates, which are expressed on the basis of volume per MMBtu of feedstock input, to the production of one kg of FTD. "NAPFLOW" is an adjustable parameter that represents the mass of naphtha that is co-produced per kg of FTD production.

"CO2SEQFLOW" and "CO2FLOW" are adjustable parameters that represent the mass of CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) that is captured for sequestration and the mass of CO<sub>2</sub> that is released to the atmosphere, respectively. "STACK\_OUT" is an adjustable parameter that represents the volumetric flow rate of the stack gas and allows the calculation of SO<sub>x</sub> (sulfur oxides) and NO<sub>x</sub> (nitrogen oxides) emissions to air. "PROD\_OUT" is an adjustable parameter that represents the volumetric flow rate (in ft<sup>3</sup>/hr) of the gas stream that exits the gasifier and is used to calculate H<sub>2</sub>S (hydrogen sulfide) emissions from the CBTL plant. "SOLIDFLOW" is an adjustable parameter that represents the mass of ash and other solid wastes from the CBTL plant. "H2O\_CCS" is an adjustable parameter that represents the change in water input to the CBTL plant when a CCS system is added; this change in water input is based on the NETL data for an IGCC power facility (NETL 2007). "H2OFLOW\_IN" and "H2OFLOW\_OUT" are adjustable parameters that are also based on NETL data for an IGCC (integrated gasification combined cycle) power facility (NETL 2007) and represent the water consumption of the CBTL plant. Finally, "HG\_RECOVERY" is the fraction of mercury in the stack gas that is not captured by environmental controls and is released to the atmosphere.

Naphtha is a co-product of FTD. This unit process does not use co-product allocation to apportion environmental burdens between FTD and naphtha. Rather, the mass of naphtha per production of one kg (kg) of FTD is shown as an output, and the recommend approach for co-product management is system expansion wherein naphtha that is co-produced by CBTL plants displaces naphtha that is produced by conventional routes. No life cycle data are available for the production of naphtha by conventional routes in the United States. Thus, for the life cycle of CBTL fuels, NETL

uses life cycle data for jet fuel to represent the conventional naphtha routes that are displaced by FT naphtha. That is, for every kg of FT naphtha that is produced by a CBTL plant, 1 kg of jet fuel is displaced from the energy supply system. Alternatively, one could use the available GaBi profile for naphtha produced in the European Union. The displacement of conventional routes to naphtha production are outside the scope of this unit process; only the mass of naphtha that is co-produced per unit of FTD production is shown in this unit process.

The NETL CBTL baseline (NETL 2009) provides data for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, H<sub>2</sub>S emissions, and slag (solid waste) output. The inventories for other environmental emissions were determined from other sources. NO<sub>x</sub> and PM emissions from CBTL plants are based on data in the NETL baseline report on fossil energy plants (NETL 2007), which includes data for an IGCC (integrated gasification combined cycle plant) with bituminous coal as a feedstock. Co-firing with biomass has been shown to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions based on the feed percent of biomass (Tillman, 2000). It was assumed that the same correlation for co-firing could be used for gasification, and percent reduction was calculated based on percent biomass feed for each case. The mercury content in Illinois No. 6 bituminous coal is based on a study of mercury control technologies (Lee et al. 2006) and on the assumption that 90 percent of mercury is captured by environmental controls. Similarly, based on the composition of the Illinois No. 6 coal, the extent to which the gas streams of a CBTL plant are cleaned, and baseline data provided by NETL studies on power generation (NETL 2007), NH<sub>3</sub> and Pb emissions were assumed to be negligible. Because no combustion processes are considered (e.g., no auxiliary boilers or other units are used for onsite energy generation) no other combustion-related emissions (such as carbon monoxide and hydrogen chloride) are calculated.

Water use was not given in the NETL CBTL Baseline report. An EIS on a smaller CTL (coal to liquids) plant was used as a data source for water input, consumption, and discharge (DOE 2007). Water increases due to CCS addition were based on the percent increase reported in the NETL baseline report on fossil energy plants (NETL 2007). This is noted as a data limitation as no distinction was made between water use increases with CCS and CCS +ATR. Emissions to water were determined based on the calculated water output and effluent water quality data from an IGCC plant (NETL 2002). Water emissions that were calculated as 0.1 ppm (parts per million) or greater were included in the water quality data for this unit process. This includes the waterborne emission of NH<sub>3</sub>, cyanide (CN<sup>-</sup>), nickel (Ni), selenium (Se), and zinc as significant waterborn outputs. Both the water quantity and quality data are considered data limitations for this unit process.

Solid waste is dominated by ash created during gasification, which is given in the NETL CBTL baseline report. Additionally, the FT process uses an iron catalyst that would contribute to solid waste as it degrades and is replaced. Data on FT catalyst productivity and loss (degradation) rate was taken from a NREL report of FT production of mixed alcohols from biomass (Phillips *et al.* 2007). When calculated, the loss of catalyst was less than 0.01 percent compared to slag output, and was therefore considered insignificant.

Properties of CBTL plants that use Illinois No. 6 coal and switchgrass as feedstocks are shown in **Table 1**. **Table 2** provides a summary of modeled input and output flows. Additional details regarding input and output flows, including calculation methods, are contained in the associated DS sheet.

**Table 1: Properties of Illinois No. 6 Bituminous Coal and Switchgrass CBTL Plants (NETL 2009)**

Property	50,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS, 15 % Switchgrass	50,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS +ATR, 15 % Switchgrass	30,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS, 30 % Switchgrass	30,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS+ATR, 30 % Switchgrass
Diesel Output (tonne/day)	4,638	4,639	2,783	2,783
Naphtha Output (tonne/day)	1,572	1,572	943	943
Biomass Input (tonne/day)	3,029	3,309	3,846	4,216
Coal Input (tonne/day)	17,167	18,749	8,966	9,837
Biomass HHV (MJ/kg)	16.9	16.9	16.9	16.9
CO <sub>2</sub> Capture (tonne CO <sub>2</sub> e/day)	24,173	29,395	14,500	17,759
CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (tonne/day)	1,827	757	1,225	537
Solid Waste Flow (tonne/day)	1,955	2,136	1,157	1,269

Table 2: Unit Process Input and Output Flows

Flow Name*	50,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS, 15 % Switch- grass	50,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS +ATR, 15 % Switch- grass	30,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS, 30 % Switch- grass	30,000 BPD CBTL w/ CCS+ATR, 30 % Switch- grass	Units (Per Reference Flow)
<b>Inputs</b>					
Water (unspecified) [Water]	34.2	37.4	33.6	36.8	kg
<b>Hard Coal (Illinois No. 6) [Intermediate]</b>	<b>3.70</b>	<b>4.04</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>3.53</b>	<b>kg</b>
<b>Switchgrass</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.713</b>	<b>1.382</b>	<b>1.515</b>	<b>kg</b>
<b>Outputs</b>					
Fischer-Tropsch diesel (FTD)	1	1	1	1	kg
Naphtha (NETL) [Organic intermediate products]	0.339	0.339	0.339	0.339	kg
Carbon dioxide [Inorganic intermediate products]	5.21	6.34	5.21	6.38	kg
Water (returned to receiving body) [Water]	14.30	15.62	14.04	15.40	kg
Carbon dioxide [Inorganic emissions to air]	0.335	0.139	0.374	0.164	kg
Nitrogen dioxide [Inorganic emissions to air]	7.33E-05	7.74E-05	7.47E-06	7.67E-06	kg
Sulphur dioxide [Inorganic emissions to air]	6.82E-04	7.45E-04	6.70E-04	7.34E-04	kg
Particulate Matter, unspecified [Other emissions to air]	3.79E-04	4.13E-04	3.71E-04	4.07E-04	kg
Mercury (+II) [Heavy metals to air]	3.33E-08	3.64E-08	2.90E-08	3.18E-08	kg
Hydrogen Sulfide [Other emissions to air]	2.46E-07	2.33E-07	1.61E-07	1.57E-07	kg
Ammonium / ammonia [Inorganic emissions to fresh water]	1.26E-04	1.37E-04	1.24E-04	1.35E-04	kg
Cyanide [Inorganic emissions to fresh water]	2.06E-06	2.25E-06	2.02E-06	2.21E-06	kg
Nickel (+II) [Heavy metals to fresh water]	1.63E-06	1.78E-06	1.60E-06	1.76E-06	kg
Selenium [Heavy metals to fresh water]	1.97E-06	2.16E-06	1.94E-06	2.12E-06	kg



Zinc (+II) [Heavy metals to fresh water]	1.95E-06	2.13E-06	1.91E-06	2.10E-06	kg
Solid Waste (unspecified) [Solid Waste]	3.58E-01	3.91E-01	3.53E-01	3.87E-01	kg

\* **Bold face** clarifies that the value shown *does not* include upstream environmental flows. Upstream environmental flows were added during the modeling process using GaBi modeling software, as shown in Figure 1.

## Embedded Unit Processes

None.

## References

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### Section III: Document Control Information

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