



## RWE Markinch CHP Biomass Plant

On the 15 November a group of young energy professionals visited Markinch CHP Biomass Plant in Scotland.

The Markinch Power Station is the largest power plant of its kind in the country. The plant opened in March 2015 and represented an investment of over £300 million. The station created more than 600 jobs during construction and 40 permanent positions. It converts energy from biomass to heat, and then to electrical power. Fuel is burned in a high efficiency boiler, producing steam which is passed to a steam turbine to generate electricity.

The facility has an installed capacity of around 55 MW and is fuelled by circa 450,000 tonnes per annum of biomass fuel.

The afternoon began with refreshments and a welcome to Markinch from Site Manager Dr Mark Picton. A presentation was then delivered to introduce the asset in the context of RWE as an International Energy and Trading company, down to the role of Markinch within RWE's UK Generation business. The presentation then provided an overview of Markinch Biomass CHP and operations at site.

Armed with this knowledge, delegates were then invited on a site tour. The tour focused around the biomass reception and processing plant and included a visit to the plant control room. The afternoon concluded with a look to the future, including the challenges and priorities for Markinch which include the Glenrothes Energy Network project, working in partnership with Fife Council, to install a district heating network in Glenrothes.

With thanks to RWE for its work in organising this site visit for the YEP Forum.

