



Biogas 2030: Snapshots of Tomorrow

AD as part of an integrated energy solution for Net Zero islands

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Background: Outer Hebrides Local Energy Hub (OHLEH)



- OHLEH was developed to maximise the potential of constrained electricity generation by utilising the existing infrastructure at <u>Creed Park Waste Management</u> <u>Facility</u>, developing green disposal routes for local sources of organic waste
- OHLEH demonstrates how <u>different renewable energy technologies can be</u> <u>integrate</u>d to support local energy economies and circular supply chains
- Creed Park Waste Management Facility is the first Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant in the UK to use <u>'dry' AD technology to treat municipal organic waste</u>, designed with extra capacity for <u>potential treatment of fish waste</u> from the local salmon farming industry
- <u>Combined Heat and Power</u> (CHP) system used to generate electrical energy and heat from biogas

Background: Outer Hebrides Local Energy Hub (OHLEH)





Highlights:

- Outer Hebrides Local Energy Hub delivering <u>circular economy</u>
- Partnership with Local Authority and local fish farm and fish processing industries
- First electrolyser to combine oxygen and hydrogen capture

Outer Hebrides engaged as ROBINSON follower islands



• The biggest legacy of a project like OHLEH is gaining and sharing knowledge

- OHLEH has not been without technical challenges but every challenge provided a new learning opportunity
- Despite (or perhaps because) the AD plant operating in a stable manner for over nine years, the addition of a relatively small amount of fish waste was enough to upset the biomass
- The Creed AD Plant operates at Thermophilic temperature (58°C), this is efficient but stability is difficult to maintain
- To maximise potential to process fish waste a change to Mesophilic (mid-30°C) is inevitable
- The case-study of OHLEH was detected by ROBINSON project (Smart integRation Of local energy sources and innovative storage for flexiBle, secure and cost-efficient eNergy Supply ON industrialized islands) as virtual replication island scenario, with biogas production at the heart of the system

ROBINSON in a nutshell

- ROBINSON aims to help decarbonize (industrial) islands by developing an intelligent, robust and flexible energy management system that integrates technologies across different energy vectors (electricity, heat and gas).
- The ROBINSON system will be demonstrated on the island of Eigerøy, Norway.
- Virtual demonstrations will be conducted for Crete (Greece) and Outer Hebrides (Scotland).











Optimise, validate and integrate innovative technologies

Technological

Develop and validate a modular and flexible Energy Management System (EMS)

Demonstrate the large-scale applicability of the ROBINSON system

Demonstration

Replication

Impacts

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Replication of the modular EMS and the concepts

Wide dissemination

Human health and the environment System cost-competitiveness Business model

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Project concept

Keywords

- Energy management system (EMS)
- Different energy vectors
- Islands decarbonization
- Industrial symbiosis
- Waste valorisation



Thanks to ROBINSON, Eigerøy will move from being fully dependent on mainland and fossil fuel to an integrated, independent and lowcarbon energy system!





The ROBINSON concept applied on Eigerøy Island (Norway)





Bioelectrochemical improved Anerobic Digestion (AD-BES)





- Bioelectrochemical system
- Electro-active bacteria
- Wastewater treatment
- Production of sustainable biofuels from CO₂
- Potential improvement of <u>fermentation processes</u>

- Improving <u>anaerobic digestion</u> process
- Reduction of CO₂ emissions related to waste treatment
- Higher process stability towards organic overloads
- <u>Production of biomethane</u> as energy vector
- Technology integration into ROBINSON EMS



Huang et al., 2020



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 957752

Huang Q et al. A critical review of microbial electrolysis cells coupled with anaerobic digester for enhanced biomethane recovery from high-strength feedstocks. Critical Reviews in Environmental Science and Technology 2020:1–40.

AD-BES lab development and technology up-scaling

- Conversion of liquid waste from fish processing industry into biomethane
- Wastewater treatment efficiency > 85% adopting 35°C and 9 days HRT
- Biogas production of ≈1 m³ m⁻³_{reactor} day⁻¹, with CH₄ content > 80%





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SOLID MODELING

Next steps at Eigerøy



The AD-BES will be further <u>up-scaled to 1 m³ scale</u>, achieving the following:

- Treatment of fish processing wastewater (PRIMA Protein AS, Eigerøy)
- Production of biogas near to biomethane specifications
- Combination of biogas with other fuels (LPG, H₂) to run a CHP unit





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