

Press Release

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Cetna Energy Commissions MAN Energy Solutions for Methanation Project

Plant to produce 1 Billion ft³ of renewable natural gas annually from wood mill residues to be injected into local grid in Alabama

Cetna Energy, an alternative-energy development and operating company, has commissioned MAN Energy Solutions to deliver the detailed engineering for a methanation plant. With a capacity of close to 1 million MMBTU (million British thermal units), the plant will generate synthetic methane. The carbon dioxide and hydrogen required for this is derived from woody biomass. The synthetic methane produced in the process is considered climate-neutral and in this case is classified as renewable natural gas (RNG). It is expected that the reactor will provide approximately 125 MMBtu, or about 2.7 tons, of RNG per hour while simultaneously consuming around 7.2 tons of CO₂.

"We at Cetna are very excited to be working with MAN Energy Solutions for our RNG plant in Brent, Alabama. MAN Energy Solutions brings to the project, not only excellent technology but unparalled experience and expertise.", emphasizes Mark L. Warner – Cetna Energy President and CEO.

Renewable natural gas from woody biomass

In Brent, Alabama, Cetna Energy's plant will produce syngas (H₂+CO) from local wood mill residues, which will then be processed into hydrogen and CO₂ in a water-gas shift reaction. MAN Energy Solutions' methanation reactor will subsequently convert these gases into RNG, and will be fed into the local gas grid.

Wagner Canelhas – Regional Sales Manager at MAN Energy Solutions, Houston – said: "We are very pleased that both MAN and Cetna are convinced about the Methanation performance and feasibility values during the basic engineering phase. This project demonstrates that MAN Energy Solutions' methanation solutions are ideally suited for biomass gasification in addition to classic Power-to-X applications."

Efficient technology and strong partners

Under the terms of the project, MAN Energy Solutions is responsible for the methanation package, employing an MAN DWE® SNG solution. The system achieves a very high product-quality in a single run. It features a simple, compact design with only a single reactor followed by a small quality booster stage to make the RNG compliant with US pipeline specifications. This not only reduces space requirements but also operating costs.

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In this project phase, MAN Energy Solutions will adapt the plant design at its Deggendorf, Germany site to meet applicable US standards, delivering the technical specifications and final scope of delivery which ultimately form the basis for the customer's investment decision.

Specialty construction company – Primoris Services Corporation – is acting as general engineering contractor in charge of detailed planning and control, procurement, as well as the execution of construction and assembly work. Burkes Mechanical provides the land and, state of the art mechanical fabrication as well as support for construction, installation, electrical and instrumentation.



About Cetna Energy

Cetna Energy is an Alabama-based alternative-energy development and operating company. Cetna utilises proprietary thermochemical conversion technology capable of converting a variety of biomass feedstocks into renewable fuels like renewable natural gas, green hydrogen, renewable diesel fuel, sustainable aviation fuel, and green ammonia. Cetna has partnered with Burkes Mechanical and Cahaba Timber to form a joint venture for the project under the name of BCS Energy, LLC.



In Alabama, USA, Cetna Energy's gasification and Fischer-Tropsch plant produces syngas from saw mill residues, serving as the basis for renewable natural gas production. ©Cetna Energy

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MAN Energy Solutions enables its customers to achieve sustainable value creation in the transition towards a carbon neutral future. Addressing tomorrow's challenges within the marine, energy and industrial sectors, we improve efficiency and performance at a systemic level. Leading the way in advanced engineering for more than 250 years, we provide a unique portfolio of technologies. Headquartered in Germany, MAN Energy Solutions employs some 14,000 people at over 120 sites globally. Our after-sales brand, MAN PrimeServ, offers a vast network of service centres to our customers all over the world.