

For Immediate Release

**Successful \$100 million private equity financing and new strategic partnerships continue Iowa-based Renewable Energy Group,® Inc.'s leading position in the biodiesel industry**

(Ralston, Iowa) – Renewable Energy Group, Inc. (REG) is pleased to announce the successful completion of \$100 million financing and two new strategic partnerships. NGP Energy Technology Partners, L.P., an affiliate of NGP Energy Capital Management, led the Series A preferred stock financing. Strategic partners, Bunge North America and E D & F Man Holdings Ltd., also invested in the Series A financing. In addition, Natural Gas Partners VIII, L.P., the Sargents, West Central Cooperative, and other Iowa investors participated in the REG financing. The \$100 million financing is one of the largest investments in biodiesel in North America.

REG will use the new capital and strategic partnerships to expand its network of wholly-owned and third-party managed biodiesel plants. REG expects to increase its biodiesel production to approximately 640 million gallons by 2009, including third-party plants.

Viant Group, a San Francisco-based boutique investment bank, advised REG in the transaction.

**Renewable Energy Group, Inc. Continues Leadership in Biodiesel Industry**

REG was formed through the combination of West Central's biodiesel business and REG, LLC's biodiesel plant construction business, and has produced and sold biodiesel for more than ten years through its predecessor companies. REG is the biodiesel industry leader of B100 sales and is the only full-service biodiesel company offering plant management, risk management, raw material procurement, plant construction, biodiesel production, and biodiesel sales and marketing services. All planned facilities will utilize patented continuous-flow biodiesel production technology featuring water recycling and methanol recovery and be BQ-9000 Accredited. REG serves hundreds of customers including on-highway fleets, original equipment manufacturers, maritime, military, home heating and agriculture industries.

"With the completion of this financing, REG becomes the first independent, biodiesel platform company offering a comprehensive set of management, procurement, marketing and construction services, and the expertise to present outstanding leadership in the biodiesel industry," explained REG Chairman and CEO Jeff Stroburg. "Renewable Energy Group is proud to partner with such outstanding investors who, together, will help us create a nation less dependent on foreign petroleum."

**Increased Raw Material Supply and Distribution to Meet Growing Demand for Biodiesel**

Bunge North America and E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. selected REG as a strategic partner in the biodiesel industry and elected to invest in the company. These partnerships provide a dedicated supply of various raw materials, site locations, and risk management and logistics expertise and enable growth in biodiesel production capacity to volumes necessary to meet the consumption demands of large customers nationwide.

More than 80 percent of the production cost of biodiesel occurs in the procurement and transportation of feedstock to the biodiesel production plant itself. With Bunge, the largest oilseed processor in the world, and with E D & F Man Holdings Ltd., a major trader of fats and oils such as palm oil and tallow/yellow grease, REG expands its transportation and distribution network both domestically and globally.

"As Renewable Energy Group grows, these agreements provide us an opportunity to meet the needs of current and future customers on a larger scale than ever before with greater economies of scale," explained Stroburg. "Producing high quality biodiesel is only the first step; getting biodiesel to our customers when and where they need it is a key factor in creating a successful distribution channel." Facilitating further production and transportation efficiencies, REG intends to co-locate several biodiesel production facilities with Bunge North America oilseed processing facilities.

### **Far-reaching Impact of the Agreement**

This agreement continues REG's leading position in the biodiesel industry. The investment and partnerships will allow REG, Inc. to create 496 jobs by 2010 in its network of plants nationwide. In the state of Iowa, REG will increase its current staff of 52 employees to 82 by 2009.

"We are very excited to continue as a leader in the biodiesel industry through these strategic partnerships and investments," adds Stroburg. "As we continue to invest in our supply and distribution network, we anticipate not only job creation, but the ability to affect positive environmental change through greater adoption of biodiesel."

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### **About Renewable Energy Group, Inc.**

Renewable Energy Group, Inc. was formed through the combination of West Central's biodiesel business and Renewable Energy Group, LLC's biodiesel plant construction business, and has produced and sold biodiesel for more than ten years through its predecessor companies. Renewable Energy Group, Inc. is the biodiesel industry leader of B100 sales and is the only full-service biodiesel company offering plant management, risk management, raw material procurement, plant construction, biodiesel production and biodiesel sales and marketing services. All planned facilities will utilize patented continuous-flow biodiesel production technology featuring water recycling and methanol recovery and be BQ-9000 Accredited. Renewable Energy Group, Inc. serves hundreds of customers including on-highway fleets, original equipment manufacturers, maritime, military, home heating and agriculture industries.

### **About West Central Cooperative**

West Central holds a controlling interest in Renewable Energy Group, Inc. (REG) in Ralston, Iowa, where an REG biodiesel plant is co-located with a West Central soy crush facility. West Central has entered into a long-term soy oil supply agreement as well as a shared services agreement in support of REG business activities. Included in the services agreement are continuing support of commodity risk management and procurement activities. West Central has been a long-committed leader in the biodiesel industry and intends to remain heavily invested in biodiesel via REG.

West Central is one of the 20 largest grain companies in the United States with 3,148 stockholders, \$375 million in FY06 revenues and inbound grain of 80.9 million bushels in 2006. West Central is a full-service, farmer-owned cooperative located in Ralston Iowa. West Central's operating divisions include grain, agronomy, feed, soy processing, and administration. West Central may be reached at (712) 667-3200 or [www.west-central.com](http://www.west-central.com).

### **About Renewable Energy Group, LLC (REG, LLC)**

REG, LLC was a commercial scale, biodiesel plant construction joint venture that provided turnkey biodiesel plants and was owned by the Sargents (owners of Todd & Sargent) and West Central Cooperative. The business assets, and intellectual property of REG, LLC have been contributed to Renewable Energy Group, Inc. The exclusive relationship for biodiesel plant construction in place between Todd & Sargent and REG, LLC has transferred to Renewable Energy Group, Inc.

### **About Bunge North America**

As a strategic investor, Bunge North America is providing capital, site locations, raw material supply, risk management and logistics expertise that are all critical capabilities and skills necessary for the rapid growth and expansion of Renewable Energy Group, Inc.

Bunge North America (the North American operating arm of Bunge Limited (NYSE: BG), is a vertically integrated food and feed ingredient company, supplying raw and processed agricultural commodities and specialized food ingredients to a wide range of customers in the livestock, poultry, food processor, foodservice and bakery industries. With headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, Bunge North America and its subsidiaries operate grain elevators, oilseed processing plants, edible oil refineries and packaging facilities, and corn dry mills in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Bunge North America may be reached at (314) 292-2000 or [www.bungenorthamerica.com](http://www.bungenorthamerica.com).

### **About E D & F Man Holdings Ltd.**

As a strategic investor E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. is providing capital, raw material supply agreements, bulk liquid storage, possible future site locations, risk management and logistics expertise that are all critical capabilities and skills necessary for the rapid growth and expansion of Renewable Energy Group, Inc.

E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. is an employee owned international trading company established in 1783 with 4,850 employees in 70 countries. A world leader in the trading of sugar, molasses, palm oil, coffee, cocoa and ethanol, E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. handles over six million tons of liquid products annually. Its North American subsidiary Westway Holdings Corporation consists of three operating divisions. Westway Terminal Company Inc. possesses 13 strategically located bulk liquid storage terminals throughout North America; these terminals have large tank farms that can provide feedstock and biodiesel storage and several could be used as biodiesel plant sites in the future. Westway Trading Corporation trades palm oil and fats and is the primary molasses supplier to the U.S. animal feed and fermentation industries. Westway Feed Products Inc. is the largest U.S. liquid feed manufacturer with 33 sites throughout North America. With its significant infrastructure and liquid handling capabilities, Westway is an ideal partner to the leaders in the biodiesel industry. E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. may be reached in the United States at (504) 636-4320 or [www.edfman.com](http://www.edfman.com).

### **About Todd & Sargent, Inc.**

Todd & Sargent serves as Renewable Energy Group, Inc.'s (REG) construction partner designing, engineering and constructing commercial-scale, state-of-the-art biodiesel facilities. This construction partnership enables REG to begin two to three plants a quarter for REG or its customers.

Established in 1958, Todd & Sargent, Inc. specializes in biodiesel facilities, feed mills, grain storage facilities, flour mills, pet food plants, and grain processing facilities. They offer "single source responsibility" from concept through completion and serve REG with construction capabilities, professional designers, engineers and field staff. Todd & Sargent, Inc. is headquartered in Ames, Iowa where they take pride in being responsible for keeping clients on the leading edge of technology. Todd & Sargent may be reached at [www.tsargent.com](http://www.tsargent.com)

### **About Natural Gas Partners**

Founded in 1988, Natural Gas Partners is a \$2.9 billion family of funds that invest private equity capital in oil and gas production, midstream and oilfield service companies. The firm also manages \$350 million in two co-investment funds that invest in direct oil and gas property interests alongside NGP portfolio companies. NGP Energy Technology Partners and Natural Gas Partners are affiliates of NGP Energy Capital Management, a \$3.6 billion firm based in Irving, Texas that invests in all

sectors of the energy industry. Natural Gas Partners may be reached at (972) 432-1440 or [www.naturalgaspartners.com](http://www.naturalgaspartners.com).

#### **About NGP Energy Technology Partners**

NGP Energy Technology Partners, located in Washington, D.C., is a \$148 million private equity fund that invests growth equity in companies providing technology-related products and services to the oil and gas, power and alternative energy sectors. The principals of NGP ETP have an extensive track record of partnering with the management of energy technology companies to create significant value. NGP Energy Technology Partners is an affiliate of NGP Energy Capital Management. NGP Energy Technology Partners may be reached at (202) 536-3920 or [www.ngpetp.com](http://www.ngpetp.com).

#### **About Crown Iron Works**

Crown Iron Works Company (Crown) and Renewable Energy Group, Inc. (REG) are joint owners of trade secrets for efficient continuous flow technology. The jointly owned technology is used in biodiesel plants that are designed for continuous operation for maximum efficiency and safety. The process is a two-stage transesterification reaction followed by ester washing, drying and alcohol recovery. Excess alcohol is recovered from all product streams to virtually eliminate discharge to the air and water, and allow water reuse in the process. This same process will be used in REG plants under construction and to be built. Crown Iron Works provides complete design and supply services for oilseed, vegetable oil and oleochemical processing worldwide. Crown specializes in preparation, solvent extraction, oil and fat refining, methyl ester (biodiesel) and glycerin refining technologies. Crown's engineered approach to reliable system design ensures its systems operate reliably at or above their required capacity with low steam/utility usage and high finish product quality. Headquartered in the United States with offices in England, Brazil, Honduras, India, Mexico, Russia and China, Crown can easily service their worldwide customer base. For more information about Crown Iron Works go to [www.crowniron.com](http://www.crowniron.com).

#### **About Viant Group**

Viant Group is a leading boutique investment banking advisory firm, specializing in M&A and private capital financing services for private and public growth companies. Viant Group is dedicated to providing its clients with superior financial advice and creating execution strategies that are uncommonly smart and innovative. Viant professionals cover a broad array of industries including the technology, alternative energy, healthcare, consumer products, financial services and business services sectors. Viant Group may be reached at (415) 820-6116 or visit [www.viantgroup.com](http://www.viantgroup.com).

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To learn more about Renewable Energy Group, Inc. or access an online media kit, please visit [www.renewable-energy-group.com](http://www.renewable-energy-group.com)