

# Biffa Press Release

13/07/2009

## Biffa seeks approval for AD plant in Staffordshire

Biffa has this week submitted a planning application to Staffordshire County Council for an 80,000 tonne per annum anaerobic digestion plant. The plant will be built at the company's waste management facility at Poplars, Cannock.

Submission of the planning application follows liaison meetings and consultation with local representatives. It will be followed shortly by an application for an environmental permit from the Environment Agency.

The plant will treat food and vegetable waste from households and businesses; including supermarkets, restaurants, food manufacturers etc, in the West Midlands Region that is currently sent to landfill. The process of anaerobic digestion, which breaks down biodegradable material in the absence of oxygen and produces methane rich biogas, will be used to generate over 4 megawatts of electricity, enough to power over 8000 homes. The construction phase will provide employment for almost 100 people and over £10M will go into the local economy, and when fully operational 15 people will be employed.

"This is the next stage in the process of developing new waste treatment infrastructure and increasing the Company's portfolio of renewable energy generation schemes" said Director of Environment & External Affairs David Savory. "Building this type of technology is essential if we are to move the UK towards a low carbon economy, reverse the most damaging effects of climate change, and improve energy security. We hope that construction on the plant will commence in late 2009 and that it will be fully operational by the end of 2010".

Last month Biffa announced that it had appointed Ros Roca Envirotec, part of the Ros Roca Environment Group, as technology provider for the plant. Imtech Process of Burntwood, Staffordshire have been appointed as main contractor for the construction of the plant.

Further press information from

**David Savory at Biffa on 0121 661 6713 or at [david.savory@biffa.co.uk](mailto:david.savory@biffa.co.uk).**