

# **EEL: Chemicals Programmatic Summary**

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# Key Takeaways

- U.S. chemicals sector is capital intensive sector and a significant contributor to U.S. economy
- Chemicals sector is highly diverse considering chemical products, manufacturing processes, and emission sources
- RD&D investments need to balance technical solutions capable of significant emissions reduction with high profit margin early adopters
- IEDO's RD&D investments strengths are in next generation process technologies capable transforming the sector through:
  - Reducing energy demand in chemical manufacturing processes
  - Generating energy through other means than fossil fuel combustion
  - Sourcing fundamental matter, like carbon and hydrogen, from sustainable sources

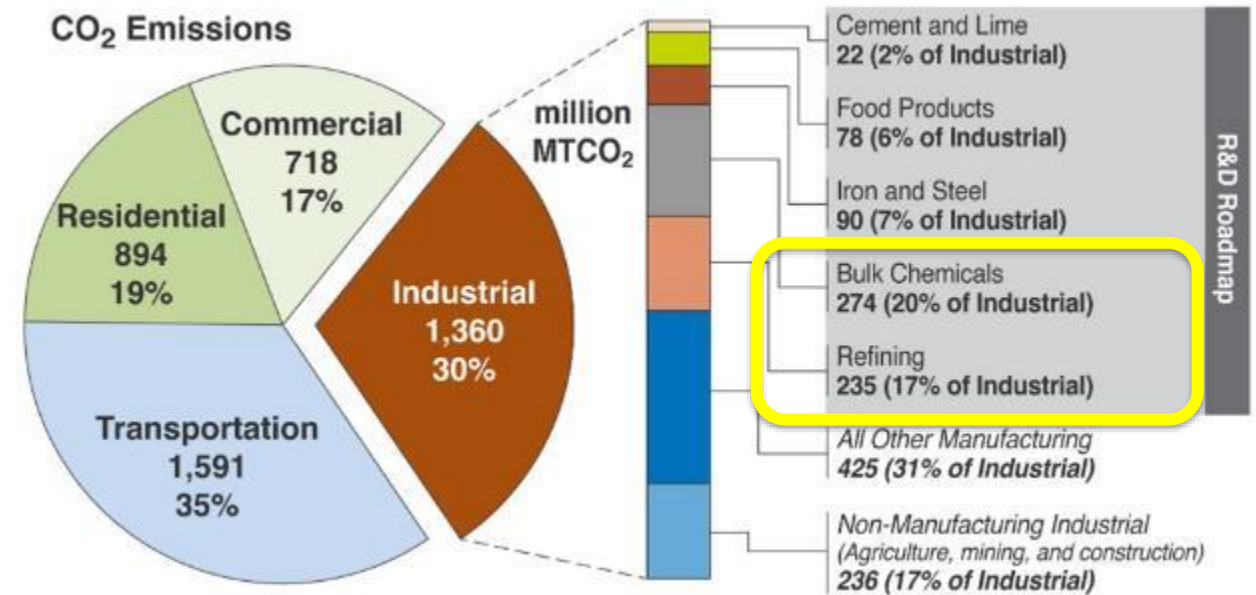
# Chemicals Sector Crucial for Economy-wide Decarbonization

The industrial sector accounts for 30% of U.S. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

## Domestic Footprint of Chemicals Subsector

- The chemicals subsector is the highest CO<sub>2</sub> emitting industrial subsector expected to continue growing over the coming decades ([ACC](#))
- Chemicals is a capital-intensive industry contributing to 25% of U.S. GDP and \$565B in shipments
- Largest exporting sector in the United States (\$136B), accounting for over 13% of the world's total chemical production, making the United States the second-largest chemical-producing nation ([ACC](#))
- The domestic manufacturing footprint of major U.S. chemical companies are about 20-30% of global operations
- 30% of chemical manufacturing facilities are owned by small and medium enterprises (CISA)

## U.S. Energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Sector and Subsector (2020)

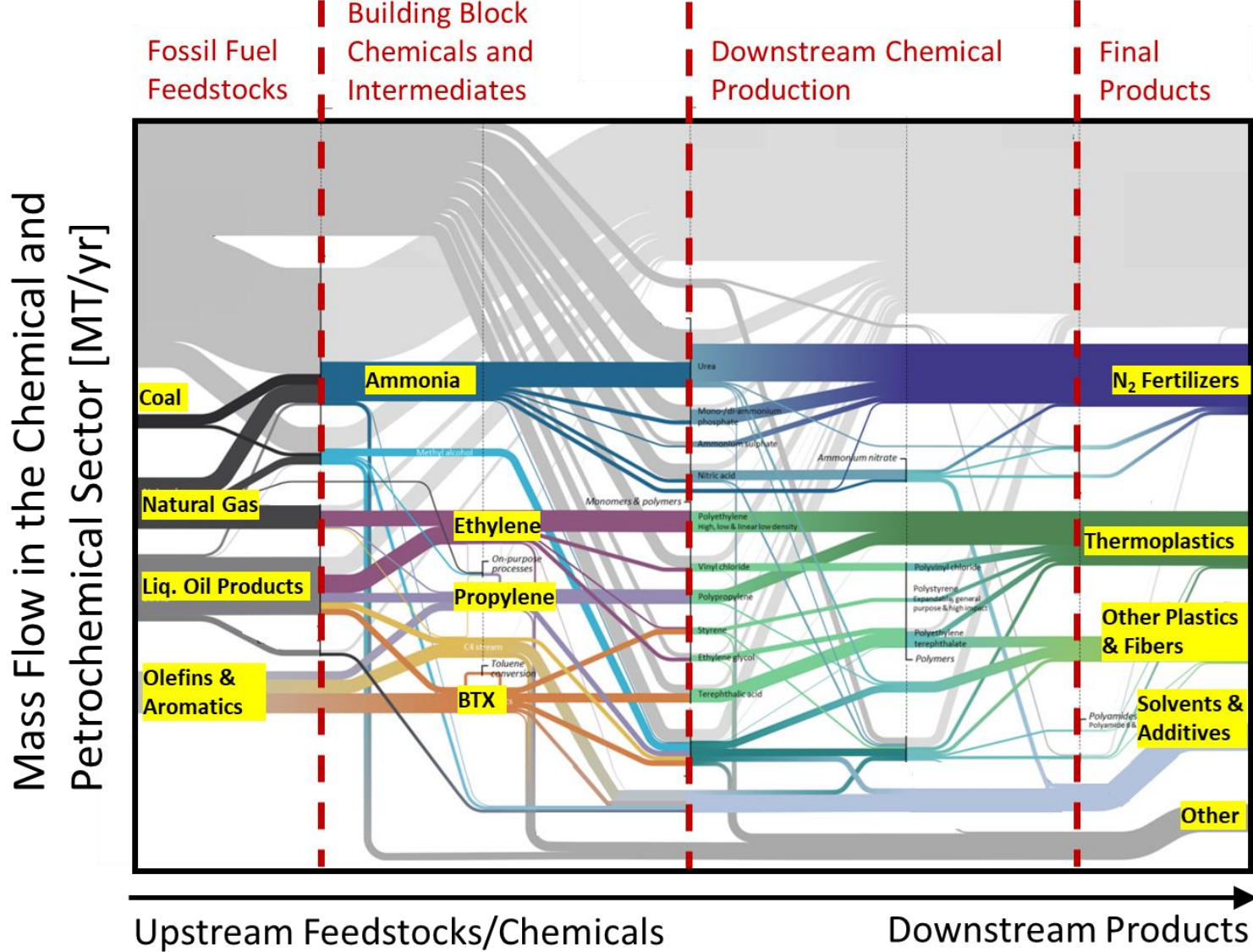


Share of the **4,563 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>** emitted by the U.S. in 2020 (EIA 2021)

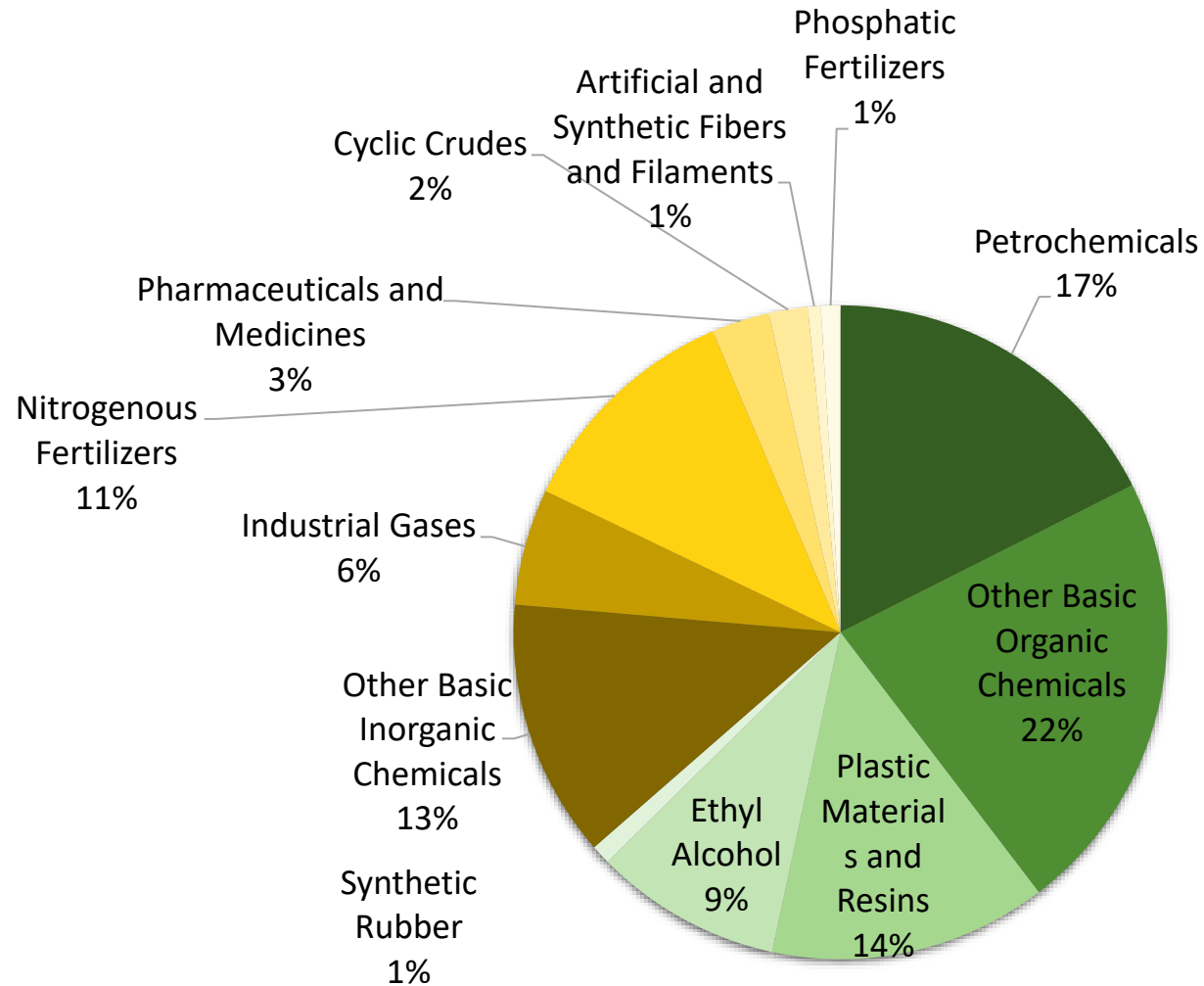
DOE Industrial Decarbonization Roadmap:  
<https://www.energy.gov/eere/doe-industrial-decarbonization-roadmap>

# Unique Decarbonization Challenge: Complex Value Chains

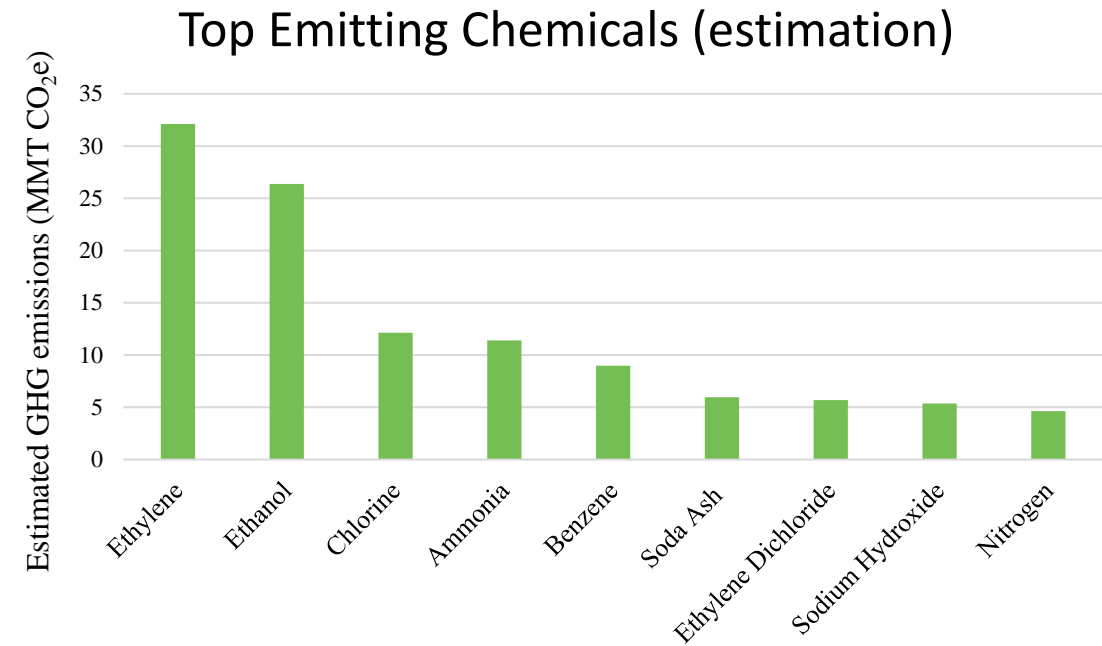
- Chemicals sector is highly diverse, interconnective, and complex.
  - More than 96% of world's manufactured goods enabled by 70,000 products and 11,000 manufacturers ([ACC](#))
- Changes in upstream feedstocks and building block chemicals produce additional impacts down the value chain



# Emissions Distributed Across Chemical Sector

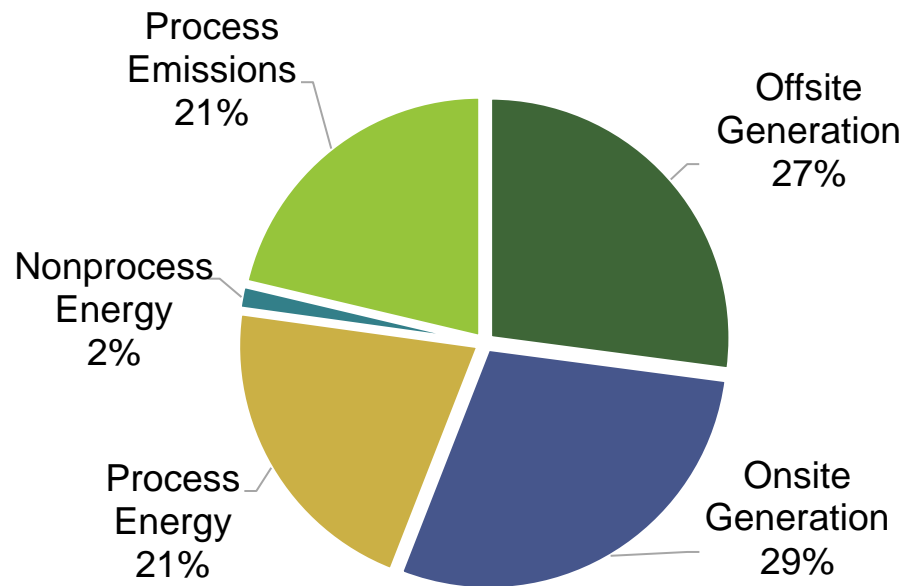


**% GHG emissions  
by 2018 NAICS codes**



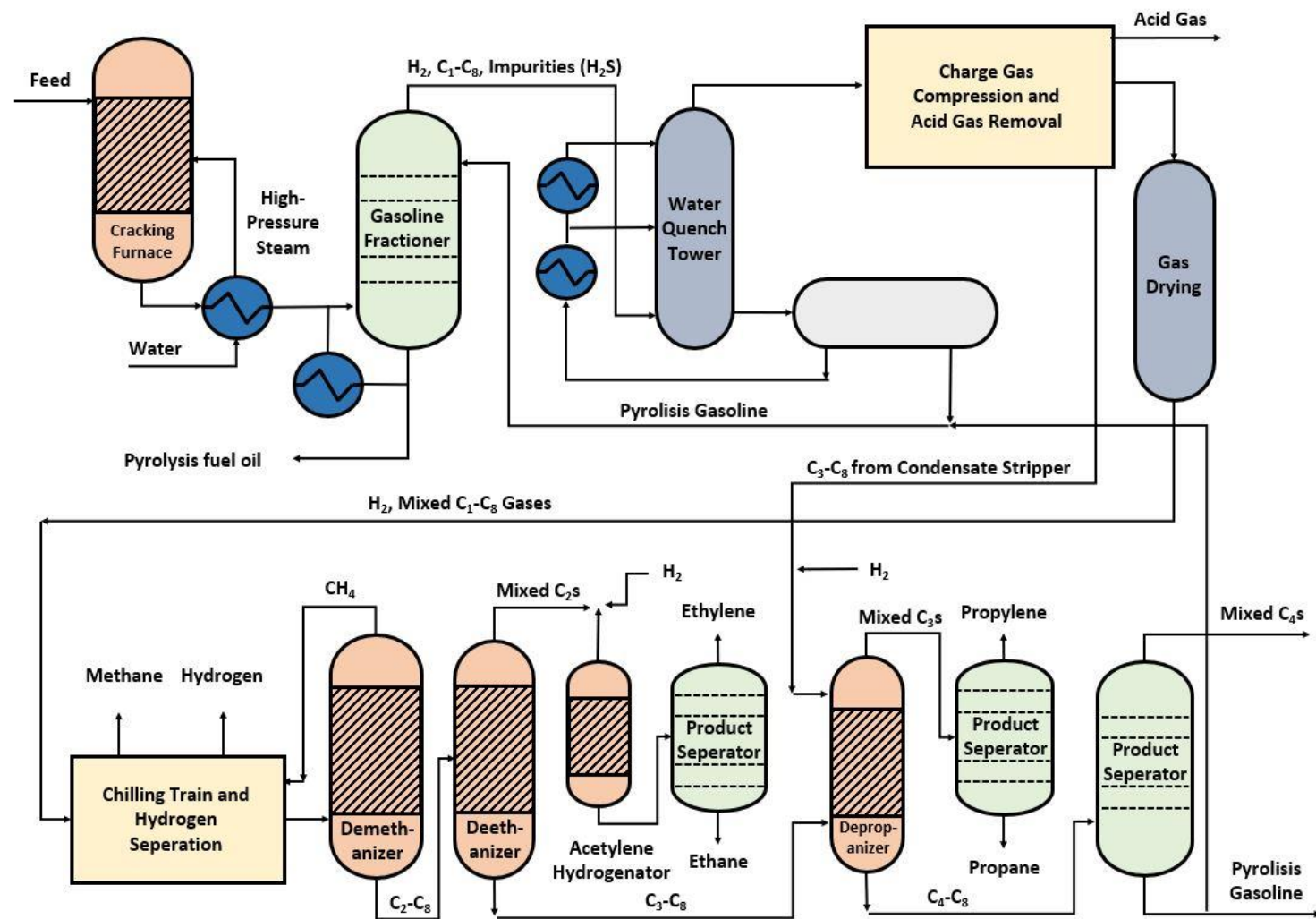
**The 74 High Volume Energy Intensive Chemicals  
Majority between 1 MMT and 0.5 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>  
annually**

# Emissions Distributed Across Manufacturing Steps



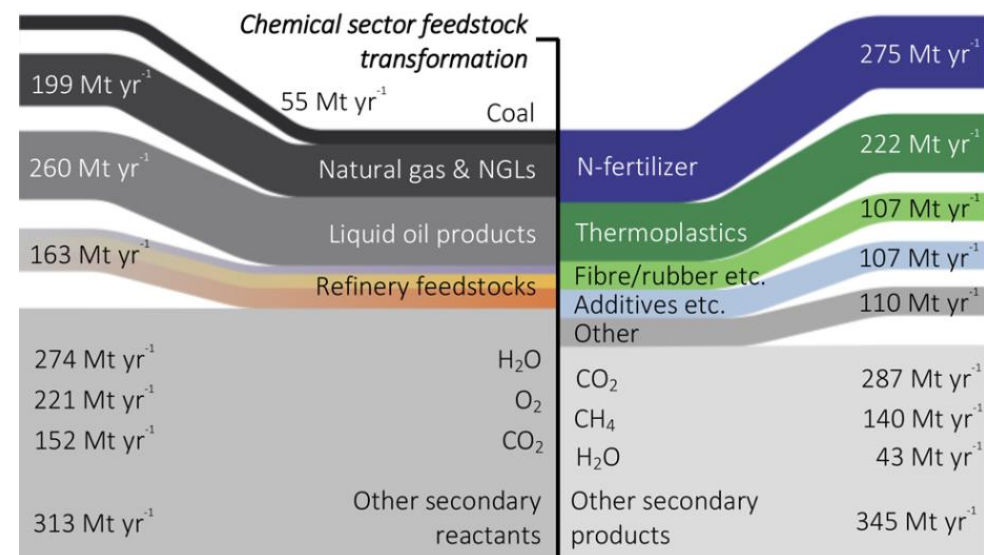
**Distribution of GHG emissions in 2018**

There is a high demand for energy to produce heat, steam, and electricity to drive chemical reactions, purification of products, and operations of manufacturing facilities.



# Lifecycle Emissions Must Consider Feedstock Emission

- Chemicals subsector is highly dependent on fossil fuel feedstocks
- The refining industry is the largest producer of liquid transportation fuels and refined petroleum products in the world including chemical products and hydrocarbon-based lubricants
- Predicted to grow by 20% by 2040 with growth in chemicals expected to outpace other oil/gas products ([CEN](#))
- Sustainable Feedstocks Considerations
  - Availability
  - Full Lifecycle emissions



Feedstocks from **Natural Gas Processing** (Ethane, Propane)

- **Significant emissions** from flaring and processing

Feedstocks from **Petroleum Refining** (Naphtha, BTX)

- Requires **energy and emissions-intensive** distillation and conversion processes

# Stakeholder Informed Strategy

**FY20 – FY23**  
 Opportunities and Challenges for  
 Chemicals Sector Decarbonization



**FY23+**  
 Balanced Risk  
 & Reward Portfolio

Workshops and Related Activities	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24
Dynamic Catalysis Roundtable	x				
Sustainable Chemistry Roundtable		x			
DOE Industrial Decarbonization Roadmap	x	x	x		
Industrial Decarbonization Roundtable – Chemicals & Petroleum Refining			x		
Electrochemistry in Manufacturing			x		
Platinum Group Metal Catalysts Supply Chain			x		
Sustainable Chemistry in RD&D to Transform the Chemicals Industry Roundtable				x	
EPA-Led Workshop on Chlor-Alkali Industry				x	
Working Group Meetings at Major National Meetings/Events					x
Conversations with Industry Researchers & National Labs on Dynamic Catalysts Science					x



# Stakeholder Engagement to Understand the Emerging Landscape

- Decarbonization of building block chemicals such as ammonia, ethylene, propylene, butene, benzene/toluene/xylene (BTX), methanol, ethanol, and hydrogen would have positive cascading impacts throughout industry. Other chemicals include sulfuric acid, chlorine, and sodium hydroxide.
- Chemicals and petroleum refining companies have invested significant capital in existing infrastructure.
  - Near-term opportunity to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> = technologies that leverage existing infrastructure (e.g. fuel switching, energy efficiency, waste heat recovery, carbon capture)
  - Long-term decarbonization opportunities = construction of new assets and infrastructure that Applied research is needed to advance these long-term opportunities for greater CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction
- Goal is to invest in technologies capable of ambitious GHG reductions and avoid niche markets. However, there is value to identifying potential first deployers of technologies, such as
  - Specialty chemicals with high profit margins
  - End application spaces where there is a co-benefit (e.g. improvement in the product)
  - New chemical pathways to circumvent the building block chemicals
- Collaborative research centers or hubs were supported by respondents across all organization types as an opportunity to reduce cost burden, derisk technologies, encourage collaboration, and share technical advancements.

# Objective and Targets

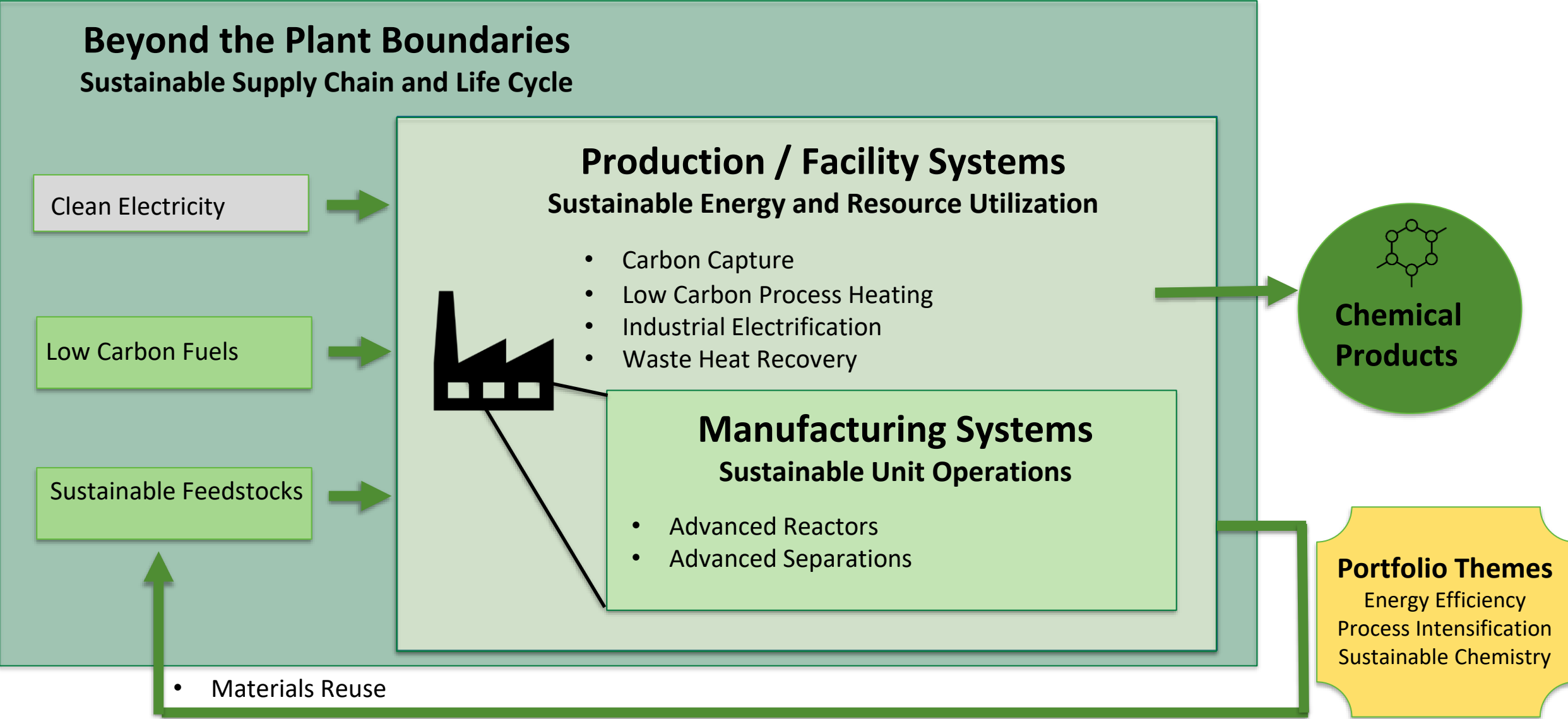
## Objective:

- Reducing energy demand in chemical manufacturing processes
- Generating energy through other means than fossil fuel combustion
- Sourcing fundamental matter, like carbon and hydrogen, from sustainable sources










## Targets:

- Accelerate innovations in transformative low carbon unit operations and processes to decarbonize the **full value chain of high-volume, energy intensive, high emissions chemicals**
- Focus on technologies capable of reducing emissions **by more than 50%** when broadly deployed

# IEDO Strategies for Chemicals Sector Decarbonization



# Technologies Aligned with Industrial Decarbonization Pillars

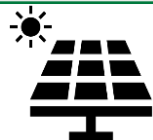
<b>Sustainable Feedstocks</b> Biomass (e.g. MSW, starch, lignin), CO <sub>2</sub> , recycled plastics, renewable natural gas, H <sub>2</sub> , materials recovery	
<b>Low Carbon Fuels</b> H <sub>2</sub> , RNG, biomass, e-fuels	
<b>Low Carbon Process Heating</b> Electromagnetic heating, electric resistive heating	
<b>Industrial Electrification</b> Electrified reactors, electrified steam production	
<b>Waste Heat Recovery</b> Process biproducts and waste heat valorization	
<b>Carbon Capture</b> Facility Integration and Utilization pathways	
<b>Advanced Reactors</b> Thermal Catalysts, Membrane Reactors, Electrochemical Processes, Biomanufacturing, Non-contact Energy Transfer	
<b>Advanced Separation</b> Membranes, Electrified Distillation, Selective Reactivity	
<b>Material Circularity</b>	



Energy Efficiency



Industrial Electrification

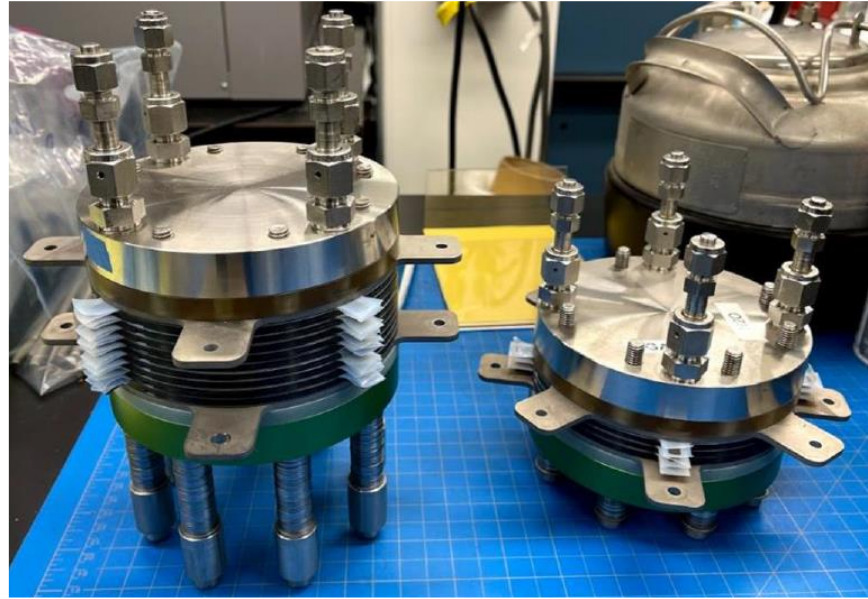


Low-Carbon Fuels, Feedstocks, and Energy Sources



Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage

# RD&D Pipeline



# Current IEDO RD&D Portfolio

## Currently active awards include \$55M across 23 R&D Projects

- Increase energy efficiency in the manufacturing of energy intensive chemicals through advanced catalysts and reactors for thermal and electrochemical pathways



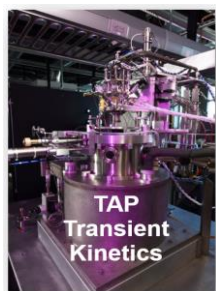
## Rapid Advancement in Process Intensification Deployment (RAPID)

- Renewal \$30 - \$50M for 5 years
- A Manufacturing USA Institute focused on modular chemical process intensification (MCPI) technology



## Sustainable Chemistry Portfolio

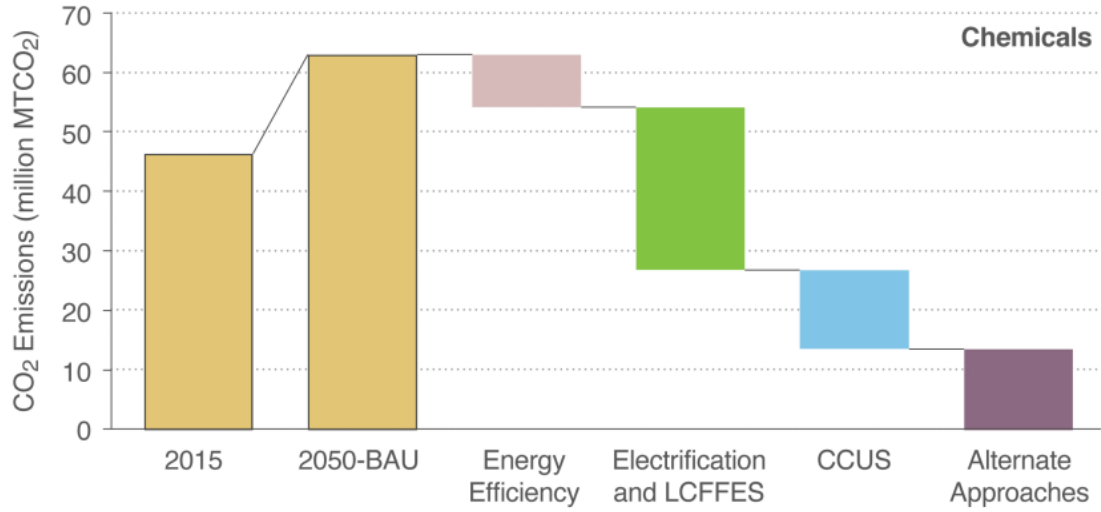
- \$10M/yr Congressional Direction since FY21
- Activities to reduce impacts to human health and the environment from chemicals in manufacturing processes



## Dynamical Catalyst's Science

- \$5M FY20; \$10M FY22; up to \$20M FY23
- Program focuses on bringing advanced computational and in situ tools for predictive modeling from national laboratories/academia to industry

# Decarbonization Pathways & IEDO Investments



Impact of the Decarbonization Pillars on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (million MT/year) for U.S. Production of Ammonia, Methanol, Ethylene, and BTX, 2015-2050.

	Total Investment	Energy Efficiency*	Electrification & LCFES*	Feedstocks*
AMO	\$55M	\$30.5	\$14.7M	\$22.5M

\*not additive – projects address multiple pillars

# Investment Funding Vehicles

2017 – 2021	FY18	FY18	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY23 – FY27	FY24
RAPID	Emerging Research FOA	Lab Call	Multitopic FOA	Multitopic FOA	Industrial Decarbonization FOA	IEDO FOA	RAPID Institute Renewal	Budget Request
Modular chemical process Intensification	Novel materials for new highly-effective chemical catalysts	Novel materials for new highly-effective chemical catalysts	Advanced Chemical Manufacturing R&D  Dynamic Catalyst Science with Data Analytics	Sustainable Chemistry	Decarbonization of Unit Operations of High-Volume Energy Intensive Chemicals	Decarbonization of Unit Operations of High-Volume Energy Intensive Chemicals	Modular chemical process Intensification	Emphasis on Sustainable Feedstocks and CO <sub>2</sub> to Ethylene
\$14M/yr for 5 years	\$9M*	~\$12M*	\$25M*	\$5M*	Max federal share per awards \$3M or \$10M	Max federal share per awards \$3M or \$10M	\$6M - \$10M/yr for 5 year	\$58M for Chemicals, Forest Products, and Related Industries

\* Currently Active Projects



# Institute Focus Area: Modular Chemical Process Intensification



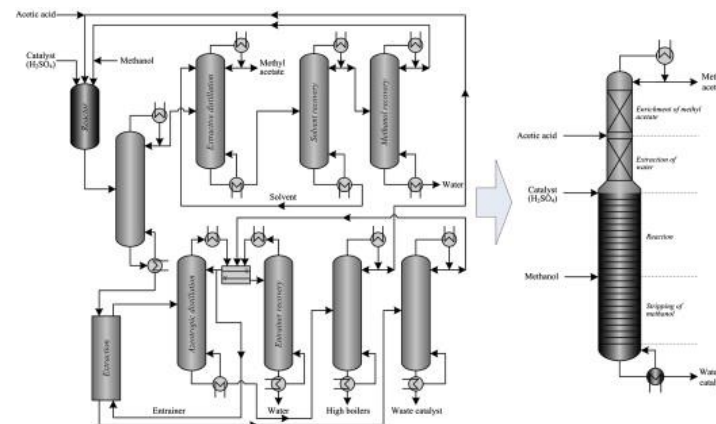
## Modular Processing

- Rethinking systems to enable flexible, **distributed manufacturing**
- Shift from **bigger is better** paradigm to **small, modular** paradigm
- Transition from volume scaling to **numbering up**



## Process Intensification

- Rethinking processes to dramatically **improve performance**
- Shift from **unit operations** paradigm to **integrative** paradigm
- Transition from **batch to continuous**



Primary Metals  
1608 TBTU



Petroleum Refining  
6137 TBTU



Chemicals  
4995 TBTU

Wood Pulp & Paper  
2109 TBTU



Glass & Cement  
716 TBTU

Food Processing  
1162 TBTU

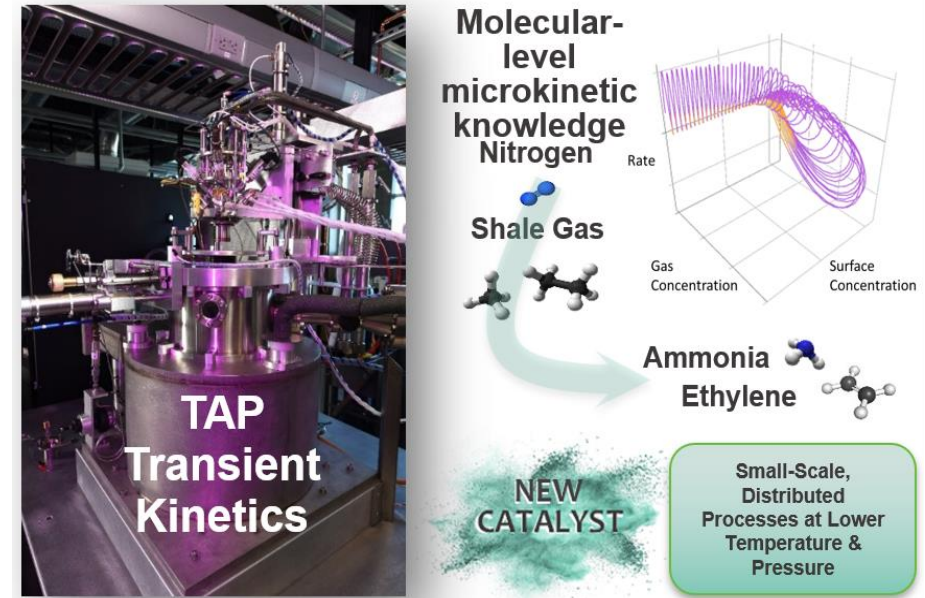
# Congressional Direction Focus Areas: Catalysts Science and Reactor Design

## Dynamic Catalysts Science (DCS)

- Advanced catalysts and related process improvements could reduce energy intensity for these chemicals 20% to 40% by 2050 ([IEA](#))
- Develop understanding of the catalytic mechanism in order to design advanced catalysts and catalytic reactors through employing computational and in situ tools to understand complex industrial catalysts
- Program focuses on bringing advanced computational and in situ tools for predictive modeling from national laboratories/academia to industry

## Stakeholder Engagement

- Roundtable in 2020  
<https://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/events/dynamic-catalyst-science-roundtable>
- One-on-one conversations with industry researchers & National Labs on *Dynamic Catalysts Science* to better identify the tools industry is seeking from national laboratories



## Congressional Interest

- Congressional direction in FY20 (\$5M), FY22 (\$10M), FY23 (\$20M)

# Congressional Direction Focus Areas: Sustainable Chemistry

- CO<sub>2</sub> emission reductions is a pillar of Sustainability. Additionally, as the industrial sector transforms to meet the needs of decarbonization, there is an opportunity to replace equipment to reduce adverse impacts on human health and the environment
- Decarbonization should consider the pillars of Sustainable Chemistry:
  - **Less toxic** to human health and the environment
  - **Lower energy consumption** and related **emissions**
  - **Reduced natural resource** impacts
  - **Optimized product design** that results in the reduction of waste and the reuse or recycling of chemicals and materials across the product lifecycle
- Work under sustainable chemistry allows for us to address agile businesses for early deployment of decarbonization technologies
  - High-profit margin specialty chemicals present an opportunity to deploy transformation technologies
  - 34% of chemical manufacturing facilities are owned by small and medium enterprises (employ <500 people) ([CISA](#))

## Congressional Interest

- Congressional direction from in FY21 (HEWD/SEWD \$5M), FY22 (\$10M SEWD), FY23 (\$10 SEWD)
- Congressional Report directed FY21 by HEWD and SEWD

## Stakeholder Engagement

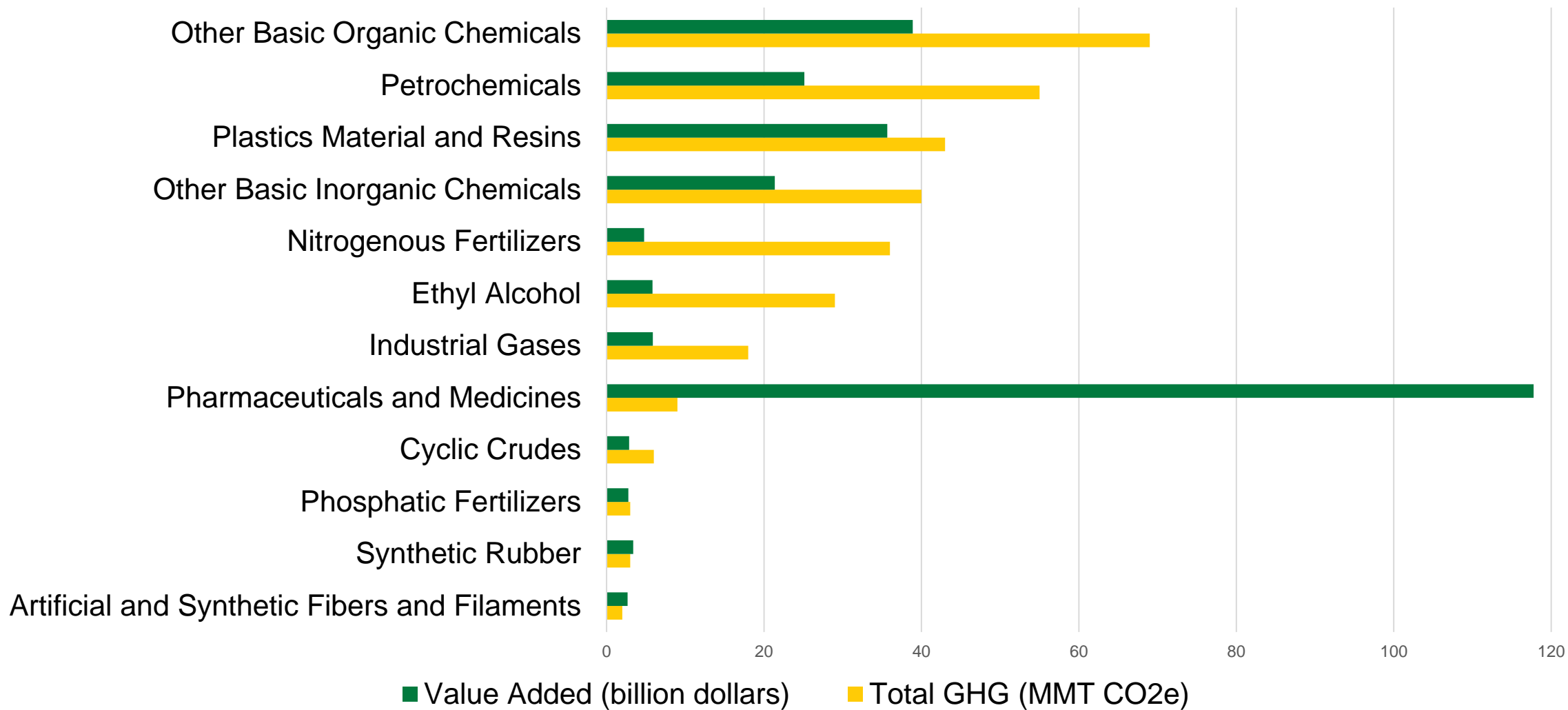
- Co-host roundtables with Green Chemistry & Commerce Council (GC3) in 2020 and 2023
- Environmentally-just sustainable chemistry RD&D practices; Focus on Small Businesses

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/downloads/sustainable-chemistry-manufacturing-processes-roundtable>



# Backup

# Highest Emissions from High Volume, Low Profit Margin Chemicals



<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/asm/data/2021>

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/manufacturing-energy-and-carbon-footprints-2018-mecs>

# Decarbonization of Ethylene

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# Decarbonization of Ammonia

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## Hydrogen Decarbonization

- Clean Hydrogen