

Media Release, 23 August 2024

Hitachi Zosen Inova Hands New Slough Multifuel Facility to SSE and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners

Hitachi Zosen Inova has completed the construction and commissioning of another new Waste-to-Energy facility in the UK ahead of schedule. This milestone in the Slough Multifuel project allows the Performance Acceptance Certificate to be granted, enabling the plant to be handed over to the facility's owners, SSE plc and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners. Now the highly efficient plant will enter full commercial operation led by Hitachi Zosen Inova's team.

The new facility will treat non-recyclable residual waste to produce baseload electricity for the National Grid, and the steam produced will be reused by a neighbouring business, helping to decarbonise its energy-intensive operations over the long term.

Slough, UK. Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI) was appointed by SSE plc and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) in 2020 to design, build and operate a new state-of-the-art waste-to-energy (WtE) facility in the heart of the busy Slough Trading Estate in Berkshire, England.

The new highly efficient two-line WtE facility has safely and successfully completed its commissioning phase. On 22 August 2024, the Completion Certificate was granted, enabling the plant's owners to now authorise HZI's engineers to begin full operation to treat around 480,000 tonnes of residual non-recyclable waste each year.

Owing to the construction site's challenging location, with the nearest neighbour only one metre away from the boundary with the WtE facility, HZI carefully planned the construction phase to avoid disruption to adjacent businesses. HZI also worked closely with the clients and multiple local partners, including numerous near neighbour businesses throughout the build and commissioning phases.

With the footprint of the Slough site very constrained and the project's main laydown area for parts and equipment one hour away from the main construction zone, HZI adopted a 'just-in-time' delivery system. This ensured that the 45-month construction phase was completed ahead of schedule.

The new two-line Slough Multifuel facility will generate around 55 MW of electrical power and up to 92 MW of thermal power per line, with electricity supplied directly to the National Grid. In addition to this, the low-pressure steam produced will continue to be efficiently piped to the neighbouring confectionery plant, also located on the Slough Trading Estate in Berkshire.

This important symbiotic relationship between the new Multifuel facility and a major employer in Slough augments an established circular economy in the town. Importantly, it also increases the overall efficiency of the new WtE facility and, crucially, diverts non-recyclable residual waste away from landfill for use in energy recovery.

"Completing the construction of the Slough Multifuel facility successfully and ahead of schedule brings HZI a great sense of pride. Our project team, engineers and subcontractors have delivered another vital piece of UK waste-to-energy infrastructure," said Daniel Dreier, HZI's Executive Vice President Waste to X & Renewable Gas Plants. "HZI has created local supply chains and new employment at each stage of the development, using high-precision construction techniques, intelligent engineering and considerate construction practices throughout the build. My congratulations to all involved. HZI looks forward to operating this facility on behalf of SSE and CIP, reliably powering local communities and businesses for many years to come."

Finlay McCutcheon, Managing Director of SSE Thermal, said: "Slough Multifuel will fulfil an important role in the UK's electricity system and help divert thousands of tonnes of waste from

landfill. The successful delivery of the project is testament to the partnership between SSE and CIP, which spans multiple projects and continues to create genuine value.

“It also highlights our ability to deliver large capital projects, with this particular project being a highly complex one owing to the constrained nature of the site. Working with HZI, we have navigated that challenge and can take real pride in doing so safely.”

Florian Küster, partner at CIP, said: “We are delighted to have reached this significant milestone together with our partners in SSE Thermal. Since 2020 we have worked efficiently side-by-side and we are proud to have delivered a plant that makes a significant contribution to the green transition in the UK and creates value for society, the local community and our investors.”

It is also notable that this is HZI’s third project with its long-term client SSE, after building and commissioning the two sister WtE plants at Ferrybridge (West Yorkshire) in 2015 and 2019, respectively.

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Note to Editors

About Hitachi Zosen Inova:

Zurich-based green-tech company Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI) is a global leader in solutions for energy transition and circular economy including Waste to Energy and Renewable Gas (RG), operating as part of the Hitachi Zosen Corporation Group. HZI acts as a project developer, technology supplier and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor delivering complete turnkey plants and system solutions for thermal and biological waste recovery. Its solutions are based on efficient and environmentally sound technologies, are thoroughly tested, and can be flexibly adapted to customer requirements. HZI’s Service Solutions Group combines its own research and development with comprehensive manufacturing and erection capabilities to provide support throughout a plant’s entire plant cycle. HZI works for customers ranging from established waste management companies to up-and-coming partners in new markets. Its innovative and reliable solutions have been part of more than 1,600 reference projects world-wide. Hitachi Zosen Inova Steinmüller GmbH, based in Gummersbach, is a subsidiary of Hitachi Zosen Inova and is universally famous for superior technology in thermal waste treatment and flue gas treatment. To find out more about HZI, please visit www.hz-inova.com.

About SSE Thermal:

SSE Thermal is part of SSE plc and is on a mission to deliver the flexible energy needed today while powering the transition to net zero. Its flexible generation and gas storage sites play a crucial role in keeping the lights on across the UK and Ireland and the company is rising to the low-carbon challenge with its teams at the cutting-edge of vital technologies including hydrogen and carbon capture. As the UK and Ireland’s clean energy champion, SSE could invest in excess of £40bn across the next decade in low-carbon energy infrastructure. For more information visit www.ssethermal.com

About Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners:

Founded in 2012, Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners P/S (CIP) is now the world’s largest dedicated fund manager within greenfield renewable energy investments and a global leader in offshore wind. The funds managed by CIP focus on investments in offshore and onshore wind, solar PV, biomass and energy-from-waste, transmission and distribution, storage, advanced bio-energy, and Power-to-X.

CIP manages 12 funds and has to date raised approximately EUR 28 billion for investments in energy and associated infrastructure from more than 160 international institutional investors. CIP has some 500 employees and 12 offices around the world. For more information, please visit www.cip.com.

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