

Binn Eco Park

Glenfarg, Perthshire.



Binn Farm Eco Park near Glenfarg in Perthshire is taking the lead in demonstrating what a 'Circular Economy' approach to industry means. The Binn Eco Park, established in April 2009, is the first eco-innovation park of its kind to be established in Scotland. The eco park is based on three major industries:

- Waste resource management and remanufacturing from recovered materials
- Renewable energy production
- Sustainable and local food production

There will also be development space for clean technology companies and a low carbon and clean technology training facility at the park. This will be developed in partnership with Perth College/UHI, Abertay University and Perth and Kinross Council.

Sustainable economic development, supporting clean technology and aiming for self-sufficiency at a regional level are primary objectives. The site will also demonstrate how integrated waste facilities can act as the 'anchor tenant' for wider clean technology developments.

Situated on a large, well established, integrated waste resource management facility the focus is on the production of raw materials from waste and the remanufacturing of products from recovered materials. The site will also be a renewable energy centre that will produce energy from a range of sustainable technologies including gasification, anaerobic digestion, micro hydro and third generation bio-fuels that do not involve taking agricultural land out of food production.

The waste heat from each of these processes will provide heating to each of the businesses on the park as well as enabling the creation of controlled environments for local food production and other plant based industries.

The eco park aims to be an incubator for emerging environmental technologies.

Outcomes

Improved resource management, cleaner thermal related waste to energy systems, full energy cascade systems and diversified clean technology related business development including local food production to improve regional food resilience. Demonstration of a wide range of renewable and clean technologies.

Barriers

Local community perceptions based on previous landfill activity, capacity to coordinate delivery and the need for wider integrated regional economic development policies to support clean technology sector development.

Going forward

There are plans for a municipal waste gasification facility at Binn Farm replacing an earlier application for an incinerator. A decision on this development is expected imminently.

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CONTACT

John Ferguson

john.ferguson@binnecopark.com

www.binnecopark.com