



NEWS RELEASE

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LANDFILL SITE BOOSTS GENERATION OF GREEN POWER

North Yorkshire recycling and waste management company, Yorwaste, has started to produce 'green' electricity from its Skibeden landfill site, near Skipton.

Two new generators, fuelled by gases produced by decomposing landfill materials, are now providing 1.375MW of electricity to the national grid – enough to power over 1,000 homes in the area.

The generators have been installed in response to local residents' concerns over odours at the site and are an addition to improvements to the management of Skibeden.

Skibeden Site Manager, Malcolm Forsey, explained: "This is an ecologically important development as it involves the sustainable generation of electricity without leaving a major carbon footprint, improving the quality of the site within the local area.

"Furthermore, it is good news for local residents as this development, coupled with other steps we have already taken at Skibeden, will reduce any problem with odours by at least 80%, and with a new odour suppression also installed remaining odours will be reduced even further.

"The Skibeden gas field has been extended into the operational area of the landfill site, thereby drawing off gases which might otherwise have escaped into the atmosphere, causing unpleasant smells."

A series of gas distribution pipes have been installed under and around the landfill site to capture the methane and carbon dioxide that is emitted when landfill refuse begins to break down. These gases are then fed into a generator which turns it into renewable electricity that is fed directly into the National Grid.

Mr Forsey added: "There are around five years life left in the landfill site so we are determined to extract as much renewable energy as possible in that time and beyond when the site is totally restored.

“A large part of the site has already been fully restored and we hope the measures we have, and are taking, investing in renewable energy will demonstrate that we have listened to the local community and are striving to be a good neighbour.”

Yorwaste installed the generators in partnership with renewable energy company Ener-g/NPL.

ENDS.

Picture caption: Skibeden Site Manager Malcolm Forsey in front of one of the energy from waste electricity generators.

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About Yorwaste:

Yorwaste is an innovative waste management and recycling company owned by North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council. Managing more than one million tonnes of waste each year, it provides a comprehensive range of services from engineered landfill and recycling to liquid waste treatment and supply landfill gas for power generation.

The company's Yorventure operation supports local communities and has provided more than £7m in grants for approved projects over the past ten years. Further information can be found at www.yorwaste.co.uk