

Imagine using household garbage to fuel your car

Construction begins on world's first municipal waste-to-biofuels facility

Edmonton, August 31, 2010 – Construction has started on the world's first industrial scale municipal waste-to-biofuels facility.

The \$80 million facility will be built, owned and operated by Enerkem Alberta Biofuels and will produce 36 million litres of biofuels a year and reduce Alberta's carbon dioxide (CO₂) footprint by six million tonnes over the next 25 years—the equivalent of removing 42,000 cars off the road every year.

Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach, Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel and Enerkem Chief Executive Officer, Vincent Chornet participated in the groundbreaking event.

The waste-to-biofuels facility is expected to be operational in late 2011. It will convert 100,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste into biofuels annually. It will create over 50 permanent direct and indirect jobs and will contribute to the federal and provincial renewable fuel standards. The feedstock for producing biofuels is municipal solid waste that cannot be recycled or composted and has traditionally been sent to landfill.

"Alberta is an energy province," said Premier Ed Stelmach. "This project is another example of how our government is helping develop leading-edge renewable and non-renewable energy technology. I applaud the vision and dedication the partners have shown to make this pioneering project a reality."

"Edmonton's environmental leadership has us continually looking to set the bar higher," said Edmonton Mayor, Stephen Mandel. "As a result of this facility, we will become the first major city in North America to see 90 per cent of residential waste diverted from landfill by 2013. This is a major achievement, and a big step towards a greener Edmonton! Thanks to all our partners whose innovation and commitment to sustainability are helping to reduce our carbon footprint."

"This groundbreaking marks the launch of a transformative project and leads the first wave of commercial-scale advanced biorefineries in North America", said Enerkem's Chief Executive Officer, Vincent Chornet. "Enerkem looks forward to providing the citizens of Edmonton with a clean alternative to landfilling and Albertans with a clean transportation fuel."

The Biofuels Facility is part of a larger initiative totalling \$131 million which also includes a feedstock preparation facility and an Advanced Energy Research Facility. The Government of Alberta supported this initiative through Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions (\$29 million) and Alberta Energy (\$3.35 million). The City of Edmonton contributed \$42 million to the total project.

For more information on this project, visit www.edmontonbiofuels.ca.

High resolution photos will be available shortly after the event at http://www.edmontonbiofuels.ca/resources.htm?yams_lang=en.

About Edmonton

This is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where business thrives and more than a million lives enjoy the freedom to explore, experiment, experience, excel and expect the most out of every day. A place like no other, Edmonton is filled with surprises great and small and a calendar packed with artistic, sporting, theatrical and cultural celebration.

For more information on Edmonton, please visit www.edmonton.ca and www.edmontonstories.ca

About Enerkem

Enerkem is a leading waste-to-biofuels company. Its proprietary clean technology converts waste, such as unrecyclable household garbage, demolition debris and residues from used power poles, into clean transportation fuels and advanced chemicals. Founded in 2000, the company currently operates two plants in Canada: a pilot facility in Sherbrooke, QC and a commercial demonstration plant in Westbury, QC. In August 2010, Enerkem started construction of its waste-to-biofuels plant in Edmonton, AB, Canada, which was awarded CAD\$23 million in funding from the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton. The company is simultaneously developing a similar project in Mississippi, U.S.A., for which it was awarded US\$50 million in funding by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). www.enerkem.com

About Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions

Established in January 2010, Alberta Innovates - Energy and Environment Solutions is an Alberta Innovates corporation that brings together two provincial research organizations - the Alberta Energy Research Institute and the Alberta Water Research Institute.

Alberta Innovates is Alberta's research and innovation system. Through Alberta Innovates, the Alberta government is making it easier for researchers, innovators and investors to work together to create new opportunities, new solutions and new sectors that will drive the province's next generation economy. For more information on Alberta Innovates visit www.albertainnovates.ca.

For more information, contact:

Connie Boyce
City of Edmonton
780-496-5407

connie.boyce@edmonton.ca

Marie-Hélène Labrie
Enerkem
514-875-0284 ext. 231
mlabrie@enerkem.com

Val Mellesmoen
Alberta Innovates – Energy and Environment Solutions
Phone: 780-638-3785
Cell Phone: 780-235-2536
val.mellesmoen@albertainnovates.ca

High resolution photos will be available shortly after the event at
http://www.edmontonbiofuels.ca/resources.htm?yams_lang=en.