

The town of Amiens, Amiens Energies and ENGIE Solutions have selected Danish company Dall Energy to provide its gasification technology for a new 14MW district heating plant. Ann Pedersen Bouisset, general sales manager at Dall Energy Aps, delves into the detail

# Dall Energy's French connection



Sore, Denmark plant

**A**longside the deal with the plant, Dall Energy has secured a 10-year maintenance deal with ENGIE Solutions, which will handle operations of the Amiens plant for 20 years.

In France, biomass is considered a sustainable way to move away from fossil gas, while utilising the country's large amounts of garden waste, according to Dall Energy.

It added that Amiens has a vast amount of this type of biomass, making the company's patented technology and solution – where biomass is gasified through pyrolysis – an obvious choice for the town's new district heating plant.

A signing ceremony took place last November at De L'innovation in Amiens in France.

"We have chosen Dall Energy as our partner for this public-private district heating project, because the company's technology truly enables a cost-effective green energy-transition for the benefit of Amiens' nearly 140,000 citizens," said Vincent Pibouleu, CEO of Amiens Energies (SEMOP).

"Like so many French cities, we are focused on the energy transition and our goal of an energy self-sufficient city by 2050. So, we are pleased that Amiens Energies reached an agreement with ENGIE Solutions and Dall Energy to allow us to accelerate our green transition and utilise local resources," added Brigitte Fouré, Mayor of Amiens.

"The signing ceremony is a great day for us, and we are honoured that the Mayor of Amiens, Brigitte Fouré,

the Danish Ambassador to France, Michael Starbæk Christensen, and ENGIE were present," said Jens Dall Bentzen, CEO of Dall Energy.

"The ceremony is hopefully the start of a long partnership with ENGIE Solutions to drive the green energy transition in France. We already have many more projects lined up with ENGIE Solutions."

## The agreement

Pedersen Bouisset told *Bioenergy Insight* that Dall Energy had been in contact with Engie Solutions for quite some time – since she started working with the company three years ago.

"As you know, it takes some time to come into the large French energy companies, they need to verify that the technology is the best available. So we

had a lot of visits by Engie, who came to Denmark to visit us and our customers."

She added that Dall Energy currently has a large number of projects in the pipeline with Engie, and that Engie and Amiens Energies both agreed this was a good first project to do together.

Amiens Energies is a SemOp – institutionalised public-private partnerships that were introduced into France's national legislation in 2014. They give local authorities the opportunity to choose at least one private partner, which can hold between 15% and 66% of its capital. SemOps are created for one single mission, and are time-limited.

The process therefore involved presenting the technology and solutions to the city of Amiens.

When *Bioenergy Insight* asked what it is about Dall



Dall can process locally sourced biomass

Energy's technology that made it attractive to Amiens Energies, Pedersen Bouisset said: "Amiens Energies was especially interested in the fact that we can use local biomass, such as garden park waste, which grate-fired plants cannot. The gasification technology is also very performant with high efficiencies and with very low emissions."

#### Project's significance and Danish experience

She went on to explain that the project is significant because it is the first one it is working on with Engie – 'one of hopefully many more'.

"In addition it is also the first project in France where they plan to use locally collected garden park waste."

Several of Dall Energy's customers in Denmark already use garden park waste to create heat – such as Sorø Bioenergy.

The fact that Dall Energy has already made similar plants in Denmark means that the company is confident that its experience will come in handy.

However, Pedersen Bouisset

did say that it may take some time before the City of Amiens has developed a system for collecting the green waste from gardens as they do in Sorø – 'but they are in contact with Sorø in order to learn how they are doing this.'

Noting that Denmark is one of the most advanced bioenergy producers in Europe, *Bioenergy Insight*

asked whether many of the company's projects are within the country.

"Most of our plants so far have been in Denmark," said Pedersen Bouisset. "We do have a smaller process industry installation in the US, but we focus mainly on Denmark and especially France where we have already supplied a 17 MW plant to Dalkia in Rouen,

and are presently delivering a plant for Clairefontaine (the paper manufacturer) and also a 10 MW district heating plant in Salon de Provence for Coriance."

The company has 'many more' projects lined up with ENGIE Solutions, and although the location is confidential, the company confirmed it has more than 10 potential projects in the pipeline with ENGIE.

Indeed, Pedersen Bouisset said the main focus for Dall Energy this year is "probably to create more partnerships in France, and have more presence in order to better service our customers.

"Amiens Energies and other customers would like us to provide service contracts so we will be focusing also on this.

"In 2023 we were very focused on building up a pipeline, which we have now, and also bringing in an investor in order for us to continue our growth (Eiffel Investment Group bought a large share of Dall Energy in 2023)." ●

#### For more information

Visit: [dallenergy.com/en\\_gb](http://dallenergy.com/en_gb)



Dall aims to establish more presence in France