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21 Aug 2023

Submitted by upload to:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/medworth-energy-from-waste-combined-heat-and-power-facility/?ipcsection=submission>

Dear Sir

**Ref: EN010110: Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility at Algores Way, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.**

Please accept our apologies for this very late submission whose acceptance we recognise is at your discretion.

In our submission of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, we set out our strong objections to the above application.

We now have additional information concerning the rapidly growing industry of plastic waste recycling which we believe is far less damaging to the climate than burning what is after all an oil-derived product.

Our purpose in writing today is to update, amplify, clarify and provide additional information relating to the changing approach to the management of plastic waste.

#### **Plastic Waste Recycling – a Growing Industry.**

In our submission of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, we listed some of the many and growing alternatives to the incineration of plastic waste. This included recycling.

Plastic waste recycling is a rapidly evolving and growing industry which will soon make the requirement for the proposed incinerator at Wisbech or any other, completely redundant.

#### **Trifol Process**

In our submission of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, we made reference to the Trifol process which turns plastic waste into waxes which can be used for new plastic, lubricants or fuels. Reclaimed polyolefin derived soft plastics are turned into polyolefin waxes as a substitute for materials that would otherwise be crude oil-derived. Polyolefins are formed in the oil-refining process and are then further refined into product streams for fuels, lubricants and plastics.

More about the process and products can be found on the Company's website.

It has been announced that the Trifol company plans to scale up its plant in a project named PLASTIC2WAXLIFE (aka NEWLIFE2PLASTIC). This project has an overall budget of €5,051,858.75.

Grant funding from EU LIFE (€3,013,971.07) and from the Irish Government's Climate Action Fund (€1.5m) has been awarded to Trifol for implementing the scale up plan. See these articles:

*"Tipp's Trifol receives €3m to scale waste plastic recycling process"*, published in Business Plus magazine.

and *"Tipperary company gets €3million grant to give new life to plastics"* published in Tipperary Live.

Copies of both articles are enclosed.

It is significant that major chemical industry players, such as H&R Group and Dow, are now engaged with the Trifol process.

Cont'd...

### **Global Growth in value of Plastic Recycling Market**

A report published on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023 has come to our attention today. This report, titled "Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic" states that the global chemical recycling of plastic packaging market was worth \$0.73 billion in 2022 and is projected to have a compound annual growth rate of 43.5% between 2022 and 2030 reaching \$13.08 billion by 2030.

Copies of summaries of this report are enclosed.

### **Mura Technology to open Teeside Recycling Plant**

On August 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, it was announced that Mura Technology will open its delayed plastics recycling plant on Teeside later this year. The initial capacity of this plant will be 20,000 tonnes per annum rising to 100,000 tonnes per annum. A copy of the announcing article is enclosed.

An independent lifecycle assessment showed that the Mura process has an 80% lower effect on global warming than incineration.

### **Major Waste Companies growing their Plastic Recycling Investment**

We have enclosed two examples of how major waste companies are increasingly investing in plastics recycling.

In 2021, Biffa purchased a Grangemouth facility from Green Circle Polymers for £10 million. A copy of the announcement is attached.

In July 2022, the first Plastic Recycling Park in the UK, located at Ellesmere Port, was given planning permission by the local planning authority. The investment will total £165 million. A copy of the announcement is attached.

### **Glenrothes Plastic Recycling Plant enters Administration**

In April 2023, it was announced that this plant which opened in September 2022 would be closing and placed in administration because it had been unable to source sufficient waste plastic to run the plant at capacity. A copy of the announcement is attached.

We consider that this demonstrates vividly how important it is not to incinerate plastic when there is adequate and growing recycling capacity available.

### **Conclusion**

Our conclusion is that the the capacity to re-use and re-cycle waste plastic is growing rapidly, that major companies are involved and that they are making significant investments.

Incineration as a means of disposal of plastic waste maximises global warming and this fact coupled with the increasing capacity for re-cycling makes it strategically important that no new waste incineration plants fuelled by plastic waste are implemented.

### **CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough urge the Planning Inspectorate not to approve this application.**

Please note that our submission is in respect of the proposed development. While we have taken every effort to present accurate information for your consideration, because we are not a decision maker or statutory consultee, we cannot accept any responsibility for unintentional errors or omissions and you should satisfy yourselves on any facts before making decisions arising from our submission.

Yours faithfully,

**Alan James BScTech., PhD, MBCS, CITP, MIMMM, CEnv**  
Chairman - CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Cont'd...

**Enc.**

Article	Tipp's Trifol receives €3m to scale waste plastic recycling process, published in Business Plus magazine	Aug 2022	Business Plus magazine.
Article	Tipperary company gets €3million grant to give new life to plastics	Aug 2022	Tipperary Live
Report Summary	Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic	Aug 2023	Globe Newswire
Report Summary	Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic	Aug 2023	Report Linker
Article	Biffa completes £10m deal for Scottish plastics plant	Jun 2021	Lets Recycle
Article	Ellesmere Port: £165m plastic recycling facility given the green light	Jul 2022	The Standard
Website Print	Glenrothes recycling plant in administration months after opening.	April 2023	BBC

# Tipp's Trifol receives €3m to scale waste plastic recycling process



## [News](#)

/ 3rd August 2022 /  
George Morahan

[Trifol Resources](#) has secured an EU grant of €3m to scale its process for the recycling and reuse of waste plastics as sustainable wax.

The Tipperary-based company will use funding from the EU's [climate action](#) and environment funding arm, the LIFE Programme, to demonstrate how it can scale its PLASTIC2WAXLIFE project, which makes waste plastics into wax through a thermal conversion process.

Waste materials are allowed to decompose at an elevated temperature in an inert atmosphere before being converted into wax in a process officially known as modular pyrolysis using Trifol's patented technology.

Trifol said the project is expected to deliver an industrial plant with the capacity to prevent up to 24,000 tonnes of waste plastic from being incinerated and 23,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent from GHG emissions per year as well as annual energy savings of 354 GWh.

The firm has rigorously validated the technology in testing at Queen's University Belfast and piloted the plant in Portlaoise.



It has also drafted plans to scale up the process from the present 4,000 tonnes of plastic per year at its new facility in Littleton, Co Tipperary with waste feedstock providers **Bord Na Móna** and **Sabrina Manufacturing**.

Trifol said it has received interest in the project's end-products from industry leaders such as Germany's **H&R Group** and the Netherlands' **DOW Chemicals**, provided a number of undisclosed specifications are met.



Trifol has received funding to scale its process for converting waste plastic into wax.

"We all have a responsibility to tackle our plastic waste crisis. Trifol are delighted to be in the vanguard of turning plastic waste into valuable eco wax," said **Pat Alley**, founder and chairman of Trifol.

"Our process is innovative and highly scalable, and has enormous potential to reduce and reuse plastic waste. We are delighted with the support from the LIFE Programme and the European Commission.

"This EU Grant to Trifol through the LIFE programme is a testimony that Trifol continue the work we are doing to find a new life for waste plastic and to reduce the impact of waste plastic on our environment.

"In recent weeks we also secured significant new investment from Hydrogen Utopia International - our shared ambition is to produce green hydrogen as a replacement for fossil fuel in the transport and logistics sector in Ireland. We can only succeed if we work together with our suppliers, end-users and the other stakeholders as a team."

The scaling-up of PLASTIC2WAXLIFE has an overall budget €5m, including the €3m from the EU, with the content aiming to become climate-neutral by 2050. Trifol was assisted in its application by advisory firm MAGFI Ltd and its partners. The project will take place over the next two years.

*Photo: (l-r) Pat Alley; David Bradshaw, H&R UK and Benelux; Ulrike Volrath, H&R Germany; Alistair Wilding, H&R UK and Benelux; and Dr Thorsten Frick, H&R Germany.*

# Tipperary company gets €3million grant to give new life to plastics

Trifol Resources Limited, based at the former briquette factory in Littleton will scale up the proprietary pyrolysis process from 4,000 to 24,000 tonnes of plastic per year



Pictured at the Trifol plant in Littleton are David Bradshaw - H&R UK & Benelux, Pat Alley - Trifol Chairman, Michael Lowry TD., Daya Kanyamarala - Plant Manager Trifol.

news reporter

03 Aug 2022 1:58 PM

Email: [news@tipperarylive.ie](mailto:news@tipperarylive.ie)



Trifol Resources Limited, based in Littleton, Co. Tipperary in Ireland, has secured a grant of €3 million from the European Union LIFE Programme to demonstrate a scalable modular pyrolysis process to give new life to waste plastics while enabling local production of sustainable wax.

The project is titled as "PLASTIC2WAXLIFE" (aka NEWLIFE2PLASTIC) is expected to deliver an industrial plant able to prevent up to 24,000 tonnes/year of waste plastics incineration, 23,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>eq/year of GHG emission as well as make possible up to 354 GWh/year of energy savings every year using patented technology.

Our planet is slowly choking on plastic. Nearly 400 million tonnes of plastic are entering into our ecosystem every year and it is now ubiquitous in our natural environment. Waste plastic is damaging our waterways, harming wildlife and poses a threat to public health. The need to tackle plastic waste is urgent, and today the Life Programme of the EU Commission is supporting Trifol Resources to turn back the tide on waste plastic.

Trifol Resources Limited (TRIFOL) has introduced an innovative patented technology that converts waste plastic into wax through a thermal conversion technology. The pyrolysis process is the thermal decomposition of materials at elevated temperatures in an inert atmosphere.



***Pictured above: Michael Lowry TD., Pat Alley - Trifol Chairman, Dr. Thorsten Frick - H&R Germany***

Having rigorously validated the technology at Queen's University Belfast, TRIFOL has piloted the plant in Portlaoise, and has now drafted a plan to scale up the proprietary pyrolysis process from 4,000 to 24,000 tonnes of plastic per year at its new facility in Littleton, Co. Tipperary in Ireland in close collaboration with waste feedstock providers (Bord Na Móna/AES, SABRINA/SIS).

A number of industrial leaders have also shown interest to the project end-products, including H&R Group from Germany and DOW Chemicals from Netherlands, who have indicated their tentative interest, should a number of specifications be met.

The scaling up will happen through the project PLASTIC2WAXLIFE (aka NEWLIFE2PLASTIC), with an overall project budget of €5m and expected EU grant of €3m under the EU LIFE Programme. The LIFE Programme is EU's funding instrument for the environment and climate action.

Projects like TRIFOL's PLASTIC2WAXLIFE are expected to be pivotal for Europe to become a climate-neutral continent by 2050. The potential of this technology is very significant and most major recycling centres of scale could in time have a plant of this scale to transform waste plastic. TRIFOL were assisted in its application for this EU grant aid by the advisory firm MAGFI Ltd "Sustainability in Action" and our partners in the application, H&R Germany, DOW Chemicals Netherlands, Whirlpool International, Turmec Engineering, Bord na Móna and Process Facility Group International [PFGI] – consulting engineers Cork. We greatly value the support of the EU Commission, the Irish government and Michael Lowry TD for our project.

On the occasion of signing of the grant agreement, Pat Alley, Founder and Chairman of TRIFOL stated "We all have a responsibility to tackle our plastic waste crisis. Trifol are delighted to be in the vanguard of turning plastic waste into valuable eco wax. Our process is innovative and highly scalable, and has enormous potential to reduce and reuse plastic waste. We are delighted with the support from the LIFE Programme and the European Commission. This EU Grant to Trifol through the LIFE programme is a testimony that Trifol continue the work we are doing to find a new life for waste plastic and to reduce the impact of waste plastic on our environment.

"In recent weeks we also secured significant new investment from Hydrogen Utopia International - our shared ambition is to produce green hydrogen as a replacement for fossil fuel in the transport and logistics sector in Ireland. We can only succeed if we work together with our suppliers, end-users and the other stakeholders as a team."

One of the goals of TRIFOL under this project is also to establish TRIFOL as a Pyrolysis Centre of Excellence in Littleton, County Tipperary that would eventually contribute to the replication of the technological solution to several countries across Europe and globally.



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# Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic Packaging

## ReportLinker

Fri, 18 August 2023 at 11:10 am BST · 2-min read



ReportLinker

*This research service provides a comprehensive analysis of the chemical recycling of plastic packaging market. Chemical recycling is an important complementary solution to the well-established mechanical recycling of plastic packaging, enabling the processing of hard-to-recycle, mixed, and contaminated plastic waste.*

New York, Aug. 18, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Reportlinker.com announces the release of the report "Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic Packaging" - [https://www.reportlinker.com/p06485424/?utm\\_source=GNW](https://www.reportlinker.com/p06485424/?utm_source=GNW)

This research service provides a comprehensive analysis of the chemical recycling of plastic packaging market.

Chemical recycling is an important complementary solution to the well-established mechanical recycling of plastic packaging, enabling the processing of hard-to-recycle, mixed, and contaminated plastic waste.

Chemical recycling offers a much-needed opportunity to eliminate incineration and landfill disposals, supporting the circular economy of plastic packaging and limiting the consumption of raw materials. The market presents a high potential for development in the upcoming years, offering promising upgrades to plastic waste management.

The global chemical recycling of plastic packaging market was worth \$0.73 billion in 2022 and is projected to have a significant compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 43.5% between 2022 and 2030, reaching \$13.08 billion by 2030. The study analyzes the prospects of different chemical recycling technologies (including plastic-to-fuel and plastic-to-plastic), examining regional markets and their readiness to adopt such solutions.

It provides a comprehensive analysis of the stakeholder value chain and identifies

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f The study concludes by highlighting some key growth opportunities emerging from the development of chemical recycling globally for stakeholders and market players to leverage.

Twitter Author: Paulina Blaszczyk Read the full report: https://www.reportlinker.com/p06485424/?utm\_source=GNW

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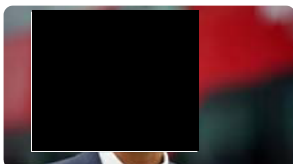


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# Global Circular Economy of Chemical Recycling of Plastic Packaging NEW

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**Publish Date:** August 2023

**Number of Pages:** 60

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## Summary

This research service provides a comprehensive analysis of the chemical recycling of plastic packaging market.

Chemical recycling is an important complementary solution to the well-established mechanical recycling of plastic packaging, enabling the processing of hard-to-recycle, mixed, and contaminated plastic waste.

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plastic packaging and limiting the consumption of raw materials. The market presents a high potential for development in the upcoming years, offering promising upgrades to plastic waste management.

The global chemical recycling of plastic packaging market was worth \$0.73 billion in 2022 and is projected to have a significant compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 43.5% between 2022 and 2030, reaching \$13.08 billion by 2030. The study analyzes the prospects of different chemical recycling technologies (including plastic-to-fuel and plastic-to-plastic), examining regional markets and their readiness to adopt such solutions.

It provides a comprehensive analysis of the stakeholder value chain and identifies the key factors driving and restraining growth.

A list of the key companies in each market segment, examples of use cases, and an overview of companies to watch have also been provided.

The study concludes by highlighting some key growth opportunities emerging from the development of chemical recycling globally for stakeholders and market players to leverage.

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June 28, 2021  
by Joshua Doherty

Plastics Business

## Biffa completes £10m deal for Scottish plastics plant

Biffa has this morning (28 June) announced the completion of a deal to acquire “Scotland’s only postconsumer plastics recycling facility (PRF)” from Green Circle Polymers for £10 million.

The facility in Grangemouth has the capacity to process 50,000 tonnes of plastic a year, including PET, HDPE, natural and jazz and polypropylene. Biffa says it is one of the largest PRFs in the UK.



Biffa's says the deal bolsters its 'market leading plastics recycling capability'

First announced in Biffa's full year results on 1 June 1, the acquisition “bolsters Biffa's market leading plastics recycling capability” by providing more recyclable plastic feedstock in line with its strategy to quadruple its plastic recycling capacity by 2030.

The facility also has the capability to sort coloured plastic material and metal cans.

The move comes ahead of the implementation of a deposit return scheme (DRS) in Scotland in 2022, currently under review by the Scottish government. Biffa says the DRS “will make it easier for residents to do the right thing and recycle their used bottles and cans, including PET plastic, metal, and glass, ultimately helping safeguard our environment”.

### 'Leadership'

Biffa's chief executive Michael Topham said the deal builds on the company's “leadership position” in closed-loop recycling and strengthens its capacity to process and recycling more plastic in Scotland.

“As a leading enabler of the circular economy in the UK, this investment helps us support Scotland's vision of a greener future, as it prepares to introduce the deposit return scheme to reduce littering and improve recycling levels,” he said.



Mr Topham added: "We are delighted to welcome the Green Circle Polymers team and their customers to Biffa."

The chief executive officer of Green Circle Polymers Limited, Tom Gleeson, added: "This is an exciting move and I'd like to thank the loyal customers who have supported the business over the years. I know the management and staff will make a valuable contribution to the future of the business as part of the Biffa Group."

*The video from CK International below shows various machinery at the Grangemouth facility in a video posted by CK International in 2019.*



## The Blog Box

### SUSTAINABILITY

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3 April 2023





## Ellesmere Port: £165m plastic recycling facility given the green light

6th July 2022

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Artist impression of the new plastics park which has been approved by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

**By Mark Smith**

Local Democracy Service

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**No Comments**

**THE first dedicated plastics recycling park in the UK has been given the go ahead in Ellesmere Port.**

The £165m site will include four recycling centres which will process 367,500 tonnes of plastic a year and a hydrogen refuelling station for HGVs.

with the scheme set to create more than 250 jobs.

Cheshire West and Chester's planning committee gave the green light yesterday to the proposals by Peel Natural Resources and Energy LTD for Protos Plastic Park at Ince Marshes off Grinsome Road.

The planning application said it would create 147 direct full positions and an additional 72 jobs in the area. During the construction phase it is estimated that 58 full time jobs would be created.

The first of its kind in the UK, the 24 acre development includes:

- A 5,886 sq m material recycling facility (MRF) which will sort, process and separate 75,000 tonnes a year of dry mixed recyclable materials from household kerbside collections, commercial premises and waste management companies.
- A 9,361 sq m plastics recycling facilities (PRF) which will separate 200,000 tonnes a year of mixed waste plastics into different plastics type for onward processing/recycling/recovery.
- A second 17,545 sq m PRF which will recycle 90,000 tonnes per annum of pre-sorted waste plastics into recycled flaked plastics for re-use in plastics manufacturing.
- A polymer laminate recycling facility which will recycle 2,500 tonnes a year of plastic aluminium laminates from products such as crisp packets and baby food pouches by splitting them into aluminium and high-value oil for reuse in plastics manufacturing, using a microwave pyrolysis process.
- A hydrogen refuelling station. Hydrogen would be supplied to the refuelling station via a pipeline running from a plastics to hydrogen facility or via tanker and will be used by HGVs. The refuelling station would have a capacity to dispense 1,000kg per day. This equates to refuelling up to 40 HGVs, with 25kg tanks, once the technology is developed.

Each of the new facilities will be run by independent operators and once established there will be up to 173 daily HGV movements at the site, which will operate 24 hours a day throughout the year. One objection was received to the proposals from the public.

Committee member Cllr Gina Lewis questioned if there would be an upper limit on HGV movements, she said: "In the comments from Helsby Parish Council they do ask whether there is a cap coming from this particular whole site and whether this does fall within that cap?". Officers said there was a cap and they would be maintained under planning regulations.

The meeting was told it is currently unknown who will operate the new facilities or where the waste will come from. The plans were unanimously approved.

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# Glenrothes recycling plant in administration months after opening

🕒 24 April



GETTY IMAGES



## **A modern recycling plant in Fife has gone into administration only seven months after it opened, due to a lack of waste plastic.**

Yes Recycling of Glenrothes, which has 60 workers, is unable to pay its debts because it has been operating under capacity.

Administrators Grant Thornton are looking for a buyer who can retain the business and staffing.

Yes Recycling's parent company in Buckinghamshire is not affected.

The Fife plant is based on the Whitehill Industrial Estate in Glenrothes and operates a 15,000 tonne per annum plastics recycling facility.

It began production in September 2022, carrying out recycling of mixed plastics, both 2D and 3D.

## **Crisp packet recycling**

It specialises in turning hard-to-recycle flexible food packaging such as crisp packets and chocolate wrappers into plastic flakes, pellets and a new product called Ecosheet, which can be used in the construction and agriculture industries.

Julie Tait, restructuring director at Grant Thornton said: "While the business has invested heavily in state-of-the-art recycling equipment, it had not yet been able to operate at full capacity and this has resulted in cash flow challenges in recent weeks.

"The company was unable to pay its debts as they fell due resulting in our appointment as joint administrators.

"This is a disappointing outcome for all those associated with the company, and our immediate priority is to support the company's 60 employees while we assess the company's financial position and seek a buyer for its business and/or assets."

Yes Recycling had formed partnerships with Morrisons and Nestle in recent months.

## **Related Topics**

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