

Veolia, through its subsidiary Veolia Energy Hungary Co. Ltd., has acquired DBM Zrt, the company that owns the Szakoly biomass power plant in Szakoly, Hungary, from NRG Power Szakoly Kft.

With the acquisition, Veolia says it now owns and operates the fifth largest power plant in Hungary and the facility produces electricity purely from biomass.

The Szakoly power plant, which began in 2009, produces electricity from the combustion of woodchips and sawmill by-products. The plant produces 130 gigawatt hours of electricity per year for the national grid.

“In Hungary, Veolia has been a forerunner in the field of renewable energy production from biomass through its power plants in Pécs and Dorog . I am delighted by the takeover of the Szakoly biomass power plant, which strengthens our position and anchors our presence in eastern Hungary where we have already been operating the Debrecen and Nyíregyháza power plants since 2015,” says György Palkó, CEO of Veolia Hungary.

“Our target is the long-term efficient and successful management of the power plant, which employs 55 people,” says Attila Vollár, head of DBM Zrt. “We are exploring further developments, including cogeneration. The heat produced during the generation of electricity could be used for heating greenhouses in partnerships with fruit and vegetable producers.”

In 2015 in Hungary, 10.5 percent of gross electricity produced was from renewable energy sources. “Biomass represented 52 percent of the renewable energy sources, which can be further increased by the continuous operation of the Szakoly power plant,” adds Vollár. It will contribute to the achievement of Hungary’s targeted 14.65 percent share of renewable energy sources in gross energy production by 2020.

Veolia says that in Pécs it operates the largest 100 percent biomass cogeneration heating network in Europe, which is supplied by straw and wood.

source: rewmag.com