

Network Innovation Competition Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code:	NGGDGN01	Question Number	2
Question date	15/8/13	Answer date	19/8/13
Submission section question relates to	2.1.3		
Topic	Technical Description		
Question	How is the quantity and biogenic quality of available waste likely to change over time, given pressure to reduce waste?		
Notes on question			
Answer	<p>The biomass energy content of municipal waste has been remarkably consistent during the last two decades at a figure in the region of 60 to 64%. The quantity of waste arisings itself is influenced by a range of factors – some positive and some negative, including economic growth rate, the relative level of affluence, the number of households (rather than just population count), and of course initiatives designed to reduce waste generation. Data suggests that municipal waste arisings remained relatively constant over the five years preceding the recession commencing in 2008. Since then, there has been a slight decrease at around ~1.5% per annum of waste collected.</p> <p>Commercial and industrial waste arisings, which have also been historically relatively constant have also reduced over the last few years since the recession. This has been dominated by decline in wastes in the industrial sector, which has seen a significant reduction in business output, as well as reclassification of wastes into by-products (for example from the metals industries). Typically these wastes are less relevant for this application. That said there has been some decline in waste arisings from the commercial sector.</p> <p>To this range of factors might be added the effects of increasing oil price which may provide a push to paper-based packaging in place of plastics, together of course with the increasing use</p>		

	<p>of biodegradable plastics.</p> <p>Taking a balanced view on these factors, some being positive growth factors and others being negative, it would be reasonable to assume that any decline over the next ten years in the relevant per capita generation of waste is relatively limited, particularly with expected economic re-growth over that time frame. The biomass fraction will continue to represent approximately 60% of the total energy potential.</p>
Attachments	
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	