

E-Bulletin for the Environmental Industries

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Updates:

♦ **New LDA Support Service:** The London Environmental Support Service (LESS) [website](#) provides a one-stop-shop for businesses to access a network of environmental support providers in London, while also offering an online platform for providers and businesses to share knowledge, skills and experiences.

♦ **Envirolink Northwest's Mapping Study on Biomass and Ground Source Heat Pump Supply Chains.** The study will identify the key market actors in both the biomass technology supply industry and the ground source heat pump industry and review cross sector market opportunities. The study will also review the key market opportunities to inform Envirolink Northwest's programme of work for 2007 - 2008.

♦ **Yorkshire & Humber: RAY's Report Launched by Jennie Price, WRAP's Chief Executive.** Called 'Putting Waste to Work', the report maps the growing environmental business opportunities in the region. RAY's objectives are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 287,000 tonnes, create new recycling jobs and bring £millions of private sector investment into the region. Copies of the [report](#) and [case studies](#) from the launch event are available by clicking on the links.

Funding:

♦ **The South West Bioheat Programme** acts as an acceleration programme providing intensive support for the regional biomass industry. It runs until March 2008 and includes a range of activities delivered under contract through **Regen SW**. For further information contact: Anna Halcro-Johnston, T: 01392 229323, E: ahjohnston@regensw.co.uk.

♦ **Bio-Energy Capital Grants Scheme:** DEFRA has opened a ten week application window for the third round of this scheme. The scheme will support the installation of biomass-fuelled heat and CHP projects in the industrial, commercial and community sectors, including local authorities and schools. **Deadline for the receipt of applications is 9th March 2007.** More information and application form available on AEA Energy and Environment [website](#).

♦ DEFRA announced renewal of grants to **Environmental Action Fund (EAF)** projects. The funding for the third year of the EAF projects (2007/8) is designed to help change people's behaviour at a grass-roots level so that consumers live more sustainably. To obtain more information and see the list of funded groups and projects please visit DEFRA's [website](#).

R&D Funding:

♦ **First Calls Under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) Published.** For the list of calls opened under the Cooperation Work Programme, themes Environment (incl. Climate Change) and Energy visit the following [EU web site](#).

♦ **SNOWMAN Research Call on Sustainable Management of Soil and Groundwater Pollution.** This call will be opened in all SNOWMAN partner countries within a limited time period of three months: 01 December 2006 - 28 February 2007 at 5 pm. For help with proposal concepts, partner searching, project steer and review please contact [Dr Gareth Thornton](#) at IPM-Net. The details and objectives available on www.snowman-era.net.

♦ **Innovation Fund Call for R&D Proposals to Reduce Household Food Waste.** WRAP wishes to invite proposals for projects to design, develop, test and trial innovative processes and packaging solutions which will reduce household food waste originating from the retail sector. **Closing date: 21st March 2007.** Please visit [WRAP's website](#) for more details.

IN GENERAL

News:

♦ **Environmental stocks rocketed in 2006.** The value of leading environmental technology companies almost tripled during the course of 2006, according to **Impax Asset Management Ltd** that tracks the value of eco-friendly firms. The [Impax ET50 Index](#) (ET50) is a performance-tracking index dedicated solely to publicly quoted companies that have core businesses in the development and operation of environmental technologies. The ET50 constituents are the **50 largest global companies** by market capitalisation.

♦ As part of the review of DTI's Business Relations Functions, the Environmental Industries Unit has joined colleagues working in DTI's Materials, Engineering and Manufacturing Policy Unit. Robert Sullivan heads the new unit - the **Manufacturing, Materials and Environment Unit**.

UKFEI News:

♦ On 23rd January 2007 UK Forum for Environmental Industries (UKFEI) held its first **Quarterly Meeting** of its members and partners in 2007 to review its past activities and set the agenda for 2007. The day before the UKFEI **International Trade Special Interest Group** met to discuss the business planning and exchange of best practice between the English regions and Devolved Administrations. For further information please contact Stanislav Zizka, E: s.zizka@ukfei.co.uk, T: 01925 856044.

Studies & Analyses:

♦ JANUARY 07: **World Energy Technology Outlook 2050 (WETO-H2)**, European Commission. The study demonstrates the need for radical change in Europe's energy mix to face the double challenges of energy security and climate change. See more details on the [EurActiv](#) news portal or download the report [here](#).

EU Policy & Legislation:

♦ **EU State Aid Action Plan – 'de minimis' Rules Updated.** The European Commission has just approved the easing of the State Aid rules because it knows that Europe's Growth and Jobs strategy depends largely on individual companies pursuing innovation. Under the new Regulation, **aid of up to €200,000, granted over any period of three years will not be considered as state aid.** More info on [EU site](#).

♦ **European Commission Strict on CO₂ Targets:** National Allocation Plans for the 2008-2012 trading period submitted by Netherlands and Belgium were both accepted on condition that the proposed CO₂ emissions are further reduced. Read more [here](#).

Consultations:

♦ **Consultation on Risk Based Regulation of Discharges to Water: Encouraging Better Environmental Performance by Business.** It will be of particular interest to those working in the water and wastewater sub-sectors. Deadline: **27th February 2007.** Full consultation available [here](#).

♦ **Consultation on the Controls on the Handling, Transfer and Transport of Waste.** It will be of particular interest to those working in the waste and recycling sectors, especially handling, transfer and transport of waste. Deadline: **6th March 2007.** Full consultation available [here](#).

♦ **Consultation on Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change.** This will be of interest to those working with the construction industry and design and supply of low or zero carbon technologies, goods and services. Deadline: **8th March 2007.** Full consultation available [here](#).

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♦ **Consultation on Building a Greener Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development** seeks stakeholders' views on proposals to reduce the carbon footprint of new housing developments. It sets out the importance of moving towards zero carbon in new housing. This will be of interest to those working with the home construction industry and design and supply of low or zero carbon technologies. Deadline: **8th March 2007**. Full consultation available [here](#).

♦ **Consultation on Mandating Water Efficiency in New Buildings** seeks stakeholders' views on the Government's proposals to make minimum standards of water efficiency performance mandatory in all new homes and new commercial developments. This will be of interest to those producing water and wastewater systems and services to construction firms and new residential and non-residential buildings, excluding for industrial or manufacturing purposes. Deadline: **Friday 9th March 2007**. Full consultation available [here](#).

♦ **EEC3 Initial Consultation: Defra update:** The proposed scores for individual established measures under EEC3 are now available on DEFRA's [website](#). The closing date: **12th February 2007**, with a view to setting the scores in March 2007. The summary of responses to the EEC3 Initial Consultation is also now on the website.

DIARY DATES

♦ **Energy Advice: New Customers, New Resources, New Partnerships: 31st January 2007, New Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London.** One day free seminar organised by **Energy Efficiency Partnership for Homes** aims to review the provision of impartial energy advice in the UK at a time of profound change. This is a chance for you to understand where the **energy advice sector** is going, and to consider how your business can benefit from the growing market for advice. The event is targeted both at advice providers, and at the suppliers of other energy efficiency goods and services. To register contact: [Lisa Matabaro](#), T: 020 7654 2456.

♦ **Payloads or Payless - Sustainable Transport for the Recovery Economy: 7th February 2007, Winchester.** This conference will explore the application of fleet logistics for the resource recovery industry. The programme will cover best practice examples from local authority and commercial operators and showcase the tools available to optimise efficiency. You can register [online](#) or phone 01756 709 808. Download the programme [here](#).

♦ **International Opportunities in Waste Management & Recycling: 14th February 2007, St. David's Park, Ewloe, Flintshire.** This event organised by International Business Wales will provide the companies with an opportunity to discuss and partner with other companies operating in the sector, learn about latest EU waste legislation and talk to experts with experience of exporting. Contact: [Bernie Moylan](#), T: 029 2044 4736.

♦ **Is Decentralised Energy an Answer to our Energy Challenge? Seminar: 14th February 2007, Faraday Wharf, Birmingham.** The event will bring together companies involved in decentralised energy services with representatives from the public and private sectors who could benefit from such a flexible energy approach. The event will include presentations from the London Climate Change Agency. To register contact Climate Change Solutions Ltd, E: info@climate-change-solutions.co.uk, T: 02476236623/5.

♦ **Designing out Waste. Gaining the Advantage: 15-16th February 2007, Royal Berkshire Conference Centre, Reading.** First Annual Conference of Resource Efficiency Knowledge Transfer Network. The overall theme for this two day long event is designing out waste in products and processes; addressing unsustainable use of resources through the supply chain and 'closing the loop' from manufacture to use through the employment of recycled and remanufactured materials.

♦ **Support for Energy Entrepreneurs: 21st February 2007, Ark Conference Centre in Basingstoke.** This free event offers the opportunity to hear about the latest business mentoring, advice and grant funds available; meet in private with the investors/experts looking for new ideas; network with potential suppliers/partners; and get advice and help from Energise staff. For more information on the event please visit www.envirobusiness.co.uk/docs/Support%20for%20Energy%20Entrepreneurs.pdf or contact us at energise@envirobusiness.co.uk.

♦ **Irish Water, Waste & Environment (IWWE) and the Irish Recycling & Waste Management (IRWM): 7-8th March 2007, RDS Dublin.** These are Ireland's national trade exhibitions for the water, wastewater, recycling, waste management, energy and environmental industries including an extensive free seminar programme. For more information please click [here](#).

♦ **Sourcing Sustainable Solutions. 15th March 2007, Emirates Stadium, Arsenal, London.** This Meet the Buyer event focuses on helping organisations meet with suppliers who can provide innovative environmental and sustainable products and services that will help lessen the environmental impact and improve the sustainability of your company's supply chain. You can book [online](#) or contact Emma-Jane Allen on 020 7700 0008.

♦ **Envirenergy North West: 27th March 2007, Old Trafford, Manchester.** This is one day conference will feature a detailed analysis of the region's response to climate change as well as new waste and energy legislation developments which will affect local authorities and the private sector. Various companies providing environmental products and services will exhibit at the event. For more information go to Envirenergy [website](#).

♦ **Local Authority Brownfield Regeneration - A Strategy for the Future: 28th March 2007, Haydock Park Racecourse, Newton-le-Willows.** This free event organised by Envirolink Northwest in conjunction with RENEW Northwest and CL:AIRE will explore the policy related issues that need to be addressed to fully implement a National Brownfield Strategy to ensure the sustainable reuse of land in the Northwest of England, in a local authority context. Please go to Envirolink's [website](#) to book your place.

USEFUL LINKS

♦ www.eisu.info – The site features a list of EISU Seminar Missions in 2006/2007. For further information about any of the missions, please email eisu@pera.com or call 01664 480076.

♦ www.pricextra.com – Developed by UKCED and supported by **Energy Saving Trust PriceXtra** helps you choose products – household appliances, cars, and computers – to **save you money** and **help the environment** at the same time.

♦ UK Government's **Environment and Greener Living portal** lists measures to encourage individuals to tackle climate change and help them adopt greener lifestyles.

CONTACT THE UKFEI

For further information on the UKFEI and to submit news for future editions, contact: s.zizka@ukfei.co.uk or visit www.ukfei.co.uk