

Edenderry Power



3%

THE PLANT SUPPLIES ABOUT 3% OF IRELAND'S ANNUAL ELECTRICITY REQUIREMENT

Edenderry targets energy for integrated management system

THE 120MW Edenderry power plant (EPL) is part of the Power Generation & Renewable Energy division of Bord na Móna plc. The peat and biomass co-fired base-load plant, commissioned in 2000, is currently operating in the Single Electricity Market (SEM).

Using modern bubbling fluidised bed boiler technology, the plant supplies about 3% of Ireland's annual electricity requirement. It directly employs 45 people, of whom around 250 are employed indirectly in the supply of fuel and services to the plant.

The Edenderry plant has operated since its commencement with a uniquely high level of cost efficiency and flexibility. This achievement contributes to Bord na Móna's ambitious plans to be a leader in renewable-energy generation, by providing approximately 500MW of wind and biomass capacity by 2015, supported by flexible thermal plant.

While the power plant generates around 120MW of exported electricity, it is also a large user of power; the in-house load accounts for about 10MW of power generated.

Committed to quality

From the outset, EPL has had a strong commitment to quality assurance. It was the first company in Ireland to achieve certification to the ISO 9001 Quality, 14001 Environmental and 18001 Health & Safety standards, as part of an integrated business management system.

As an EPA-licensed Integrated Pollution Prevention Control (IPPC) site and with biomass co-fuelling becoming a more important feature of the business, the company sees achieving certification to the EN 16001 Energy Management standard as a natural progression for existing management processes. It also sees it as providing an opportunity to link

in with energy-management best practice across a range of industries.

As a power generator, EPL is very aware of the importance of energy efficiency for both its commercial performance and environmental obligations, which are at the forefront of its business planning. Its business management system is based on a continuous-improvement structure where incremental improvements over time deliver large, sustainable, long-term benefits to the business.

The company sees an opportunity to use innovation and technology to achieve energy efficiencies across the complete production cycle. One example is management of the boiler system to maintain optimum heat transfer capability and achieve ongoing energy-efficiency improvement. The current on-line explosives cleaning methods used are the result of an innovative four-year development project which involved developing site-specific technologies adapted from other industries.

Sharing through LIEN

Richard Neale, the Environmental Health and Safety Manager, is aware that through the LIEN he has more to gain by sharing information.

"I am looking forward to working with other leading organisations to share and learn best energy-management practice across a range of industries," he says. "In doing so, I think we have the opportunity to help our organisation to be better positioned to meet future challenges as well as contributing to the national requirement to use energy more efficiently."

Pictured: Edenderry Power Ltd Senior Management Team, L to R: Stephen O' Connor Commercial & Administration Manager; Peter Gillespie Operation & Maintenance Manager; Tom Egan Plant Manager and Richard Neale EHS Manager.