



PRESS RELEASE

Earth Capital Limited launches Sustainable Energy Holdings Limited, an innovative UK-based bioenergy generation company

London, 17 August 2022, Earth Capital Limited (“ECL”), a leading UK growth equity impact investor, has announced the launch of its new company, Sustainable Energy Holdings Limited (“SEHL”), formed of a merger of four of its portfolio companies, all low-carbon bioenergy generation assets: Eccleshall Biomass, Limelight Energy, Black Dog Biogas and Bright Light Energy Ltd.

These UK-based biomass-fuelled renewable energy plants will now benefit from a single dedicated management team which will focus on operational performance, and a consolidation of financial and commercial functions. Together, these facilities will generate 3.89 MW of base load renewable energy, enough to power 9,000 homes and will avoid the emission of 5,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

In the medium term, SEHL will improve performance via additions to the platform’s asset base through a buy-and-build strategy, which will encompass the acquisition and development of new plants and the improvement of existing assets. A pipeline of possible opportunities to expand the portfolio through the addition of high-potential assets within the UK’s biomass and waste sectors has been identified and will create a scalable bioenergy company in the UK, with the potential for future deployment elsewhere. The new group will continue to benefit from ECL’s experience in strategic development, operational efficiency, and transaction support.

With higher energy prices and a stronger focus on domestically produced, renewable, baseload energy; bioenergy output will become increasingly important in a volatile energy market dominated by wind and solar energy.

Avent Bezuidenhout, Head of Investment and Director of ECL, said: *“The establishment of this platform demonstrates how growth equity can find and finance appealing renewable energy solutions while also delivering a range of benefits to local and national stakeholders. This platform’s growth also furthers the UK’s ambition to reach Net Zero by 2050 and sets an example as to how agriculture can hasten our transition to a low carbon economy.”*

Craig Ibbetson, CEO of SEHL, said: *“The support we have received from Earth Capital Ltd both financial as well as strategic and operational has helped to create increased efficiency and significant value-add across the company. This will not only facilitate the next stage in our development and make a big, positive difference to the local communities we serve in terms of renewable energy, but also underlines the progress we’ve made over the last few years in a very challenging business climate.”*

Avent Bezuidenhout, Head of Investment and Director, and Nelson Abioye, Analyst, worked on the deal on behalf of ECL. Penelope Garden from Field Seymour Parkes provided legal advice to ECL.

Earth Capital Limited

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About Earth Capital Limited

Earth Capital Limited is the sustainable investment manager co-founded by Gordon Power and Stephen Lansdown, co-founder of Hargreaves Lansdown. ECL invests across UK and Europe in cleantech companies that address the challenges of climate change across the energy, food, and water sectors.

ECL measures sustainable impact through their proprietary Earth Dividend™ portfolio management tool, which provides an annual measure of an investee company's contribution to Sustainable Development. The Earth Dividend™ has been developed by ECL's in-house sustainability specialists following a detailed benchmark of international best practice approaches to the assessment, reporting and assurance of impact and ESG issues.

For more information, visit earthcapital.net or follow the company on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/earthcapital).

Eccleshall Biomass

Eccleshall Biomass is an operating 2.26 MWe wood-fuelled biomass plant located outside Eccleshall, in Staffordshire, England. The project was acquired by Sustainable Energy Developments Ltd (SEDL), with the backing of ECL, in early 2017. The plant has been operational since 2007.

Limelight Energy

Limelight Energy is an operating 0.5 MWe anaerobic digestion plant located on a dairy farm in County Durham, England. The project, owned by Limelight Energy Ltd (LLEL), was developed by ECL and has been operational since early 2017.

Stag Lane Biogas

Stag Lane Biogas is owned by two companies co-located on the same site: Black Dog Biogas Ltd (BDBL) and Bight Light Energy Ltd (BLEL). Stag Lane is an operating 1.14 MWe crop-fed anaerobic digestion plant located on the Isle of Wight, England. The project was developed by ECL and has been operational since 2016.

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