

E-Bulletin for the Environmental Industries

REGIONAL NEWS

Regional Updates:

♦ **Northwest:** Waste processing facility in Merseyside has been awarded planning permission. Located at Huyton Business Park, it will process 50 million tonnes of waste from Merseyside homes each year and assist in preventing 80% of the county's waste going to landfill. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **East of England:** EnviroDaq is now available in East of England. A collaboration between EnviroDaq and EcoEnterprise.co.uk has been formed, which enables the UK index to be filtered to generate information specifically on companies with registered offices in the East of England. For more information visit the following links: [link](#); [link2](#).

♦ **Yorkshire & the Humber:** Regional Energy Infrastructure Strategy launched. Strategy aims to bring together regional and international businesses to address major climate change challenges. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **South West:** Regen SW has received £849,000 from the South West RDA, which will allow Regen SW to assist a further 60 companies to improve their performance and assist 200 more people to develop their skills. Part of the money will be used to appoint a new member of staff to promote micro renewables companies in the area. Businesses interested in the above opportunity should contact Steve Schofield, Business Support on 01392 494399. For more information click the following [link](#).

Regional Initiatives:

♦ **East of England:** The PowerPack guide has been produced by Renewables East to assist small businesses when considering the adoption of energy-efficient practices. Final amendments are being made to the forthcoming pack. For further information contact [Carole Randall](#), or see [link](#).

♦ **East of England:** Lowestoft Energy Challenge launched. The initiative is set to engage young people aged 4-18 years, and thus the whole community, in the joint initiative which involves both the Make Your Mark: Change Lives Campaign and NESTA's new Future Innovators Programme. One aim of the campaign is to raise the awareness of the need for energy efficiency and clean energy use generally, but particularly to raise the profile of the renewable energy industry and potential careers in the local area as it is expected to become a major part of the local economy in the next decade. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Yorkshire & the Humber:** Glaziers in Yorkshire will be able to recycle their waste glass, wood and plastics, across a network of depots in the region. 11 waste transfer stations have been established by Axion Recycling with help from Recycling Action Yorkshire (RAY). The network set up across Yorkshire and Humber is believed to be the first regional network in the UK. It should help glaziers operating there to recycle some of the estimated 30,000 tonnes of glazing waste generated annually. For more information see [link](#).

International Trade:

♦ International seminars available for environmental companies in the region to showcase their products and services. EISU is holding 15 seminar missions in total. The missions will cover topics ranging from waste management; to contaminated land remediation, clean technologies, air pollution, recycling, and many more. Part funding is available for some successful companies. For more information about how to apply, the aims of the mission and the expectations of the companies that will be involved please see EISU [website](#).

Funding:

♦ **Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme in Northern Ireland.** Invest NI have developed a scheme to assist businesses in reducing their energy costs and becoming more responsible energy users. In association with the Carbon Trust, businesses are able to borrow between £5,000 and £200,000 interest free. Loans can be used towards replacing or upgrading existing equipment with more energy efficient equipment. For more information see [link](#).

♦ **Community Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF).** Defra has recently set up this scheme, which is to be awarded via a competitive process. Deadline for applications are **Friday 13th July** for **Delivery** projects that are ready to start delivery almost immediately, or **Friday 3rd August** for **Development and Delivery** projects where you need time to develop your ideas and/or arrange partners before commencement of delivery. For more information click [here](#).

IN GENERAL

News:

♦ **Wind Energy sector will continue increase in growth.** A report published by Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) has predicted that the average annual cumulative global growth rate during period 2006-2010 will be 19.1%. The annual installed capacity is set to reach 21GW in 2010 compared to 15.2GW in 2006. Europe is thought to retain its lead in the market but competition is rising at a fast pace in North America and Asia; a huge incentive for research, development and investment in the sector. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Results of consultation on Environmental Permitting Programme (EPP).** CL:AIRE, IPM-Net and DTI organised workshop to obtain comments on Government guidance for EPP and associated forthcoming regulations. There was a call for a true single permit within the new regulations by simply providing for the Deployment Form associated with an MTL (Mobile Treatment Licensing) to cover discharge consents and/or abstraction licenses in relation to the remediation of land affected by contamination. In addition, it was requested that alternatives to the WAMITAB scheme are provided for to demonstrate operator technical competence. For more information visit CL:AIRE's website: [link 1](#); [link 2](#).

♦ **WRAP guide to encourage retailers and producers to reduce the amount of packaging going to landfill.** The guide aims to help retailers and manufacturers respond to customer demand over packaging issues and assist in compliance for recycling and waste regulations. For more information see [link](#).

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♦ **Carbon Emissions Reduction Target 2008-11 (CERT) published 23rd May 2007**, previously Energy Efficiency Commitment 2008-11 (EEC3). The Government proposes a CERT obligation at around double the level of activity of the current EEC 2005-08, with a continuing focus on low-income consumers. It proposes to extend the scope of the mechanism to include, in addition to energy efficiency measures, microgeneration and behavioural measures, and to introduce new approaches for innovation and flexibility. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Energy White Paper published.** Greater energy efficiency and a secure, low carbon energy mix are proposed in the Paper by setting out a long-term framework for action to tackle climate change and maintaining a stable and affordable energy supply for all UK citizens. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Update on Waste Strategy: 'Pay as you throw' plans unveiled.** Proposals have been put forward to fit wheelie bins with sensors that weigh the amount of non-recyclable waste thrown away. Financial incentives/taxes are proposed to encourage household occupiers to become more aware of the amount of waste that they recycle compared to that which they just discard to be sent to landfill. Various initiatives are being introduced to assist this drive for increased recycling, for example councils must provide facilities for all UK citizens to recycle 5 different materials. There are calls for public support prior to these proposals having the go-ahead. For more information see the following links: [Recycling & Waste](#); [LGA](#); [DEFRA](#).

♦ **CO₂ calculation unveiled.** Miliband has unveiled an online calculator that enables people to work out their personal or household's carbon footprint using government-recognised data and calculations. A personalised action plan is developed for users to cut their emissions. Miliband is quoted saying that "As the calculator improves and develops, I want it to become the gold standard for calculating CO₂ emissions from individuals and families." The current version is a trial and updated versions will be continually developed using user feedback and consultation results. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Proposed Maritime Policy expected to generate jobs and be a major contributor in tackling climate change.** A new all-embracing EU maritime policy has been proposed. It aims to strengthen Europe's global competitiveness in maritime industries, the fight against climate change, energy security and fisheries management, and tackle the challenges of migration and drug trafficking. Consultation process is currently underway. Proposals will be put before the Commission in October. For more information please visit the following websites: [link1](#); [link2](#); [link3](#).

R&D:

♦ **Opportunity to join a 'cutting edge project' already funded by the Technology Programme.** Project called the 'Glycerol Challenge', supported by Resource Efficiency KTN, is looking at future possibilities for this by-product of biodiesel manufacturing. For more information about the project, see [link](#).

♦ **WRAP support plastic re-use in milk bottle manufacturing.** WRAP is hoping to encourage plastics processors, packagers and retailers to start using recovered plastic, high density polyethylene (HDPE) to make milk bottles. For more information on a trial of new technology click [here](#).

Innovation Awards:

♦ **Rushlight Awards:** The awards are designed to celebrate the significant achievements of UK and Irish technology, innovation and commerce in helping to address the key issues of climate change and waste management. Visit this [website](#) to obtain more information.

♦ **IChemE Environmental Awards.** The annual IChemE Awards programme encourages, celebrates and rewards innovation and excellence by recognising those companies who make an outstanding contribution to safety, the environment, sustainable development and other aspects of the process industries. 11 awards are scheduled for the upcoming awards. For more information visit the following [link](#).

Studies & Analyses:

♦ **Research on the implications for the material recycling and thermal recovery of WEEE plastics.** German scientists have recently monitored polymer types and hazardous compounds in European WEEE polymers. Due to contamination of polymer fraction of WEEE, material recycling is limited to defined fractions of WEEE plastics and to technologies capable of removing brominated contaminants. In addition, polymer fractions cannot be categorised as refuse derived fuels because of the probable release of high levels of hazardous contaminants using established processes. Contact Martin Schlummer for information regarding the article: E: [Martin Schlummer](#).

♦ **Sustainable Procurement Study in the Northwest.** Report has been produced based on the findings of a scoping study on 'Sustainable Procurement in the Northwest'. A key recommendation is to establish a Regional Forum to coordinate the application of future Sustainable Procurement activity in the Northwest. For more information contact Vicki O'Kelly, Regional Resource Efficiency Coordinator at North West Development Agency, T: 01925 400533 or visit this [website](#).

♦ **Progress still slow on vehicle recycling.** A recent study commissioned by ENVI Committee of the European Parliament and completed by IEEP earlier this year found that only four Member States have made 'good' progress in implementation. Obstacles identified in remaining Member States include seemingly incompatible administrative requirements of ELV Directive compared to administrative systems of Member States, varied prioritisation concerning the regulation of vehicle manufacturers and implementation of required economic instruments and lack of financial and general administrative resources in new Member States. In sum, ELV Directive continues to be beset by problems in the majority of Member States. For more information see [EurActiv](#).

EU News:

♦ **EU states urged to support private-sector R&D investment.** Despite multiple EU initiatives aimed at increasing investment in research, the average R&D intensity stagnates since the mid-1990s, according to new Commission data. Research Commissioner Janez Potočnik has urged member states to put in practice the agreed policy measures to support private-sector investment. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **EU and business launch initiative for cleaner planes.** The EU has launched a £1.6 billion public-private research partnership to help the air-transport industry develop environmentally-friendly technology for planes. For more information click [here](#).

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♦ **EU initiative underway to standardise Membrane Bio-Reactors.** The project funded by the EU is called Accelerate Membrane Development for Urban Sewage Purification (AMADEUS) and is being led by the Berlin Centre of Competence. Recent market growth of the municipal sector was triggered by the introduction of the submerged low-pressure configurations, which enabled dramatic reductions in the capital and operation costs. In turn, this has resulted in many different suppliers and producers to offer many different concepts of submerged systems. Boris Lejean of the Berlin Centre of Competence has said in 'Water 21' that available products are very specific with little possibility for interchange between the technologies. Standardisation is therefore necessary to enable research into the possibilities for design modification of MBR filtration products and peripheral components to allow switching between systems when membranes are replaced. Another major advantage of this is the increase in acceptance of the technology in the overall market and thus its share of the municipal wastewater treatment market. The outcomes of this initiative were presented at the IWA Membrane Technologies conference in May. For more information on this project please visit this [website](#).

EU Policy & Legislation:

♦ **Agreement in Brussels on the new Floods Directive.** The Commission has adopted the Directive following the agreement of a set of comprised amendments. Once transposed into Member State law, they will be required to identify the river basins and associated coastal areas that are subject to flood risk and draw up flood risk maps and management plans to deal with these identified areas. For more information click [here](#).

♦ **Liability Directive ensures polluters pay in Member States.** EU Directive that imposes liability rules for damage to environment was due to come into force in Member States on 30th April. To date, only Latvia, Italy and Lithuania have transposed the Directive into national law. For more information click [here](#).

Consultations:

♦ **Carbon Emissions Reduction Target 2008-11 (CERT) Statutory Consultation document: deadline 15th August 2007.** Previously Energy Efficiency Commitment 2008-11 (EEC3), the Government proposes a CERT obligation at around double the level of activity of the current EEC 2005-08, with a continuing focus on low-income consumers. It proposes to extend the scope of the mechanism to include, in addition to energy efficiency measures, microgeneration and behavioural measures, and to introduce new approaches for innovation and flexibility. For more information see [link](#).

♦ **Waste Strategy for England 2007 - Incentives for Recycling by Households: deadline 16th August 2007.** Consultation on the introduction of financial incentive schemes to encourage recycling. For more information see [link](#).

♦ **Environmental Permitting Programme: Draft revision of the General Guidance Manual: deadline 4th September 2007.** Views invited on a draft revision of guidance to local authorities and industry on the operation of the local authority-regulated pollution control regimes. For more information see [link](#).

♦ **Call for Evidence on the post-2011 Supplier Obligation: deadline 14th September 2007.** Ian Pearson MP announced on 13th June the publication of Defra's Call for Evidence on the post-2011 Supplier Obligation, which follows on from last year's Energy Review commitment to extend a supplier obligation from 2011 until at least 2020. The Call for Evidence is intended to give all interested parties an opportunity to contribute early on during the development of this important policy. To access the Call for Evidence click [here](#), or click [here](#) for the accompanying Press Notice.

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