

STEADY PROGRESS
IN DEVELOPMENT OF
OUR BIOGAS PLANTS

DIRECTORS VISIT OUR
AWARD-WINNING
BIOMASS PLANT



SOLAR|21
NEWS
Q4 2019

WELCOME

SANDRA DONOVAN,
COO



As we approach the end of 2019, I'm delighted to be able to share some recent updates from our projects. A few weeks ago, myself and our CEO, Michael Bradley, travelled to the UK to visit our biogas plant at Plaxton Bridge, our Energy from Waste site and our award-winning 22MW Tansterne biomass plant. You can read more about our visit below.

2019 has been another year of rapid growth for Solar 21. Dave Jones has come on board as Senior Project Consultant. With more than 25 years' experience in the construction industry, he specialises in pre-construction feasibility, project planning, logistics and the financial management of large-scale construction projects. Paul Thompson has also been appointed as Solar 21's Regulatory Compliance Manager. He has extensive experience in biomethane/anaerobic digestion project development working with both the RHI (renewable heat incentive) and other government subsidy schemes. Paul was previously the Head of Policy for the Renewable Energy Association in the UK. I'd like to warmly welcome both Dave and Paul to the team.

In the spirit of the season, we have decided to make our Christmas donation to support the Peter McVerry Trust. It's a fantastic organisation which supports people and families experiencing homelessness this winter.

Lastly, I'd like to wish all our partners, brokers, investors, colleagues and friends a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. We're grateful for all your support throughout the year and look forward to working with you in 2020.

SUMMARY

- 3 STEADY PROGRESS ON BIOGAS PLANT
- 3 EFW CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN 2020
- 4 ITALIAN SOLAR FARMS CONTINUE TO PERFORM WELL
- 4 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY UPDATES AND INDUSTRY NEWS

SOCIAL MEDIA



www.solar21.ie



www.twitter.com/solar21_



www.linkedin.com/company/solar-21

SOLAR 21 DIRECTORS VISIT 22MW TANSTERNE BIOMASS PLANT

Earlier this month, our directors, Michael Bradley (CEO) and Sandra Donovan (COO) travelled to the UK to meet with the team working at our award-winning 22MW Tansterne Biomass plant. On a cold morning, everyone gathered for a brief presentation on the latest company news from the Directors followed by an engaging Q&A. You can see more images from their recent visit on our website: <https://solar21.ie/projects/biomass-21/>

"On each visit here, I remember what it was like when I first arrived at Tansterne," Michael Bradley told the team. "Then, it was a 12-acre green field site. To see our award-winning biomass plant on the horizon is always a proud moment."

We are delighted to have successfully completed the maturity process and delivered on our promises to investors earlier this year.



Directors Michael Bradley (CEO) and Sandra Donovan (COO) with members of the plant management team on site at Tansterne.

STEADY PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOGAS PLANTS



Neil Wright, Solar 21's project manager, Chris Yeadon from Ashcourt (our civils provider) and Solar 21's CEO, Michael Bradley on site



An aerial view of our Plaxton Bridge biogas plant

As you can see from the above image, we've made steady progress in the construction of our biogas plant at Plaxton Bridge close to Hull in the UK. The digester tanks are close to completion. They have been covered with air-tight roofing which means that the gas produced is captured in the structure before being cleaned and pumped directly into the grid. On this project, we partnered with BTS Biogas, the technology providers, and Ashcourt, who are close to completing the civil engineering works. Several other key pieces of infrastructure are also in place, including the pipeline which connects the digester tanks to the grid, the electrical works for the on-site substation and both the CHP (combined heat and power) unit and the desulphurisation unit. Our project manager, Neil Wright, and his team have been hard at work on site, supported by Fichtner Engineering Ltd, the project's technical advisor.

We are finalising contracts prior to commencing construction on our Biogas 2 project, which will be located near Hull in the UK. It will produce 2MWe (2MW equivalent) of gas which will be pumped directly into the gas grid. Both plants take advantage of the non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI). The RHI is part of the UK government's clean energy strategy, designed to stimulate the development and growth of renewable heat technologies. Under the proposed scheme, the UK government will pay an index-linked incentive, guaranteed for a period of 20 years, for the heat and energy produced. We are at an advanced stage in finalising the plant's design and the procurement of long-lead items, such as the GEU (Gas Entry Unit), CHP (Combined Heat and Power unit) and the digesters. Initial ground investigations are underway with construction due to start in the coming months.

Ashcourt, our civil engineering partner, has created an informative video which shows the full extent of progress on the Plaxton Bridge site. You can watch the video on our website or by visiting: <https://vimeo.com/368477422>



ENERGY FROM WASTE PLANT CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN 2020

Our 26MW Energy from Waste plant will burn 250,000 tonnes of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) which is derived from black bin waste. With planning permission and a grid connection secured for the four acre site, we are in the process of finalising the plant's design. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2020. The site is optimally located next to Transwaste, the largest waste recycling company in East Yorkshire. Transwaste has a license to handle up to 750,000 tonnes of waste per annum. They will provide a steady supply of feedstock (RDF) to the plant.

Fichtner, one of the world's premier engineering firms with over 100 offices worldwide has been engaged as lead engineer. It has previously consulted on more than 50 EfW plants including the Covanta EfW plant in Ringsend, Dublin. The plant will have two revenue streams: energy sales and gate fees for RDF taken in from the adjacent waste processing plant.



Our CEO, Michael Bradley, visiting Transwaste's offices in the UK

ITALIAN SOLAR FARMS CONTINUE TO PERFORM WELL

Even on cloudy winter days, the panels at our Italian solar farms produce significant energy. As the sun's rays penetrate through the clouds, the light powers the modules to generate steady power production. Our plants are made up of many thousands of modules across our solar farms.

Last year, they produced about 14,100,000 kWh of power and prevented about 8,700 tonnes of carbon dioxide from being released into the atmosphere. We're hopeful that they will achieve similar targets this year. This means both strong power output and solid returns to our investors.



Solar panels in action

PETER MCVERRY TRUST SELECTED AS CHARITY PARTNER



As a company, Solar 21 has a strong commitment to giving back. Each year, we select a worthwhile cause to support with our Christmas donation. This year we've selected the Peter McVerry Trust, a national housing and homeless charity committed to reducing homelessness and the harm caused by substance misuse and social disadvantage. The charity provides low-threshold entry services, primarily to younger people and vulnerable adults with complex needs and offers pathways out of homelessness. We're delighted to be supporting the Peter McVerry Trust's important work this Christmas season.

INDUSTRY NEWS: SEISMIC STEPS FORWARD IN ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The EU has signed an important European Green Deal which pledges that the bloc will be carbon neutral by 2050. Under the Paris Climate Accord, the EU committed to keeping its emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and set no definite goal for 2050. This new plan raises the 2030 target to a 50 percent reduction and sets the 2050 target at 100 percent. It is the most ambitious plan of any international body aimed at addressing the climate crisis.



Minister Richard Bruton and Chair of the European Commission, Ursula Von Der Leyen

Closer to home, the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Richard Bruton, announced details of Ireland's Renewable Electricity Support Scheme (RESS) auction. The approval of the scheme is welcome news for the Irish renewables sector though there is likely to be a significant gap between the completion of projects under the old REFIT support scheme (which concluded at the end of 2015) and the connection of new projects under the RESS.

When Solar 21 began offering renewable energy investments more than a decade ago, it was one of the only companies offering these opportunities to individual investors. We're pleased to see governments finally taking action to address climate change.