

Betteshanger

Biomass Heat Supply for Industrial
Development.

Where and Why?



Kent Coalfield Regeneration Programme - Location of Sites

Key Issues

- “Kent mining communities have been forgotten” Government Coalfield’s Task Force Report (June 1998)
- Physical neglect - sites derelict since closure in 1988
- Underperformance - unemployment, local deprivation, lack of new opportunities
- Community disintegration – closure or regeneration?

But

- Major regeneration opportunity - 430 acres for redevelopment on 3 SEEDA owned sites
- Up to 1,000 new jobs
- Education and re-training are key objectives
- Environmental enhancement and public access to countryside

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November 1999 - SEEDA consults community

March 2000 - SEEDA completes site assembly



June - Dec 2001 - public consultation and master-planning proposals

Jan - Dec 2001 - demolition of all remaining structures

Community led mixed-use development – **Completion 2005**



Where does Biomass come into this?

- Sustainability. Heat supply from a renewable resource.
- Skills. Opportunities in design, installation, management and fuel supply.
- Employment. Rural jobs and new uses for land.

Phase 1 . Delivery. The Issues.

- **Almond House. 80 KW. Office space.**
- **SEEDA project managers not aware of possibilities.**
Feasibility study 1
- **Main contractors unwilling to work with new technologies**
- **Lack of skills within the region**
- **Risk**
- **Cost.**
- **Benefits. (social, environmental and economic)**



Building on achievements

- We've got a boiler, it works, what next.
- Option 1. Do no more.
- Option 2. Expand the redevelopment to include biomass heating for the new workspace.
Feasibility study 2. Scott Wilson Piesold.

Peter Garratt

Scott Wilson Piesold.



Phase 2.

- 18,500 sq metres buildings. Mixed use.
- £ 200,000 to lay gas to the site.
- We know that biomass could work, but should we use it?
- Feasibility study 3. Design and costing for biomass heat installation.
- The decision. Balancing risk against reward....