



| For Immediate release

ZOO POO TO BECOME CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY Conservation leader to get greener

November 25, 2010. The Zoo Board of Management today approved the recommendation to negotiate immediately with a newly formed energy consortium to design, build, own and operate a modular 500KW Biogas facility at the zoo. A Memorandum of Understanding will be drafted with the consortium of five expert companies who have built five biogas facilities in Ontario. The consortium known as Zoo Biogas Co. consists of ReGenerate, HH Angus, Koenig and Consultants, Kronos Project Management Group and Riepma Consultants. The proposed facility is 500KW but will be 'modular' or scalable to grow the renewable energy output as needed. The plant could be operating by mid 2012.

As a leading conservation organization committed to sustaining wildlife and wild spaces, the Toronto Zoo embraces clean and renewable energy solutions that will ensure clean air and soil for the long term and is well positioned to help educate the public at large on these sustainable solutions. The Zoo already uses and showcases various clean and sustainable energy options at the Zoo site:

- Green roof technology on our Australasia Pavillion and new Polar Bear holding
- Solar panels on buildings and being tested on Zoo golf carts and Zoomobile
- Geothermal heating at the lion-tailed macaque exhibit (the only one of its kind heated and cooled by this technology, and,
- Ice Bear technology- ice to cool the Caribou Café and lower peak demand

A Biogas Plant uses organic waste (fuel) to generate energy. Bacteria are placed in an anaerobic (oxygen free) environment with the fuel. The bacteria consume the fuel and metabolize (excrete) methane. Methane like natural gas can be burned to power turbines for electricity or it can be cleaned and sent directly into natural gas pipelines. The system generates as much waste heat (thermal energy) as electricity equivalent.

The biogas sector in North America is growing and is very established in Europe, India and China. For example, Germany has approximately 4,000 working facilities, from small farm biodigesters to large scale commercial biogas plants. In Ontario the biogas industry has benefited greatly from the Ontario Power Authority subsidy program, and in the last 12 to 18 months five biogas plants have come online to compliment the three existing plants already operational.

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For more information, contact:
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Zoo Hours – 9:30am to 4:30pm. Last admissions one hour before closing. **Admission fees including HST are:** General 13-64: \$23, Children 3 and under are free, Children 4-12: \$13 and Seniors 65+: \$17. Parking is \$10. Event schedules and admission prices are subject to change without notice. The Zoo is located at Meadowvale Road and Hwy. 401, Exit 389 east and west bound. The Toronto Zoo is open year round (except Dec. 25th). For general information, call (416) 392-5929 or visit

torontozoo.com