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Essent/RWE International Conference on Biomass and Bio-based Economy 2011

Day 1

Wednesday 2 November 2011

Biomass for Electricity Generation

Chairman for the day:
Douglas Bradley, President Canadian Bioenergy Association.

09:15	Welcome & registration.
09:45	Opening - *Douglas Bradley, Chairman.*
10:00	Biomass and our future role - *Nina Skorupska, Chief Techology Officer Essent.*
10:15	Experiences of Innogy with Wood pellet and bio-coal production - *Paul Coffey, Chief Operating Officer RWE Innogy.*
10:35	Converting Tilbury B Coal Fired Power Station to a Dedicated Biomass Renewable Generator - Nigel Staves, *Plant manager Tilbury.*
10:55	Experiences of Dong Energy - *Jesper Staal, Technical Concept Manager.*
11:25	Coffee break (and Biomass/Bio-based Information Market).
11:55	Experiences of Electrabel - *Rutger Jan Pessers, Plant manager Electrabel Power Plant Gelderland (Nijmegen).*
12:25	Experiences of Essent with large-scale biomass co-firing. New developments since the previous conference - *Etienne Vollebregt, Plant manager Amer Power Plant Essent.*
12:45	Questions.
13:00	Lunch (and Biomass/Bio-based Information Market).
14:00	Feedback from an investor in upstream biomass projects - *John Keppler, CEO & Founder Enviva Biomass.*
14:30	Biomass & biodiversity - *Danielle de Nie, Teamcoordinator Energy & Climate IUCN Netherlands Committee.*
15:00	Break (and Biomass/Bio-based Information Market).
15:30	Trading biomass: Blessing or curse for sustainability? - *Remco Frenken, RWE Supply & Trading.*
16:00	Panel discussion chaired by Chairman for the day on the subject of "How can biomass compete with fossil fuels?" - *with John Keppler, Danielle de Nie, Etienne Vollebregt and Remco Frenken.*
16:45	Wrap-up of day 1 - *Nikolaus Valerius, Director Essent Production.*
17:05	End of day 1.

Resume speakers Day 1

Wednesday 2 november 2011

Douglas Bradley, Chairman of the day

Doug Bradley is President of Climate Change Solutions, a consulting firm incorporated and successfully run since 2002. It has global focus, with over 50% of its business is offshore. Doug has been involved in climate change issues since 1992, focusing on development of renewable biomass and forest carbon sequestration. He became President of the Canadian Bioenergy Association in 2007, and changed its strategic direction to business development. A solid business background enables him to develop solutions that make sense. Achievements include: national team leader-IEA Bioenergy Task 40 Bio-trade, developed client reports on European markets for wood pellets and BioOil and Published studies on pellet manufacture and export from Mountain Pine Beetle wood, and GHG mitigation from BioOil manufacture.

Over 25 years he acquired considerable and varied experience in increasingly senior positions in the forest products industry in Ottawa, finance on Bay St, and oil & gas in Calgary, with industry policy in the federal government rounding out his experience. Doug is respected as a visionary with a passion for solving climate change issues at the grassroots level, while maintaining a strategic and global perspective. He has the skills, experience and contacts to drive the climate change agenda with a business perspective. Doug's academic achievements include an MBA from the top-ranked University of Western Ontario (now Richard Ivey School of Business) graduating in the top quartile, and a B.Sc. (Honours) in Mathematics from Queens University.

Nina Skorupska

Nina Skorupska is a chemist with a Doctorate in Coal Combustibility. With over 25 years experience in the Energy Industry. Her career started as a fuel specialist but moved quickly onto power stations that culminated with her being appointed the first female Power Station Manager of RWE npower's Didcot B, a 1400 MW gas-fired power station. Since that time she has led a UK Energy Trading team for RWE, followed by being RWE npower's Director of Technology Services, covering a wide range of disciplines including 'cutting edge' climate protection R&D activities with expert/ world renowned engineers and scientists.

In 2008 she moved to Germany and became RWE Group's Director of Performance Improvement, working with the 25 member Operating Companies to save over €2 bn operating costs. Since May 2010 she is an executive member of the Board of Essent N.V., RWE Group's Netherlands/Belgium energy business, as Chief Technology Officer. In addition to her Board responsibilities, she is responsible for the successful commercial and sustainable delivery of Essent's Generation fleet and new energy developments.

Paul Coffey

Paul Coffey is currently the Chief Operating Officer for RWE Innogy GmbH, which is part of the RWE Group and one of the fastest growing renewable energy businesses in the world. Paul has gained 20 years of experience in the energy business, where he has covered a wide spectrum of disciplines including power generation, energy retailing, trading and risk management and also electricity distribution.

He has held a number of senior executive positions throughout his career across the power sector including Managing Director Operations & Technology for the 10GW of thermal power plants of RWE npower plc together with responsibilities for the UK nuclear new build and Carbon Capture and Storage programmes. He also has experience of the UK power retail sector, where he served as Managing Director for the industrial and commercial activities of RWE npower Business. Asset Management and senior Trading and Risk management positions round up his experience. In addition to his extensive career experience he gained a Bachelor of Administration (Hons) in Business with a specialism in Finance.

Nigel Staves

Nigel Staves has worked in the UK Electricity Supply Industry for over 45 years. He joined the Central Electricity Generation Board in 1966 as an apprentice and went on to train as a power plant Engineer, obtaining a BSc degree in Control Engineering at Sheffield in 1974.

Nigel held senior engineering positions at Thorpe Marsh 1100MW and Eggborough 2000MW coal fired Power Stations in Yorkshire. He has been a senior manager with National Power, Innogy and now RWE npower since 1991 and has managed the company's Central Maintenance Facility in Yorkshire and Pego 640 MW coal fired Power Station in Portugal.

Nigel currently manages RWE npowers Littlebrook D 2000MW oil fired Power Station in Kent and Tilbury B 1400 MW coal/biomass Power Station in Essex.

Jesper Staal

Jesper Staal's current position is Technical Concept Manager within DONG Energy Power, Asset Development. His fields of expertise are: power plant engineering specialised in thermodynamics, waste to Energy plants, biomass use in the energy sector and project management.

Rutger Jan Pessers

Rutger Jan Pessers is Plant manager of the Gelderland power plant in Nijmegen. Before Rutger Jan Pessers moved to GDF-SUEZ, he was active in different companies, all related to manufacturing. In his last position, he was responsible for the "Material Technology" activities from Aalberts Industries in the Benelux (heat treatment and surface treatment). In the role of plant manager, Rutger Jan is responsible for the Gelderland Power plant in Nijmegen (Netherlands) of Electrabel (GDF-SUEZ).
The plant is a Coal/Biomass fired plant with a capacity of 600 MWe. The location of Nijmegen was always the field of innovation. Many improvements were done on the installation to improve the performance in terms of environment of sustainability. Examples of the challenges of today are: Commissioning and optimizing a new biomass installation, Improvements of the fuel efficiency, Development of a pilot installation for CCS, Implementation of lean/6 sigma concepts, Stakeholder management.

Rutger Jan is chairman of the steering committee of the R&D program, called Clean Coal.
This program, conducted by Laborelec, is oriented towards "Operational Excellence" and is covering topics like biomass, CCS and USC. The co-combustion for biomass (wood-pellets) is an important characteristic of the power plant. The power plant has the possibility to generate 180 MWe of green power. The location has a long history in co-combustion and has a strong position in the field.

Etienne Vollebregt

Etienne Vollebregt is Plant manager of the Amer power plant in Geertruidenberg since 2006. He is overall responsible for the results (safety, integrity, availability, profit and loss). Etienne is highly motivated to produce sustainable energy based on biomass at the power plant, as part of corporate social responsibility. He is proud to be front-runner on biomass co-firing within RWE and within Europe.

Prior to joining Essent, Etienne has worked as an independent consultant in different jobs. He was technical manager in projects, maintenance and technical support at BP refinery in Rotterdam. He performed interim management jobs (change management) at KLM and Philips. Etienne also worked at Shell international in several jobs and projects in France, India and the Netherlands. He has experience in dowinstream oil (refineries and chemical plants) as project engineer, techical manager and plant manager.

John Keppler

John Keppler is chairman and CEO of Enviva LP. John is a co-founder of Enviva and leads its corporate operations and key strategic initiatives. He brings extensive M&A and business development experience and a keen knowledge of the renewable energy sector. Under John's leadership Enviva has grown from its inception in 2004 to one of the leading wood pellet supply companies whose portfolio of operating plants in the biomass energy supply chain represent more than 750,000 metric tons of combined capacity in 2011 with additional production capacity in various stages of permitting, construction and development.

John sits on the Board of Directors of the Virginia Alternative and Renewable Energy Association and serves as Treasurer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political economy from the University of California, Berkeley, as well as a M.B.A. from The Darden Graduate School of Business Administration at The University of Virginia.

Danielle de Nie

Drs. Danielle de Nie (MSc Physical Geography) is the coordinator of the Energy and Climate team at IUCN NL. IUCN is the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the world's largest global environmental network. IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. The 35 members of the IUCN established in the Netherlands are united in the IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands (IUCN NL).

Danielle joined IUCN NL in 2006 where she worked on biodiversity conservation in sustainable biomass supply chains (Cramer, CEN TC/383). She is a member of the Commission Corbey that advises the Dutch government on sustainability issues of biomass use for energy applications. Since 2010 she is the coordinator of the Energy and Climate team at IUCN NL.

Before joining IUCN NL, Danielle has worked as a researcher with the Energy Research Center of the Netherlands (ECN) where she researched possibilities of ash recycling after biomass conversion. She has lived and worked in South America in sustainable land use planning and reforestation projects.

Remco Frenken

Remco is Senior Vice President Global Green Commodities & Mid Market at RWE Supply and Trading. Remco has been a senior trading professional in the European energy industry for nearly 20 years. He has extensive knowledge in asset management, customer flow management and in the origination of cross-commodity long-term deals.

Remco is currently responsible for the global trading of bio-energy and JI/CDM emissions in the trading department of RWE. In addition, he is responsible for the so called flow business in various other energy commodities. He is also board member of the GreenGold Foundation, the leading certification system for sustainable biofuels.

Remco's career in RWE (till 2010 Essent), has spanned 13 years in various positions. Prior to joining Essent, Remco worked at KEMA as Projectmanager in the field of advanced computer models (fuzzy logic, neural networks). He is fluent in four languages, has written several papers, is active in various industry initiatives (including on sustainability) and presents regularly at the top international industry conferences. Remco holds a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Delft University of Technology.

Nikolaus Valerius

Nikolaus Valerius is Director of Essent Production since June 2011. He joined RWE in 1995. In 2005 he was Plantmanager of the RWE-power plant in Lingen. In his first years at RWE Nikolaus had various positions within the nuclear and lignite power plants of RWE. Nikolaus holds a academic degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Kaiserslautern.

Day 2

Thursday 3 november 2011

Bio-based Economy

Chairman for the day: ***Luuk van der Wielen, Director of B-Basic, NWO-ACTS/BE-Basic, Department of Biotechnology, TU*** **Delft.**

08:15	Welcome & registration.
08:45	Opening - *Luuk van der Wielen, Chairman.*
09:00	Biomass on the verge of breakthrough - *Ruud Lubbers, Rotterdam Climate Initiative, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands and Minister of State of the Netherlands.*
09:30	What is the Bio-based Economy? - *Roel Bol, Programme Director Bio-based Economy at the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture & Innovation.*
09:55	Bio-Port Rotterdam, Gateway to Europe - *Bas Hennissen, Vice president Industry and Bulk Cargo.*
10:20	Coffee break (and Biomass/Bio-based Information Market).
10:35	The Chemical Industry and the Bio-based Economy – *Peter van Paridon, Business Director Biogas DSM.*
10:55	C2C in the Biomass supply chain - T*oon Beeks, Managing Director Biomassastroomlijn, Van Gansewinkel Groep.*
11:15	Innovation in Biomass products requires innovative logistics - *Ger Ostermeijer, Control Union.*
11:35	Large-scale biomass co-firing as a starting point for the Bio-based Economy - *Peter-Paul Schouwenberg, Projectmanager Bio-based Economy Essent.*
11:50	Green Deal (producer-/suppliers obligation) : "future outlook/next steps" - *Sjoerd Sieburgh Sjoerdsma, Director Essent Business Development.*
12:05	Interactive discussion on Green Deal - *Sjoerd Sieburgh Sjoerdsma.*
12:30	Lunch.
13:15	Start of a parallel programme with one group on a guided tour and another in presentations on the technical challenges of using biomass. Refreshments available during change-over from round 1 to 2.

	Round 1
13:15-14:25	Guided tour for group 1.
	Group 2
13.15-13.35	Cost-effective raw materials for energy production by integrating chemicals, materials, fuels and electricity production - *Johan Sanders, Professor Valorisation of Plant Production Chains at the University of Wageningen.*
13.35-13.55	The outlook for biomass (co-)firing in the near future; local biomass sourcing/consumption and BBE 2012-2020 - *Wim Willeboer, Strategic Engineer Essent Production.*
13.55-14.25	Panel discussion of 30 minutes chaired by Chairman for the day on the subject of "Bio-based Economy"- *Johan Sanders, Peter-Paul Schouwenberg and Wim Willeboer.*
	Round 2
14:30-15:40	Guided tour for group 2.
	Group 1
14.30-14.50	Cost-effective raw materials for energy production by integrating chemicals, materials, fuels and electricity production - *Johan Sanders, Professor Valorisation of Plant Production Chains at the University of Wageningen.*
14.50-15.10	The outlook for biomass (co-)firing in the near future; local biomass sourcing/consumption and BBE 2012-2020 - *Wim Willeboer, Strategic Engineer Essent Production.*
15.10-15.40	Panel discussion of 30 minutes chaired by Chairman for the day on the subject of "Bio-based Economy"- *Johan Sanders, Peter-Paul Schouwenberg and Wim Willeboer.*
15:45	Wrap-up of the two days - *Mira Huussen, Director Essent New Energy.*
16:00	End of programme.

Resume speakers Day 2

Thursday 3 november 2011

Prof.dr.ir. Luuk A.M. van der Wielen

Luuk van der Wielen is Full Professor at the Department of Biotechnology, Delft University of Technology (www.bt.tudelft.nl) The Netherlands. Research activities include (thermodynamics for) bioprocess technology, multifunctional bioreactors, miniaturized and computational, high-throughput technology for rapid (biorenewables) process development, including societal impacts. This was ranked as excellent by consecutive national research evaluations, resulting in spin-off companies.

He was/is the director of B-BASIC (www.b-basic.nl, 2004-2010, 50 M€ R&D budget) and BE-Basic (www.be-basic.org, 2010-2015, 120 M€ R&D budget), private-public consortia for industrial and environmental biotechnology, and initiated a multi purpose, open innovation pilot facility (http://www.be-basic.org/PilotFacility_about.html). He helped start the Oil Palm Biomass Consortium in Malaysia (2011), stimulating innovation, economic growth and ecological benefits with the Malaysian palm sector and international chemicals /energy industries. In 2007, he joined (part-time) Royal Dutch Shell as Principal Scientist Biotechnology. He was Visiting Professor at University San Carlos, Cebu City, the Philippines until 2008; and 2009-'12 at University of Technology Malaysia. Luuk van der Wielen is member of editorial / advisory boards of leading international scientific journals,and chaired scientific conferences (a.o. ESBES4, BPP2005, RRB4). He is/was a member or chair of national/ European committees, and advisor to European / international industries. He is one of the initiators of the successful program on Life Science & Technology (www.lst.tudelft.nl) of Leiden University and TU Delft, and director of the postgraduate program Bioprocess Design (www.bodl.bt.tudelft.nl).

Ruud F.M. Lubbers

Ruud Lubbers started his business career by joining his brother in the family-owned company Hollandia, when his father passed away unexpectedly in 1963. He maintained this position until he became Minister of Economic Affairs, including Energy, in 1973. During this time in office, he was faced with the first oil crisis. In 1975, he wrote a white paper on Energy, expanding the focus of Dutch energy research, which was then limited to nuclear (enrichment technology), to include energy conservation and renewables. From 1978 until 1982, Ruud Lubbers was Member of Parliament, where he was instrumental in merging Protestant and Catholic parties into the Christian Democratic Alliance (1980). In 1982, he became Prime Minister, serving until 1994. Ruud Lubbers is now Minister of State.

Ruud Lubbers started his public career at the end of the sixties, when he joined the 'Rijnmond Raad', a public institution to balance economic growth with environmental concerns. In 1971, 'Limits to Growth' of the Club of Rome prompted him to recognize the global dimensions of these concerns. During the time when Gro Harlem Brundtland chaired 'Our Common Future', Ruud Lubbers realized the first inclusive plan on Environment and Nature in the Netherlands (1988). In 1989, the joint efforts and his friendship with Gro Harlem Brundtland led to the Declaration of The Hague, an agenda-setting document for the Earth Summit.

In 1994, he retired from politics and became professor of globalization, combining this with many ancillary positions, including a position as International President of WWF. From 2001 until 2005, he was High Commissioner for Refugees. During those years, he continued his membership of the Earth Charter Commission. At present, he devotes a lot of time to chairing the Energy Research Centre in the Netherlands, which provides a focus for energy saving, renewable energy, clean fossils (climate change!) and Atoms for Peace (nuclear technology), as well as to the Rotterdam Climate Initiative. Diversity, respect, reverence for nature and the need to celebrate life mark him as an Earth Charter man.

Roel Bol

Roel Bol, upon completing secondary school, studied International Law in Utrecht. Following a short period in France he joined the Medical Insurance Board in Amstelveen. He subsequently worked for the then Ministry for Public Health and Environmental Protection.

In 1981 he was offered a position at the International Economic Affairs Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (now the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality), where he occupied various management-level positions.

His current position is that of Bio-based Economy Programme Director. In addition to his regular job, Roel has served on various boards including as chairman of a student association and chairman of an association of visual artists.

Bas Hennissen

Bas has been working for the Port of Rotterdam Authority as Vice President Industry and Bulk Cargo since November 2008. The Port of Rotterdam Authority is responsible for operating and developing the Port of Rotterdam, the 4th largest port in the world and the no. 1 port in Europe. Within the company the Industry and Bulk Cargo department is responsible for business development and customer relations for the oil and chemical industry, energy and utilities, tank storage, pipelines, dry bulk and shipbuilding industry.

Bas Hennissen has a masters degree in Chemical Engineering and Business Marketing. He started his career with Shell Chemicals in Rotterdam in 1990. After several technical and operational jobs he moved to marketing roles with Shell Chemicals in Paris and Houston. He subsequently joined Resolution Performance Products, the former Shell Epoxy business bought by private equity company Apollo, and held several sales and business management roles. After the merger between Bakelite, Borden and Resolution into Hexion Specialty Products he became Vice President Epoxy Specialties for Hexion Specialties.

Peter A. van Paridon

Dr. Peter van Paridon is currently Business Director Biogas in the Bio-based Products and Services group in the Innovation Centre of DSM. He studied biochemistry followed by a PhD at the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands. He joined Gist-Brocades in 1988 and has held several R&D management positions in feed-enzymes, starch and fuel ethanol enzymes, meat ingredients and dairy ingredients. Subsequently at DSM he had business management positions in dairy enzymes, polyamides and specialty packaging. DSM Biogas aims to develop and supply technology to optimize biogas production worldwide.

Toon Beeks

Toon Beeks has a BSc. in Agriculture and Business Administration, worked for Denkavit, UTDelfia (ex-Unilever) and Nutreco. Currently board member of AVIH (www.avih.nl) and PEFC (www.pefcnederland.nl), employed at the van Gansewinkel Groep as General Manager of Biomass Energy Logistics bv (www.biomassastroomlijn.nl), Semler bv (www.semler.nl), and Manager Biowaste (www.vangansewinkel.com). Waste no more. That's our message. We see waste as the foundation for new raw materials and energy. Our role and responsibility is to complete the circle.

Ger Ostermeijer

Ger is active as PCU-consultant and PCU-Interim Manager for various events and companies in Germany, France and the Netherlands. Ger is member of the ECE-rotterdam2011 Organizing Committee (2009-2011). Ger retired from operational Company and Groups Management since November 2010 at the "honorable" age of 60 years. He was former Member of the B.o.D. of the Peterson Control Union Group (PCU-Group), active in 67 countries, 275 companies, 3000 employees worldwide. The Peterson Control Union World Group is a privately owned "Dutch" Group of companies. The core company was created in 1920 by the Peterson Family, which had its base in the port of Rotterdam. The PCU-group is a Service provider and we are not/never involved in any trading or production of goods.

Ger was Chairman of the PCU-Group Division "Peterson Logistics Network"- Europe. He is former founder and board member of the "Dutch Inland-Navigation Cooperative", former member of B.o.D. of the "Belgian Association of Grain & Feed Trade". Since 1968 Ger was active in commercial business activities related to commodity cargo inspection and transport/ logistics. Education: Dutch H.B.S., Bookkeeping for Managers, Graduate in Logistics. Gert fluently speaks Dutch, English, German and French.

His personal affinity & projects are: general logistics of bulk commodities, including Handling/Stevedoring, Storage and Freight (both Sea & Inland navigation), techniques and research for quality aspects and conservation of products during transport and storage, Grains, feedstuffs and specifically recent research wood-pellets, TEMO (Temperature, Explosive volatiles, Moisture, Oxydation), Low oxygen environment, Nitrogen(controlled ambient storage), Sampling equipment and sample preparation Gaseous substances and personnel safety and improving transport logistics in Multi Partner Pooling and Multi Product Roundtrip systems.

Peter-Paul Schouwenberg

Peter-Paul Schouwenberg has a legal and business administration background and is currently working as Senior Officier Regulatory Affairs and Project Manager Bio-based Economy within Essent. Previously Peter-Paul was Vice-President Biofuels & Development within Essent Trading International SA in Geneva, and for more than 10 years responsible for the sourcing, trading and development of biomass (solids and liquids) on a global scale. Due to his leadership Essent became one of the authorities in the biomass market.

He developed furthermore an unique track and trace system, which can be used worldwide in the discussions regarding the sustainability of biomass. Furthermore he was one of the initiators of the standard Gafta (trading) contract for Biomass and the introduction of a forward curve for woodpellets. He was also involved in the development of several new (bio)fuels for the production of sustainable green electricity. The most important one, a worldwide primeur, was the development of a fair-trade coffeehuskpellet in Brazil. For this project he received the SCAA (Specialty Coffee Association of America's) Sustainability Award.

Peter-Paul Schouwenberg is chairman of the Rotterdam Biomass Commodity Network (RBCN) and Bio-based Economy Group with Energie Nederland, Taskleader of the IEA Bioeenergy Trade Task40, Member of the Commission Corbey and Biomass Renewable Business Platform.

Sjoerd Sieburgh Sjoerdsma

Sjoerd is working as Director Business Development at Essent N.V since October 2009. Previous he worked for RWE as Director & Strategy, Booz Allen & Hamilton as Senior Associate, NUON as Head of New Business Development, Retail Division and also for Shell as International Staff expatriated to Shell UK Exploration & Production.

Sjoerd graduated Cum Laude at the Technical University in Delft (Master of Science in Mining and Petroleum Engineering) and also graduated Cum Laude at the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton School of Business, Master of Business Administration with majors in Strategy and Finance).

Johan Sanders

Professor Dr. Johan Sanders, graduated at the University of Amsterdam: PhD in Molecular Biology, 1977: Physical map of Yeast mitochondrial DNA.

He worked at Gist brocades:1977-1993. Johan started a Genetic Engineering group; overproduction of several industrial enzymes; initiation of Phytase to reduce phosphate from manure; protein engineering of industrial enzymes; projectleader Shell/Gistbrocades Wood to Ethanol program; lysine fermentation based on manure; Associate Director of Food Research.

He worked at AVEBE: 1993-2001 as R&D Director potatostarch company: modification of starch by chemical, enzymatic and GMO modification; several agricultural projects.

Since 2001 he is working at Wageningen University and Researchcenter. Johan is Professor Valorization of plant production chains in the field how to produce bulk chemicals in a cost effective way by utilizing agricultural raw materials.

Wim Willeboer

Dr. Wim Willeboer is Strategic Engineer at Essent Production. Wim has an MSc in Mechanical and Process Engineering and a PhD in Energy Conservation in Industry. His early work was Project Engineering at both KEMA and PNEM/EPZ. Over the period 1989 - 1997 he was R&D Manager at Demkolec (demonstration plant for coal gasification).
In parallel with this he was – and is -coordinator of Essent's R&D work.

In 1997 Wim became Project Manager at Essent for a novel wood gasification plant. His current work covers subjects such as biomass co-firing, coal firing, wood gasification, technological support and trouble shooting on running plants, Essent's R&D work, project scouting, etc.

Mira Huussen

Mira Huussen studied architecture in Delft and obtained her MBA degree from Harvard University. Since early 2010, Mira is Director of New Energy, the innovation department of Essent.
New Energy develops, promotes and implements new and clean energy concepts.

The business unit is currently working on the following themes: Bio-based Economy, Energy Management and electric transportation.
Mira has before worked at KPN and at different departments of Ministries, like the NMA (Netherlands Competition Authority).