

Part of the SERVE Seminar Series

Wood Energy – Technology, Procurement and Contracts



Date: 24th February 2012

Venue: Gurteen Agricultural College



An event to provide experiences and knowledge developed through a number of EU Funded Projects focused on biomass energy systems. Learning's from the SERVE, FOREST and RBBB Projects will be presented. Targeted at potential site owners, installers and fuel suppliers it will discuss biomass heating technologies and their application, how systems can be procured and contracts for installation and operation of biomass heating plants.

Learn from

- SERVE – Experiences from supporting the installation of 4,300kW of biomass heating systems including District Heating, Commercial Boilers and Individual House systems.
- FOREST - focused on developing partnership along the biomass heating supply chain. It has developed specific guidelines and training materials which can support project developers in implementing a successful project.
- RBBB - how to create linkages between biomass heating business and potential clients while also addressing quality control systems and standards.

This event is targeted at all players and stakeholders in the biomass heating sector including

- Local Authorities
- Consultants, Engineers, Architects
- Installers
- Fuel Suppliers
- Farmers
- Rural Development Companies



Some Key Issues

Based on data from the SERVE, FOREST and RBBB project a number of key issues exist

- Biomass heating systems are being incorrectly sized for sites or installed in inappropriate sites
- Procurement systems need to evolve to ensure that the correct solution provider is selected for the particular site
- Emerging contractual arrangements (Heat Supply Contracts, ESCOs etc) need to be clearly understood
- Commissioning and delivery of the final system can run into difficulties



Workshop Details and Agenda

This event will allow scope and capacity to discuss the following key issues

- Defining the correct system for your site
 - Case Studies and Examples from across Ireland and the EU
 - Procurement – experience and options
 - Contracts – options and templates
 - Commissioning and Delivery – Issues to be avoided
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- 9.00am Registration
 - 9.30am Opening and Welcome from Gurteen Agricultural College
 - 9.40am Feasibility Studies – What to look out for
 - 10.15am Case Studies from Ireland and the EU
 - 10.40am Procurement and Contracts
 - 11.15am Tea/Coffee
 - 11.35am Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance
 - 12.00pm Training Tools Available
 - 12.30pm Tour of Gurteen Biomass Heating System and Willow Plantation
 - 1.30pm Lunch

Booking and Costs

Bookings for the event can be made on-line at

<http://servecommunity.ie/news/serve-conference-and-events-20112012/serve-seminar-series/>

or by phoning Maureen Ryan, LIT Tipperary at 0504 28112 or email Maureen.Ryan@lit.ie

Attendance will be limited to 40 so early booking is advised.

Gurteen College – Biomass Heating

In September 2010 the College installed a totally new heating system, based on two high efficiency 300kW wood chip boilers. Initially fuelled using purchased wood chip the college will eventually provide its own fuel from willow grown on site. The boilers feed a district heating network which heats all buildings on site. A wood chip drying facility has also been developed on site.



Spring 2010 saw the planting of 15 hectares of willow to provide fuel for the College heating system. This is part of the Renewable Energy programme being implemented at Gurteen. A further 16.1 ha has been planted during April 2011. A coppicing harvest was completed in spring 2011, to promote growth. The crop will be allowed at least a further two seasons of growth before the first harvest, which will be January 2013 at the earliest. If yields are satisfactory, it is envisaged that harvesting will be every 2 years.

This event is part of the SERVE Project Seminar Series. It is being organised in conjunction with the RBBB Project funded under the INTERREG IVC BioEnArea Project and FOREST Project Funded under the IEE Programme.

FOREST: <http://www.forestprogramme.com/>

RBBB: www.rbbd.eu and www.bioenarea.eu

SERVE: www.servecommunity.ie