

## ***Bioenergy in Use***

### **Severn Trent – Utilising Food Waste for Green Gas Production**

Severn Trent generates close to 10% of the UK's total biogas, producing bio-methane and electricity from anaerobic digestion (AD). Around 40% of the biogas is produced by Severn Trent Green Power (STGP) which operates 8 food waste AD facilities nationwide. STGP work with over 50 local authorities, food manufacturers, food packers, distributors and retailers, catering and hospitality outlets and waste management firms to source a variety of surplus, inedible or unavoidable food and liquid wastes. They also grow crops for AD on dedicated land which is ineligible to grow food for human consumption on.



In 2018 Severn Trent processed a quarter of all the household food waste collected in England, recycling 400 thousand tonnes of food waste and generating over 0.5 TWh of green gas, enough to satisfy the heating and cooking requirements of 45 thousand homes.

In addition, STGP facilities produce over half a million tonnes a year of nutrient rich organic fertiliser, known as digestate, that is spread over 35 thousand acres. The digestate is PAS110 certified and replaces petrochemical fertilisers; providing organic nutrients to restore depleted soils. It further helps farmers mitigate fluctuations in global commodity prices, reducing costs, while improving sustainability and increasing crop growth yields.

Every tonne of food waste treated in AD saves 500kg of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions.

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