

INFORMATION RELEASE

A Sustainable Biomass Energy Station at Rotherwas, Hereford

Sustainable Energy Enterprises Limited (SEEL) are announcing their proposal to develop a plant at Rotherwas that will convert locally arising and recovered biomass into electricity and heat. This plant will feed the local electricity distribution grid and provide heat to new businesses on the Enterprise Zone, some existing Rotherwas businesses, and the planned new housing to the south west of Rotherwas. SEEL will also actively encourage new investors to the Enterprise Zone that have a particular need for sustainable electricity or heat.

The technology used is Pyrolysis and Gasification and this has a proven track record as a clean and sustainable technology. The fuel supply will principally comprise of Poultry Litter, demolition grade used wood and sewage sludge.

This process quickly and cleanly converts these solid fuels at a very high temperature into a fuel gas and residual dry ash and the emissions from the process are up to 100 times below the limits set by the environment agency and European clean air regulations. The process is recognised by Defra, DECC, and Ofgem as a sustainable generation method and it is supported by environmentalists and others as a 'clean' technology.

Through close co-operation with local poultry farmers SEEL intends to divert as much litter as possible from land storage and spreading and use this and the other local biomass fuels to supply local businesses and homes while enhancing the resilience of the local electrical supply. The electrical output will be approximately 13MW with a similar output of heat for district heating and cooling. In practical terms 13MW of electricity will typically provide sufficient power to run 12,000 to 15,000 homes. In addition the heat available will allow local users to greatly reduce their carbon footprint by avoiding the use of oil and gas. SEEL believe this development will secure some existing jobs in the county and generate new employment, some 30 to 50 posts directly in the plant and further jobs in businesses attracted to the Enterprise Zone by the energy it makes available.

Unlike other sustainable energy sources the SEEL plant, located adjacent to the new relief road, will produce electricity and heat every day of the year irrespective of the wind or sunlight available. The plant will also provide a useful alternate destination for products that currently could impact adversely on our local environment.

Local industry and domestic neighbours have been invited to a drop in meeting on Thursday 21st January at the TRP Board Room in Netherwood Road Rotherwas where the plans for the proposal can be inspected and to meet the staff of SEEL and their specialist consultants. Anyone else with an interest in this development or questions will also be welcome between 4:30 and 7:30 pm.

All comments, questions and further enquiries can be made by contacting Richard Garnett of SEEL directly on 01432 358032 or emailing info@seelh.com

'Sustainable energy from fuels sourced close to the point of demand'

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