



Green Achiever Newsletter

May 2016



Welcome!

This month, we look at whether businesses are doing enough for sustainability. We also discuss renewable energy, with the focus on Anaerobic Digestion and the storage of renewable energy. And finally, we share the good news on how one country generated enough renewable energy to power the whole country!

We would love to hear your feedback. Get in touch by emailing zoe@e4environment.co.uk.

Thank you for your loyalty,

Green Achiever & E4environment

Powered by Energy: Germany

Good news! On Sunday 15th May, Germany generated almost enough “clean” power to supply nearly all the country’s demand. A peak in solar and wind electricity generation enabled renewables to supply 45.5 gigawatts of the 45.8 gigawatt demand. This was a huge milestone for Chancellor Angela Merkel’s “Energiewende” policy which looks to boost the capacity of renewable energy generation while reducing the reliance on nuclear and fossil fuels.



We can help with your renewable energy. Give us a call on [01743 343403](tel:01743343403).

Legislation Updates



England:

Unauthorised Deposit of Waste (Fixed Penalties) Regulations SI 2016/334

(9th May 2016) These regulations amend the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and only apply to England. They give greater power to waste collection authorities to issue fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping. The regulations intend to enable Local Authorities to deal with small scale fly-tipping more easily and efficiently.



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DECC Launches Consultation into AD Support Under FIT Scheme



The Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) launched a consultation on 26th May that proposes to completely cut support for Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plants. Small to medium sized plants which produce between 250-500kWe would have Feed-in-Tariffs (FiTs) cut by 27% by January 2017, whilst large AD plants producing 500kWe or above would have FiTs completely removed. The Renewable

Energy Association states that the proposed tariffs would be lower than the "minimum viable levels" that they recommend during their response to the 2015 review of FiTs. James Court, head of policy and external affairs at REA said "This is a huge blow to the rural economy, circular economy, and to the growth of this source of low-carbon energy".

If you would like more information on renewable energy and FiTs, give us a call on [01743 343403](tel:01743343403).

Government Must Incentivise Energy Storage

Researchers at the University of East Anglia (UEA) have warned that the government must introduce subsidies for energy storage systems if renewables are to become truly integrated in the UK Energy Market. The study looked at the possibility of storing excess energy produced during low demand and selling the excess when demand was high. Dr Konstantinos Chalvatzis, Senior Lecturer and Study Lead at UEA said: "We need sufficient storage and more investment in storage systems in order for renewable energy to reach its full potential. Subsidies would encourage investment, which in turn would enable further integration of renewables into the energy sector".



If you would like more information on sustainability and how we can help you, give us a call on [01743 343403](tel:01743343403).

IEMA Sustainability Report Claims Businesses Are Not Doing Enough



The report entitled "Beyond the Perfect Storm: The Corporate Sustainability Challenge" outlines that we are being pushed past the planets environmental and social boundaries by a "business as usual" approach. Innovation in the area of business sustainability is increasingly urgent as a result of climate change, population growth and resource scarcity, along with many other threats. Nick Blyth, IEMA's Policy Lead and the author of the report says: "Organisations can transform and mature towards the ambition of the truly sustainable business, but they need to establish a long view and look way beyond the "perfect storm".

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