



E-Bulletin for the Environmental Industries

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Updates:

◆ EnviroLink Northwest has updated its **Land Remediation Supply Chain Directory** that now lists 122 northwest suppliers in the land remediation sector. To obtain a copy contact Gill Nowell: g.nowell@envirolinknorthwest.co.uk.

Funding:

◆ Scotland: **Scottish Enterprise**, in conjunction with the **Scottish Executive**, has launched the **Scottish Venture Fund (SVF)**, a new initiative to help growing companies seeking investment of over £2 million. SVF will provide funding support for deals in the £2-£5 million range, leveraging in significant private sector funding. Initial funding will be £20 million for 2006-07 and 2007-08. More information available on www.scotland.gov.uk.

◆ Scotland: Companies are now invited to bid for a share of the £1.5m **Renewable Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Support Scheme** which will support developing projects in Scotland. More information available on www.scotland.gov.uk.

◆ Northwest: International Trade Centre's **Passport to International Trade Success Programme** offers **Northwest SMEs with current exports between 15-40% of total turnover** professional support to further expand in the foreign markets. This includes skills and development audit or matched funding of up to £3,000. For more details contact: Radka Obtelova, T: 0161 237 4145, E: itc@chamber-link.co.uk.

◆ UK: **WRG Communities Challenge**. Landfill operator Waste Recycling Group (WRG) has announced a new £1 million challenge fund to support projects to enhance and improve local community environments. The funding is being made available through WREN to communities that are within 10 miles of a WRG landfill site or transfer station. The closing date for applications is the **30th March 2007**. For eligibility and further information go to WREN's web site.

Skills: Energy & Utility Skills is undertaking a second phase of the **Occupational and Functional Map of the UK's Renewable Energy Sector** focused on the following sub-sectors: biomass, off-shore wind, wave and tidal, hydrogen and fuel cells. The study aims to identify specific job areas and provide a complete and accurate occupational and functional map. For more details contact: Carol Adams, E: AdamsCarolanne@aol.com, M: 07876202933

New Initiatives:

◆ Yorkshire & Humber: **RAY's Online Recycling Tool** – Yorkshire businesses and local authorities can now find local recycling companies easily thanks to a new online search facility from Recycling Action Yorkshire (RAY). Go to www.recyclingaction-yorkshire.org.uk and click on 'Find recyclers near you'.

◆ South East: **ENERGISE Knowledge Network**, supported by EnviroBusiness and South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), is a dedicated network focusing on Energy Technologies and Services in the South East. Its aim is to work with all components of the supply chain, from the region's strong research base to end-users and buyers, to create new development opportunities, promote solutions to buyers and investors and help

members secure support both individually and collaboratively. Contact: EnviroBusiness T: 01293 813 911,

E: energise@envirobusiness.co.uk

◆ Northwest: **EnviroLink Northwest** has just started delivery of BREW-funded **Northwest Sustainability Mentoring Programme**. The programme aims to match final year under-/postgraduates interested in a career in the EGS sector with business managers from the sector in order to mentor these undergraduates through the process of identifying and applying for a first step on their chosen career path. Contact: Amy Glover E: a.glover@envirolinknorthwest.co.uk.

◆ Northwest: Working with the North West Universities Association and the Lead Environmental Academics Network **EnviroLink Northwest** has published an **updated guide to university-based environmental technology expertise 'Environmental Capabilities in England's Northwest'**.

IN GENERAL

News:

◆ Environment Secretary David Miliband and Trade and Industry Secretary Alistair Darling will jointly chair a **Commission on Environmental Markets and Economic Performance**. The Commission will investigate the likely growth of global markets in environmental goods and services over the **next 20 years**, giving indications of possible market size, and identify the current and potential comparative advantage of UK firms in these markets, building on the economic analysis and identified opportunities of the DTI/Defra Environmental Innovations Advisory Group. The Commission will report by Spring 2007. More information on DEFRA's website.

UKFEI News:

◆ **UKFEI Reception in the House of Commons** – 'Celebrating Environmental Innovation' was the theme for the UKFEI's reception in the Members' Dining Room on 21st November 2006. This event successfully raised the profile of the sector amongst key Parliamentarians, industry, academia & policy-makers. Ian Pearson, Minister of State for Climate Change and the Environment, praised the enormous contribution made by the environmental goods and services sector in tackling problems and providing solutions to challenges facing 21st century society as well as. Other key speeches came from Barry Sheerman MP, Peter Jones, Biffa Waste Services, and Jackie Seddon, Chief Executive of EnviroLink Northwest and Chair, UKFEI. For more details see the press release on DEFRA's website and www.ukfei.co.uk.

◆ **Water sector case studies** – UKFEI is working with UKTI's Water & Wastewater Sector Team to identify case studies demonstrating the international capabilities of UK water and wastewater companies. The case studies will highlight the successful application of novel water technologies and science and be uploaded to Government-based **ukwater.biz website**. The first 10 case studies will be receiving additional distribution to relevant trade press. Companies should contact Stanislav Zizka, E: s.zizka@ukfei.co.uk, T: 01925 856044.

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Studies & Analyses:

♦ **SEPTEMBER 06: Study on Eco-industry, its size, employment, perspectives and barriers to growth in an enlarged EU**, European Commission – DG Environment. This report analyses the driving forces behind the development of eco-industries in Europe and the measures that can support this development. See: [EC's website](#).

♦ **OCTOBER 06: Stern Review** – Sir Nicholas Stern, Head of the Government Economics Service and Adviser to the UK Government, published the study on the economics of climate change and development. All parts of the report as well as its executive summary can be downloaded from [HM Treasury's site](#).

♦ **OCTOBER 06: A report carried out for Shell by Vivid Economics** claims that the compliance market to meet the Government's ambitions for tackling climate change will be worth £30 billion over ten years and could be worth as much as £4 billion a year by 2010. Markets identified in the report include the building sector, renewable electricity, renewable road and transport fuels and energy efficiency. The report can be downloaded [on shellspringboard's website](#).

♦ **NOVEMBER 06: A Study of the Emerging Markets in the Environmental Sector**, Environmental Industries Unit (EIU). The report brings the latest estimates on the size of UK's and global EGS sector and its growth figures for 2010 and 2015. In the UK it is water & wastewater treatment and waste management sub-sectors that are by far the largest. Other fields where the UK has a strong international reputation include noise abatement technologies, hydro power, metal recycling, energy management and marine pollution control. For more details go to: [EIU's website](#).

♦ **NOVEMBER 06: Environmental Innovation – Bridging the gap between environmental necessity and economic opportunity**: Business-led Environmental Innovations Advisory Group (EIAG) established by Government in 2003 reported on first 3 years of its operation. To download the report go to [EIU's website](#).

Policy & Legislation:

♦ **Pre-Budget Report 2006**: On 6 December 2006 Chancellor Gordon Brown revealed his 10th pre-budget report including the following changes in the environment policy: an increase in all rates of air passenger duty with effect from 1 February 2007; an increase in fuel duty rates in line with inflation by 1.25 pence per litre with immediate effect from 7 December 2006; an ambition for all new homes to be zero carbon within a decade; setting out a consultative timetable for progressively strengthening building regulations in England and Wales to reflect the energy efficiency levels set out in the Code for Sustainable Homes. Full report and associated documents can be downloaded from [HM Treasury's site](#).

EU Policy

♦ **EU Emission Trading Scheme (EU-ETS)**: On 29 November European Commission rejected 10 out of 11 second phase National Allocation Plans over their excessive CO₂ pollution credits. Britain's plan was rejected as its list of industrial installations failed to include those in Gibraltar. More details available on [EC's website](#).

♦ **Environmental Technologies Action Plan (ETAP)** – To foster experience sharing on eco-innovations and on best practices, the EU Member States were invited to formalise their national transposition of strategies and action plans towards environmental technologies. The aim of the ETAP roadmaps is to help focus on relevant plans, actions, and achievements (relevant to environmental technologies and eco-innovations). National roadmaps are available on [EC's website](#).

R&D:

♦ **DTI Technology Programme** formally launched the **Autumn 2006 competition for Collaborative Research and Development (CR&D)** projects at Innovate 2006. This call commits up to **£43m of financial support** from the DTI. Overarching objective is to assist UK business and research communities to work together on strategically important areas that drive forward innovation, create prosperity for the UK economy and ensure UK competitiveness in the growing global economy. By **8 January 2007** the interested parties need to register their intention to submit an application. More info on [DTI's web site](#).

♦ The **Seventh Framework Programme 2007-2013 (FP7)** bundles all research-related EU funding initiatives together under a common roof playing a crucial role in reaching the goals of growth, competitiveness and employment. Under **Cooperation programme** the support is also available for the two following themes: 1. **Energy** where the EU Member States have earmarked a total of € 2.3 billion for funding this theme over the duration of FP7. 2. **Environment (incl. Climate Change)** – over the duration of FP7 the budget of € 1.8 billion was allocated for environment research, including research into **environmental technologies**. On 22nd December the first calls for proposals will be published.

♦ **Technium Challenge – the business planning competition for emerging technology businesses**. The competition includes a bespoke business acceleration programme for successful applicants and an attractive prize package for the winner and runners-up. Now it is the right time for companies to enter the 2006/2007 competition. The final closing date for submission of Executive Summaries is **15th January 2007**. See more details on [Technium website](#).

♦ **R&D tax credits** can help fund the technological advances needed to keep a company competitive, by reducing their tax bill or in some instances by providing cash, and are the biggest single funding mechanism for business R&D provided by Government. About £1.8bn has been claimed since 2000, over half of this by SMEs. To increase the number of companies using this tax incentive, DTI has published introductory leaflet and a series of case studies – see [DTI's website](#).

Consultations:

♦ Consultation on the review of the **Transfrontier Shipment of Waste Regulations** and the **UK Management Plan for Exports and Imports of Waste**. Deadline: **12 March 2007**. Full consultation available on [DEFRA's site](#).

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◆ Consultation on an amendment to the **Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000** relating to certain types of small Landfill Gas Engines. Deadline: **12 January 2007**. Full consultation available on [DEFRA's site](#).

DIARY DATES

◆ **Profit Through Efficiency - Site Waste Management Plans (SWMPs): Jan – Feb 2007**. Envirowise runs a FREE event to provide a basic level of understanding for SWMPs. This SWMP event is held on different dates at different locations. See: www.hyderconsulting.com/events/swmp.aspx.

◆ **International Conference on Design and Public Policy: 11 - 12 January 2007, University of Essex**. It aims to critically examine market-oriented solutions to the control and pricing of negative economic externalities from road transport congestion and industrial environmental pollution. Special forums have also been organized to inform and advise local authorities and firms on joining ETS, carbon offsetting and on obtaining finance for sustainable development and eco-innovations. See: www.essex.ac.uk/eccc.

◆ **Our Changing Atmosphere: 23 January 2007, The Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London**. Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) has invested £20M in four major research programmes to further the understanding of the chemistry and physics of the atmosphere and to quantify the effect of greenhouse gases on climate and air quality. This event is to mark the end of these programmes. www.nerc.ac.uk/research/areas/atmospheric/events/meeting.asp

◆ **Waste & Recycling – A Forward Look: 24 January 2007, Union Jack Club, London**. letsrecycle.com has joined forces with the Associate Parliamentary Sustainable Waste Group to produce a significant one-day seminar that previews upcoming legislative, policy and consultation developments in Europe and UK during 2007. Event's details available at letrecycle.com.

◆ **Global Water Leakage Summit 2007: 25 – 26 January 2007, Hotel Russell, London**. The summit examines case studies from utility practitioners worldwide - describing their strategies and programmes for leakage management and water efficiency. The conference sessions will include an international panel discussion, Industry and regulator panel discussion and 'Cutting edge' technology session. www.global-leakage-summit.com

◆ **All-Energy 2007: 23-24 May 2007, Aberdeen**. All-Energy exhibition and conference is the UK's largest event devoted to renewable energy. Admission is free of charge to all with a professional interest in renewable/sustainable energy. Event's official web site: www.all-energy.co.uk/About_All-Energy.html

USEFUL LINKS

◆ www.envirodaq.com – The EnviroDaq 50 is an **index of UK listed companies which generate at least 60% of their market value from providing environmentally-focused goods and services**. EnviroDaq has been developed by the UK Centre for Economic and Environmental Development (UK CEED), a charitable foundation, and the Centre for Sustainable Engineering (CSEng), a not-for-profit company. The aim is for the index to become an authoritative benchmark for performance in the environmental industries and to attract recognition for, and investment activity in the sector.

◆ www.environmentconnect.co.uk - **Environment Connect** is a business support sign-posting service operating in the Northwest. It brings together both regional service providers and national partners, providing one contact point for businesses and organisations wanting to direct companies to environmental support. The service is ideal for local authorities or organisations that are the first point of contact for businesses looking for environmental advice and information.

◆ www.ghgprotocol.org / section 'Calculation Tools': emissions **GHG Protocol Initiative** works to develop internationally-accepted accounting and reporting standards for companies and other entities to report their GHG emissions; they have developed **GHG emission calculation tools** with step-by-step guidance and automated worksheets on calculating company GHG emissions data.

◆ www.green-car-guide.com – **Green-Car-Guide** lists 60 most environmentally-friendly cars on sale in the UK today in 10 different categories. The web site also features latest news from manufacturers about new and forthcoming models, and also updates on green car developments worldwide. Green drivers will find useful a **list of UK biodiesel filling stations**.

◆ www.eku.nu/eng - **EKU Instrument - Swedish Instrument for Ecologically Sustainable Procurement** – Sweden has developed a practical online instrument to help private and public purchasers choose greener products.

◆ www.green.tv - operated in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) this is **broadband TV channel** for environmental films bringing together films from a range of environmental organisations and independent filmmakers. Green.tv also offers companies, UK and international Government organisations and NGOs a chance to broadcast their environment-related messages for free. See section on **environmental technologies**.

◆ www.econtext.co.uk/downloads/carbon_offset.pdf - Context has published a **Guide to Carbon Offset Providers and Advisers 2006** listing 23 organisations that offer to offset carbon emissions. For each company it shows the year of foundation, services offered, types of offset programmes supported, prices, verification methods, and geographic coverage.