

Lighthouse City Sonderborg works on implementation of Roadmap2025

Nature Energy has taken the first sod for the biogas plant in Kværs.

The establishment of Sonderborg's second biogas plant is underway. The plant is expected to be completed in the spring of 2022 and actively contributes to realizing Sonderborg's Roadmap2025 climate ambitions. Nature Energy invests more than DKK 300 million DKK in the plant.

On Thursday 19 November 2020, the first sod was cut for the planned biogas plant in Kværs. Denmark's largest biogas producer, Nature Energy, is behind the establishment of new biogas plants, which are expected to be ready to produce large quantities of climate-friendly biogas as early as April 2022.



First sod for the biogas plant in Kværs. From left are: chairman of Nature Energy Peter Gæmelke, Sonderborg's mayor Erik Lauritzen and chairman of BioenergiSyd, Martin Lambertsen. Photo credit: Nature Energy.

At Nature Energy, they look forward to being able to start biogas production at the plant in Kværs. Peter Gæmelke, Chairman of the Board of Nature Energy, emphasized this in connection with the sod:

"Nature Energy Kværs will be a state-of-the-art, large-scale biogas plant that has both the physical framework and the technology to produce large amounts of climate-friendly biogas and green manure for the fields. When the plant in Kværs sends the first locally produced biogas to the gas network in 2022, it will therefore have a major impact on Danish production of green and CO₂-neutral energy. Biogas is a key way to achieve effective CO₂ reductions here and now, and therefore we look forward to Nature Energy Kværs being ready as early as 2022," says Peter Gæmelke.

Citizens' concerns are being addressed

The mayor of Sonderborg, Erik Lauritzen, was also present at the first sod in Kværs, where the construction of the new biogas plant was officially started. For the mayor, the forthcoming construction of the biogas plant is an important step for the green transition in the municipality.

"The utilization of biomass has a very large potential, because biogas is green energy made from waste and manure, and in this way we create sustainable solutions. I am really happy to be part of the sod for the second large-scale biogas plant in Sønderborg Municipality, because the utilization of biogas is a significant factor in our climate ambition to reduce CO₂ emissions," says Erik Lauritzen and continues:

"I understand the scepticism and concern that has been in parts of the local area. I know that Nature Energy does everything the company can to meet the requirements for noise and odour. And the traffic will be monitored when the plant is taken into use. But I must also say - in general - then we cannot implement the green transition without accepting changes and inconveniences. "

When Nature Energy Kværs is completed, it will be able to handle 800,000 tonnes of biomass annually at full expansion. Initially, the plant is based on 400,000 tons per year, which will give an annual production of approx. 24 mio. m³ green gas.



Local contribution to the green transition

As with the Biogas plant in Glansager, it is the local supplier association BioenergiSyd that will supply a significant part of the biomass to the plant. For Martin Lambert, chairman of BioenergiSyd, it is of great value that biomass from the local area contributes to the green transition.

At BioenergiSyd, we are proud that our local biomass will be part of the future production of biogas and thereby contribute to the green transition in Denmark. We see biogas as a key element in achieving the goal of the green transition. That is why we are really happy to collaborate with Nature Energy and be part of the biogas production in Kværs, "says chairman of BioenergiSyd, Martin Lambert Pedersen.

With biogas production, a crucial recycling of nutrients is created, as the degassed biomass is returned to the farmers as green manure. With this, the production contributes both with climate-friendly energy and a sustainable and odourless fertilizer product for the benefit of local agriculture.

Green gas must ensure that the energy solitaire goes up

The energy system must be restructured when, as in Sønderborg, CO2-neutral societies are to be created. Not only will the energy in future be used more efficiently, but the energy must also come from CO2-neutral energy sources:

- **Green power** for as many applications as possible: lighting, appliances, light vehicles, heat pumps in rural areas, companies' production processes
- **Green district heating** based on utilization of waste heat and green electricity for large heat pumps for heating homes / buildings in urban areas
- **Green gas** to supply critical production processes (brickworks, cement, food) and heavy transport such as buses, trucks, agriculture, aircraft - as well as to stabilize the power supply when the wind is not blowing and the sun is not shining

This is the direction of the strategic transformation of the energy system - both in Denmark and in Sønderborg.

Green gas will therefore be a noble commodity in the energy system of the future, which will be further refined in power-to-X solutions. The gas must therefore be completely removed from the home heating, and it can only therefore go strong enough to scrap the gas boilers.

Analyzes show that Sønderborg has the biomass resources and therefore the task will be to increase production and develop new bio-fuels in collaboration.

Read more about the transformation of the gas system [here](https://www.projectzero.dk/artikler/2018/januar/gassen-bliver-gr%C3%B8n-p%C3%A5-bustur-med-et-paradigmeskifte). (https://www.projectzero.dk/artikler/2018/januar/gassen-bliver-gr%C3%B8n-p%C3%A5-bustur-med-et-paradigmeskifte)

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