

August 2026

Bioenergy

Each month we review the latest news and select key announcements and commentary from across the bioenergy sector.



**Announcements
& Commentary**

**Research &
Development**



Providing clients with a strategic view of feedstock, technology, policy and marketing opportunity across the bioeconomy.



Asia has positioned itself as a global economic powerhouse, contributing half of the world's GDP as well as 60% of its total economic growth. Today, its commitment to the renewable energy industry is undeniable and is sure to have a significant impact on the world's path to carbon neutrality.

China is by far the largest consumer of energy in the world, accounting for around 40% of global electricity, nearly double that of the US in second place. It is also the largest energy producer overall, as well as the leader in renewable energy production. Today, China is both the leading consumer and producer of hydrogen globally, with more than half of the world's hydrogen supply currently being produced within the country. Having doubled its production from the previous year, China now has capacity to produce 250,000 tonnes of hydrogen annually, with around 620 hydrogen refuelling stations and 350 kilometres of pure hydrogen pipelines in operation.

India is predicted to experience the greatest increase in energy demand over the coming decades. This will primarily be driven by industrialisation and an overall rise in per capita income. To both meet this demand and contribute to the global transition towards Net Zero, the Indian government is investing heavily into renewable energy sources. Early this month, the cabinet has approved a £2.5 billion funding scheme for the development of the biogas sector in the country. Running to 2036, the GOBARdhan national circular bioenergy scheme will see to the valorisation of the country's agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud and municipal organic waste for the production of compressed biogas – which the government is aiming to establish as a pillar of India's future energy mix.

On a smaller scale, but in an equally important move, Pakistan is set to build its first ever full-scale waste-to-fuel plant, with an expected 5,000 tonnes of agricultural waste converted to 4,000 tonnes of bio-coal every year. The pilot plant, primarily funded by Northumbria University, will likely serve as a model for a further 30 facilities to be built across the country, leading to the planned displacement of 100,000 tonnes of coal every year.

Carbon Capture

Variation granted to Drax Power Limited



The Environment Agency has granted an environmental permit variation to Drax Power Limited in Yorkshire.

It follows a public consultation on the Agency's draft decision, which took place earlier in the summer.

The decision is based on Drax demonstrating that it has met and will continue to meet expected mandatory conditions as outlined in the permit. The company applied to vary its environmental permit to incorporate carbon capture at its bioenergy plant near Selby.

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The United Kingdom Approves CO₂ Capture at the Deeside Digestion Plant

Flintshire County Council has approved a carbon dioxide capture and liquefaction component at the Deeside Anaerobic Digestion Clean Energy Plant, currently under construction on the Deeside Industrial Estate in Flintshire, north Wales.

The decision was reported on August 12, 2026 by local outlet Deeside.com, though the exact date of the planning authority's ruling was not specified in available documents.

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UK CO₂ supply resilience consultation closes this week

The UK government's call for evidence on domestic carbon dioxide (CO₂) supply resilience is set to close Thursday evening (20 August).

The scope focuses on strengthening the resilience of the supply chain for food and medical-grade CO₂ certified by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA) and the International Society of Beverage Technologists (ISBT), used across various sectors, including critical national infrastructure. The call is open to industry, trade associations, consumer groups, academia, and other stakeholders.

It has reignited a long-running industry debate over how the UK's CO₂ market should diversify its supply base to become more resilient.

The debate also extends beyond the need for greater resilience, focusing instead on the level and type of policy intervention required to achieve it.

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Pakistan's first full-scale biomass waste-to-fuel plant moves into commercial demonstration

Northumbria University has secured £1.25 million (€1.47 million) in funding to build Pakistan's first full-scale demonstration plant converting agricultural waste into bio-coal pellets, with three textile mills already committed to purchasing the fuel.

The SAFER PLUS project uses torrefaction — a heating process — to convert cotton stalks and sugarcane waste into engineered bio-coal that can replace imported coal in industrial boilers at 40–50 per cent lower cost, with no equipment modifications required. Pakistan currently imports 19 million tonnes of coal annually at a cost exceeding \$2.5 billion (€2.3 billion).

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Biogas

A biogas complex in the Vinnytsia region will double its capacity to 72 million cubic meters per year

Yuzefo-Mykolaiv Biogas Company LLC plans to renovate a biogas plant in the Vinnytsia region and increase its capacity to 8,000 cubic meters of biogas per hour, or about 72 million cubic meters per year. A corresponding notice regarding the planned activity was published in the Unified Register of Environmental Impact Assessments.

The construction of the second phase of the Yuzefo-Mykolaiv Biogas Company is a UTC project. The expansion involves increasing the production capacity of the existing complex and is part of the continued development of the bioenergy facility.

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Estonia takes delivery of biomethane- and battery-powered workboat

A multi-purpose workboat powered by compressed biomethane (CBM) and battery-electric propulsion has entered service with Estonia's state fleet, becoming one of only a handful of biomethane-fuelled vessels operating anywhere in the world.

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Court of Session throws out appeal against Moray biogas plant refusal

Plans to build a biomass plant near Elgin - previously rejected by Moray Council and then the Scottish Government - have not been overturned by Scotland's highest civil appeal court.

Senior judges refused to overturn the decision which stopped the development of a facility designed to recycle whisky industry by-products into environmentally-friendly fuel.

Lawyers for Acorn Bioenergy launched a legal action at the Inner House of the Court of Session this year over a decision made by the Scottish Ministers.

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Sustainable Construction at the heart of new Ellington Anerobic Digestion Facility



SUEZ has commenced construction of a new AD facility at its Ellington site in Northumberland, delivering an important piece of infrastructure to support the introduction of food waste collections across Northumberland and the North East.

Once operational, the facility will process up to 50,000 tonnes of food waste each year, producing a recycled, nutrient-rich fertiliser product and enough green gas to power around 5,500 homes. Principal contractor O'Brien Moran and Co. is now on site, with construction expected to take approximately 18 months. A period of testing and commissioning will follow before the facility becomes fully operational.

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Naturgy and Greene launch a pilot plant to generate green gas from industrial waste and biomass



Canva.com

Naturgy and Greene have given a new boost to their joint initiative "Waste to Biomethane" (W2BM) with the launch of a pilot plant at the facilities of the company specialized in material recovery of waste in Elche, according to the company's communication.

This pilot plant, already operational, has a treatment capacity close to 10 kg/h of waste and enables the production of synthetic methane through an integrated process that combines pyrolysis-gasification and biological methanation. Greene W2BM, a project initiated in 2023, aims to develop innovative decarbonization solutions through the conversion of non-recyclable industrial waste and biomass into green gas. This line of work would represent a significant advance in expanding the development of green gas in Spain, improving waste management, and promoting the generation of sustainable energy.

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BRIN highlights Indonesia's potential in palm waste biogas

Indonesia holds strong potential to become a leading producer of biogas derived from palm oil waste, according to the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN).

"Indonesia has strong potential to develop biogas from palm oil mill effluent (POME). POME is a

strategically valuable energy source that can be processed into electricity, heat, or fuel," BRIN researcher Erma Yulihastin said in a statement on Tuesday.

To help decision-makers and stakeholders assess opportunities for biogas and biomethane at the national and local level, the IEA has also launched a new interactive online map that allows users to explore these findings in greater detail.

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Ireland connects first biomethane plant to gas network

Gas Networks Ireland and Bia Energy have reached a major milestone in Ireland's energy transition with the successful connection of Bia Energy's €90 million renewable biomethane gas facility in Huntstown, Co. Dublin to the national gas network.

This marks the first time that a biomethane production plant has been directly connected to the State's national gas network, thereby enabling the renewable biomethane gas produced on-site to be injected into the gas network for use by businesses and industry across Ireland.

Along with Bia Energy, Gas Networks Ireland has connection agreements with six other biomethane producers which collectively will play a significant role in supporting the State's targets for renewable gas generation.

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EfW

Morocco: Consortium signs concession agreement for vast waste-to-energy plant



Canva.com

Kanadevia Inova, together with its partners Nareva and Itochu, has reached a major milestone with the signing of the concession agreement for the Casablanca Solid Waste Treatment and Valorization Project with the Municipality of Casablanca, and with the signing of electricity off-take agreements with SRM Casablanca-Settat and ONEE. The project represents a significant step forward for sustainable waste management in Morocco and marks Kanadevia Inova's entry into the African's waste-to-energy market.

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Policy

India approves \$2.5bn for biogas development

The Indian government is stepping up its bioenergy push. The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Gobardhan national circular bioenergy scheme, backed by Rs23,731 crore — roughly \$2.5bn.

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Hydrogen

China operational renewable hydrogen capacity more than doubles in 2025

China is leading the global hydrogen energy market in both production and consumption, with its renewable hydrogen capacity now accounting for over 50 percent of the world's total, according to a newly released industry report.

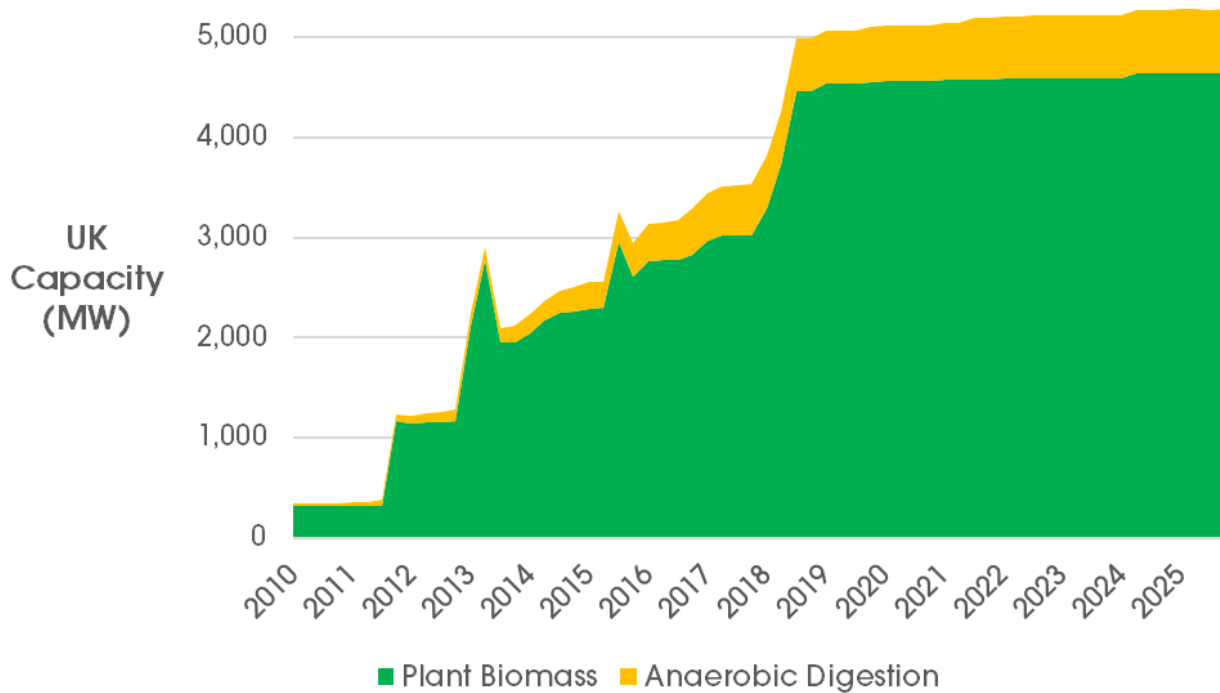
The China Hydrogen Energy Development Report (2026), recently released by the National Energy Administration, shows that the country's full hydrogen value chain — spanning production, storage, transportation and application — experienced explosive growth in 2025.

Operational renewable hydrogen capacity surpassed 250,000 metric tons per year, more than doubling from the previous year.

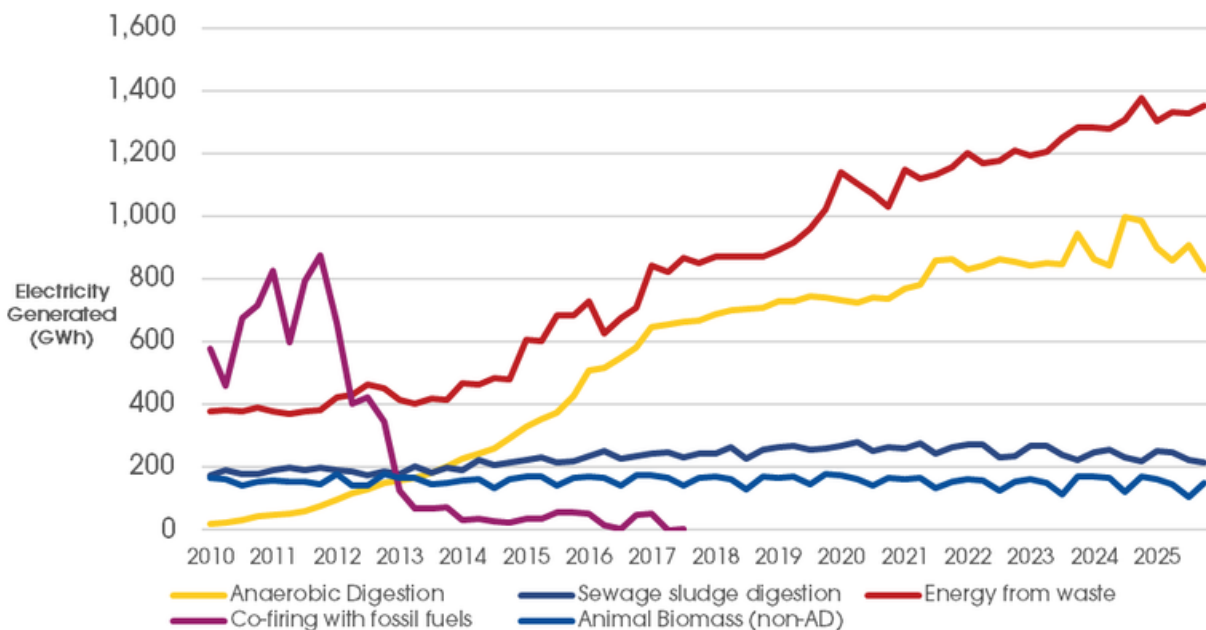
[Click here for more information.](#)

Deployed biopower capacity

Quarterly information on installed electricity generation capacity from plant biomass and AD (Office for National Statistics)



Quarterly information on UK renewable electricity generated from various bioenergy resources (Office for National Statistics)



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