

Title: Technical Challenges and Issues in Commercializing Biorefinery Concepts

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Abstract:

The idea of developing a Biorefinery for producing valuable chemicals from renewable resources is currently being actively explored by researchers in the academia and industry. The recent rise in petroleum price, future scarcity of petroleum based raw materials, and environmental pollution concerns are the main driving force to look into Biorefinery concepts. A Biorefinery is envisioned to operate analogously to a petroleum refinery. However, there are many technological hurdles that we must cross in order to make these ideas a practical reality. This paper will review the major technical issues in Biorefinery concept implementation. The needs for future research and development from an industrial perspective will be discussed.