

Kent Combined Heat and Power Plant is officially opened today

Today (28th September 2018) the Kent Combined Heat and Power Plant was officially opened by **Cllr. Sue Chandler**, Chairman of Dover District Council, in the presence of local MP, Craig Mackinlay and Veronica Liote, Mayor of Sandwich and members of Sandwich Town Council. The power plant generates 27MW of renewable electricity using locally sourced wood as fuel, which is the equivalent of supplying 50,000 homes and saving over 100,000 tons of CO₂ every year. The plant provides heat and power to the Discovery Park, Kent's leading Science Park, with the excess being exported to the local electricity grid.

Kent Renewable Energy Ltd is majority owned by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners K/S (CIP), a Danish infrastructure fund which specialises in the development of and investment in, renewable energies. The plant was developed by Estover Energy Ltd. and built by Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor A/S (BWSC) who will also operate and maintain the plant in to the future, both of whom retain ownership shares.

Christina Grumstrup Sørensen, Senior Partner of Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners, said: "We couldn't be happier to have formally opened our combined heat and power plant. It has been great to celebrate the day with our customer, Discovery Park and some of their tenants and our Danish partners and investors, together with many of the authorities and organisations whose work with us has been invaluable in bringing our project to fruition.

Christian Grundtvig, Director Generation Services and Project Development with Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor, said: "We have worked very closely with Dover District Council and many other statutory agencies locally. It is a credit to their vision, support and willingness to work together to bring such a positive project to the area, that the plant has been delivered early and within budget. We would also like to thank all local businesses and residents for their support during the construction phase and we look forward to continuing to work with them over the next 25 years.

Cllr. Sue Chandler, Chairman of Dover District Council said 'We know what great opportunities and skilled people we have in our area and it is wonderful to know this is also recognised at an international level. We are delighted that such high calibre European companies wish to invest in the UK and in our part of Kent in particular. The investment in the renewable energy plant at Discovery Park reinforces their commitment to the local area and we look forward to working with them for many years to come.'

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Notes to the Editor

1. To arrange an interview or request high resolution images please contact Peter N Sills in the first instance on p.sills@sillson.com or call 07976 437467
2. The Kent Renewable Energy Biomass combined heat and power plant opened on the 28th September 2018 and it now generates just over 27MW of green electricity, which is enough to supply 50,000 homes and save over 100,000 tons of CO2 every year. Around 15 - 20% of the clean, green energy generated will be supplied directly to the tenants of Discovery Park, who will also benefit from the heat generated by the steam from the plant.
3. Kent Renewable Energy Ltd. are working with a range of partners to deliver this project. They are owned by Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners K/S (CIP), a Danish infrastructure fund which specialises in the development of and investment in, renewable energies. The power plant is being built by Danish company Burmeister Wain Scandinavian Contractor (BWSC), who will also operate and maintain the plant once it is built. The wood fuel is being sourced and delivered by Euroforest Ltd, a leading provider of harvesting and marketing services to the UK forestry industry, who are based in Hampshire.
4. Locally sourced wood fuel will be used to generate heat and power from the biomass power plant. By building the power plant here a new, significant and reliable local market for low grade wood that can otherwise be difficult to make use of will be created. This will make woodland management in the area and across the south east more economic, helping local wood producers to diversify, bringing more woodland back into active management and so also supporting the production of higher quality wood and coppice.
5. All the wood we use in our power plant comes from sustainably managed sources and is accredited under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) scheme and the processing and supply chain undertaken by EuroForest to get the wood from the forests to the plant is managed under their FSC approved chain of custody process, which FSC audit annually.
6. Further details in relation to Kent Renewable Energy Ltd. are available on our website www.kentrenewableltd.com