Commercial operations achieved at two new Wheelabrator Technologies waste-to-energy facilities in U.K.

2.3M tons of new waste-to-energy capacity delivered

Facilities divert waste from landfill, create renewable, baseload energy


After three years of construction, the creation of approximately 1,500 jobs and $110K (£85K) in contributions to local community causes and initiatives, the waste-to-energy facilities—Wheelabrator Parc Adfer, located at Deeside in North Wales, and Ferrybridge Multifuel 2 (FM2) in West Yorkshire—commenced operations in late December and will now play a critical role in the region’s environmental and energy infrastructure.

Combined, Wheelabrator Parc Adfer and FM2 will process up to 964,000 tons per year (875,000 tonnes) of residual waste. Together, they will utilize waste as a fuel to generate a total output of 98MW (gross)/89 MW (net), enough electricity to power an estimated 210,000 U.K. homes and businesses.

The facilities will divert residual waste from landfill, prevent the need for export of waste to continental Europe, reduce greenhouse gases, recycle metals that would otherwise go to landfill and generate clean, renewable baseload energy.

Wheelabrator entered the U.K. market in 2009 to target Private Finance Initiatives (PFIs) and shortly after commenced its support for the startup of Riverside Resource Recovery Facility in Belvedere, London, leveraging Wheelabrator’s operational excellence in the U.S. over the last 45 years. Wheelabrator has since successfully developed, financed and managed the construction of four waste-to-energy facilities. The first to be delivered was Ferrybridge Multifuel 1 (FM1), part of the Multifuel Energy Limited (MEL) joint venture with SSE, which commenced commercial operations in July 2015 to process 744,000 tons per year (675,000 tonnes) and generate 79MW (gross)/72MW (net) after being built by Hitachi Zozen Inova (HZI). It is now recognized as one of the most efficient waste-to-energy facilities in the U.K. FM2, also built by HZI, is expected to achieve comparable levels of performance, being managed by the same management team within the MEL joint venture. Since commencing full operations in December, Wheelabrator Parc Adfer, built by EPC contractor CNIM, has performed exceptionally well with a capacity of 220,000 tons per year (200,000 tonnes). Wheelabrator Kemsley, also being built by CNIM, is currently progressing hot commissioning and is expected to come online in Q2 2020. The facility will process 605,000 tons (550,000 tonnes) and generate 69MW (gross)/63MW (net) when the facility is taken over from CNIM.

Once all four assets are operational, they will process 2.3M tons (2.1M tonnes) of residual household and commercial waste, and generate 1.1M net MWh of renewable, baseload energy each year.
Bob Boucher, President and CEO at Wheelabrator, said: “This is a significant accomplishment for our business and is transformational for our team in the U.K. as we commence operations at both Wheelabrator Parc Adfer, and FM2, the second facility within our MEL joint venture with SSE. Growth in this market has been our number one strategic priority and I am proud of our team and our customers for continuing to demand and support sustainable waste management in the U.K. Takeover of these two facilities is the result of many years of commitment, hard work and strong partnerships with our customers and the communities we operate within.”

“There remains a significant capacity gap in this market, and we continue to explore opportunities to develop new waste-to-energy facilities to ensure local, sustainable waste management solutions, and provide energy security for the U.K. With limited landfill space, high landfill taxes, high costs and increasing barriers to exporting waste to continental Europe and the need to invest in baseload electricity generation, Wheelabrator is well-positioned to unlock future opportunities to provide sustainable waste management to local communities.”

Wheelabrator’s active development pipeline is already well-advanced with a further three U.K. projects, Wheelabrator Kemsley North in Kent, located next to our almost complete Wheelabrator Kemsley facility, Wheelabrator Harewood in Hampshire, and Skelton Grange in Yorkshire, which will be developed with SSE as part of the MEL joint venture.

Boucher said: “We look forward to continuing to develop, deliver and realize the potential of clean energy in the U.K.”

About Parc Adfer
Wheelabrator Technologies was appointed in 2014 to build and operate Wheelabrator Parc Adfer over a 25-year period under a public-private partnership (PPP) with support from the Welsh Government to serve the five local authorities that make up the North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Partnership: Conwy County Borough Council; Denbighshire County Council; Flintshire County Council; Gwynedd Council and the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

Parc Adfer, the first Wheelabrator owned and operated facility in the U.K., will operate as a combined heat and power enabled facility capable of generating 19 MW (gross) /17 MW (net) of electricity. It will process up to 220,000 tons (200,000 tonnes) of residual waste—including municipal and commercial waste—from the surrounding areas. Over its three-year construction period, Parc Adfer has created more than 500 jobs, 37 new full-time operational roles and benefitted the local economy.

About Ferrybridge
FM2 has been developed by Multifuel Energy Ltd, a 50:50 joint venture between by SSE and Wheelabrator Technologies. The facility was designed and built HZI after its sister facility, FM1, achieved commercial operation in July 2015. FM2 will be one of the U.K.’s most efficient waste-to-energy facilities and will generate 79MW (gross)/72MW (net) of electricity, and process 744,000 tons (675,000 tonnes) of waste-derived fuels annually. At peak construction, an estimated 1,000 people were working on site, and 43 full-time roles have now been created to operate and maintain FM2 on an ongoing basis.

-END-
About Wheelabrator
Wheelabrator Technologies is the second largest U.S. waste-to-energy business, and is an industry leader in the conversion of everyday residential and business waste into clean energy. Wheelabrator currently has a platform of 25 strategically located assets across the U.S. and U.K. —19 waste-to-energy facilities (one under construction), two waste fuel facilities as well as four ash monofills. We also recover metals for recycling at two advanced metals recovery systems and one central upgrade facility. Wheelabrator currently has an annual waste processing capacity of over 9.1M tons (8.2M tonnes), and a total combined electric generating capacity of 663MW (gross)—creating enough energy to power 755,000 U.S. homes. Wheelabrator also recovers metals for recycling into commercial products. The company’s vision to develop, deliver and realize the potential of clean energy speaks to Wheelabrator’s ongoing commitment to the development of clean energy solutions for its customers and local communities. Wheelabrator is owned by Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets, a business within the Macquarie Asset Management division of Macquarie Group and a global alternative asset manager focused on real estate, infrastructure, and agriculture and energy assets. For more on Wheelabrator, please visit www.wtienergy.com. In the U.K., visit www.wtienergy.co.uk.

Notes to editor:

- For more information about Wheelabrator Technologies in the U.K., please contact Rochelle D'Cruz at (020)3651 1569 / rdcruz@wtienergy.com, or for U.S. inquiries, please contact Michelle Nadeau at mnadeau@wtienergy.com.