

Press Release

5th January 2011

Shanks set to start construction of second UK Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility.

Shanks has been granted planning permission for its second AD facility in the UK. The £11 million, 48,000 tonnes per year facility will generate up to 2 MW of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 2000 homes.

The site will receive and process material from customers such as those in the retail and catering sector who produce significant volumes of food and other organic waste. The site will also process material from other Shanks recycling facilities.

It is anticipated that the renewable energy generated will be used to power businesses on the Westcott Venture Park where the facility will be located.

In addition to the production of renewable energy the facility will also produce digestate which is recycled back to agricultural land as a fertiliser. This reduces the need for expensive inorganic nitrogen and replaces phosphorus which comes from a non renewable source.

Commenting on the new facility Ian Goodfellow, Shanks UK Managing Director said “this facility will provide our customers with a long term sustainable solution for the recycling of their organic waste and it is clear evidence of our commitment to the generation of renewable energy utilising our Orgaworld AD technology”

Construction at the site which is located between Bicester and Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire will start in April 2011 and it is expected that it will be operational in early 2012.

In addition to the Bicester facility Shanks plans to submit planning for its third UK facility in East London early in 2011. These facilities will build on the Group’s existing organic waste treatment capacity which already stands at over 1 million tonnes.

For more information on AD watch our film ‘What is Anaerobic Digestion’ at www.shanks.co.uk.

- ENDS -

For further information please contact:

Austen Lees, Head of Corporate Communications, Shanks Group Plc
Telephone +44 (0)1908 650650, mobile +44 (0)7773 813210, email austen.lees@shanks.co.uk

Shanks Group Plc is Europe's largest listed independent waste management business with operations in the Netherlands, Belgium, United Kingdom and Canada.

The company provides a range of recycling and energy recovery solutions to customers in both the public and private sector. The Group employs 4074 employees and last year it handled 7.39 million tonnes of waste achieving an overall recycling and recovery rate of 74%. The Group has a significant organic waste treatment capacity of over 1 million tonnes.

Shanks is a FTSE 250 company listed on the London Stock Exchange. In May 2010 it reported annual revenues of £684 million and trading profits of over £50 million. The company was established in 1880 and is based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

For more information visit www.shanksplc.co.uk.