



## PRESS RELEASE

### Global biogas industry leaders call on governments around the world to unlock the full potential of biogas in addressing the climate emergency

- If all barriers were removed, the biogas industry could abate up to 4bn tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent annually, representing at least 12% of today's global emissions, by 2030.
- Today only 2% of the feedstock available globally to produce biogas is captured and recycled.
- At the COP25 meeting, the World Biogas Association and its leading corporate members will present UNFCCC with a Declaration in which they commit to delivering the full potential of biogas by 2030 and call upon world governments to support this ambition.

27th November 2019 - In a ground-breaking [Biogas and Climate Change Commitment Declaration](#), major biogas industry corporations, led by the World Biogas Association (WBA), call on the world's governments to act urgently to unlock the sector's potential to cut global greenhouse gases emissions by at least 12% within the next 10 years – and therefore make a considerable contribution towards meeting their Paris Agreement targets. In return, these companies commit to putting their full human, financial and technological resources behind enabling the rapid expansion of biogas in all parts of the globe. It is the first time that so many powerful biogas organisations join forces to both demand - and deliver - solutions to address climate change.

In its recent report, [the Global Potential of Biogas](#), WBA estimated that the number of industrial plants operating globally are currently 132,000. By 2030 there needs to be at least 1 million large scale installations (each handling over 100,000 t/pa of feedstock) plus millions of smaller scale digesters, to achieve the emissions reductions targets. All of these units would enable the biogas industry to prevent 4bn tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent from being emitted annually – *the equivalent of all the emissions of the EU28 in 2017*. The sector will need to invest some \$5 trillion to design, build and operate those plants, but **all barriers to those investments existing today must be eliminated if the industry is to achieve its goal**. If deployed to its full potential, WBA estimates that the industry would employ around 10 million people worldwide, from 350,000 currently

WBA President David Newman said: *"With measures on the ground not yet aligned with countries' Paris Agreement targets and UN Sustainable Development Goals commitments, the biogas industry calls on the world's governments to urgently pass legislation to unleash the enormous potential of the biogas industry. We provide a ready to use technology to cut emissions in the hardest to decarbonise sectors, while creating a circular system that transforms the greenhouse gas-emitting organic wastes society produces into renewable energy, biofertilisers and other valuable bioproducts. The speed at which climate change is accelerating emphasises the urgent need for responses that go beyond business-as-usual to remove the barriers to large scale investment in biogas technologies. We need decisive actions now."*

David and WBA Chief Executive Charlotte Morton will deliver the Declaration in person to H.E. Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at the COP25 meeting in Spain, which they will be attending as the WBA is an Observer Party to the Conference.

#### **Signatories to the Declaration:**

World Biogas Association

Asia Biogas, Thailand

Clarke Energy, UK

DMT Environmental Technology, Netherlands & USA

Eisenmann Corporation, USA

ENGIE, France

Greenlane Renewables, Canada

Greve Biogass, Norway

Grissan, UK

IES BIOGAS, Italy

MONTELLO, Italy

Nature Energy, Denmark

OMEX Environmental, UK

SHV Energy, Netherlands

SUEZ, France

WELLE Environmental Group, China

- ENDS -



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#### Notes to editors

- The signatories to the Declaration are companies that develop and finance, design, build and operate industrial anaerobic digestion plants and related infrastructure globally to treat and recycle biodegradable wastes and feedstocks to produce biogas or biomethane, green CO<sub>2</sub>, natural fertilisers and other bioproducts.
- The biogas industry captures emissions from organic wastes and turns them into energy for diverse end-uses such as electricity and biomethane for heat and transport. Biogas production also generates environmentally friendly solutions for soil fertilisation. The industry can therefore help to speed up the shift away from fossil fuels towards a zero-carbon economy and a sustainable agriculture.
- The *Global Potential of Biogas* report highlights the potential of AD as a technology to generate renewable energy, abate GHG emissions and recover organic nutrients and carbon for use on soil. The report also sets out the potential of AD to help meet the climate change targets under the Paris Agreement.
- Launched at COP22 in Marrakesh in 2016, the World Biogas Association is the global trade association for the biogas, landfill gas and anaerobic digestion (AD) sectors, and is dedicated to facilitating the adoption of biogas globally. It believes that the global adoption of biogas technologies is a multi-faceted opportunity to produce clean, renewable energy while resolving global issues related to development, public health and economic growth. [www.worldbiogasassociation.org](http://www.worldbiogasassociation.org) @wbatweets