



Press Release

February 28, 2020

## **Public engagement programme launched for new energy project at Ratcliffe-on-Soar power station site**

- **Uniper is putting forward plans for the development of an energy recovery facility, known as the EMERGE Centre at power station site**
- **Project would be first step towards creating a lower carbon future for Ratcliffe-on-Soar**
- **EMERGE Centre would be capable of generating up to 49.9MW of electricity – enough to power around 90,000 homes**

Plans are being developed by Uniper UK Limited, for a new energy project at the Ratcliffe-on-Soar power station site – known as the East Midlands Energy Re-Generation (EMERGE) Centre. The facility would generate energy from non-hazardous domestic and commercial waste left over from the recycling process.

Ratcliffe-on-Soar power station has been supplying reliable electricity to the UK energy market for over 50 years. The UK is now moving away from coal to lower carbon energy solutions and, the Government has committed to end the generation of electricity from coal-fired power stations by October 2025. A decision on a closure date for Ratcliffe-on-Soar has yet to be made, but this will be in line with Government policy. In the meantime, the power station continues to contribute to Britain's energy supply security.

During its lifetime, Ratcliffe-on-Soar has made a significant contribution to the regional economy, and Uniper has been working closely with stakeholders from across the region, including the Midlands Engine and local authorities, to understand how the Ratcliffe site can be part of sustainable growth in the East Midlands.

Our vision is to move towards becoming a zero-carbon technology and energy hub for the East Midlands. We see the site development creating employment based around modern industrial and manufacturing uses, with sustainable onsite energy generation.

In addition to generating sustainable electricity and heat for use by world-class businesses and institutions who choose to locate to Ratcliffe-on-Soar, the facility would support the future addition of advanced recycling and reuse technologies.

The EMERGE Centre would use safe, environmentally sustainable and reliable technology to generate up to 49.9MW of electricity; the equivalent power for around 90,000 homes – as well as having the

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capability to produce heat from around 500,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste per year. This will reduce the quantity of waste that currently goes to landfill or is exported outside of the UK.

This project will be the first step towards a lower carbon future for Ratcliffe-on-Soar and will help the East Midlands meet its landfill diversion targets. The EMERGE Centre would also act as a catalyst for the region's wider vision, helping to attract other businesses who could benefit from the availability of reliable, lower carbon energy generated on-site.

Uniper will be inviting local residents, councils and other organisations to attend public information events, to be held in March 2020. These events will offer people the opportunity to understand more about our plans and meet the project team.

A detailed planning application is due to be submitted this summer and the project is planned to be completed and fully operational by 2025.

**Andy Read, EMERGE Centre Project Manager for Uniper, said:**

*“The EMERGE Centre would be an important first step in securing jobs and investment at Ratcliffe-on-Soar after coal-fired generation ends. It would provide reliable and sustainable lower carbon energy and help reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste being diverted to landfill. I'd like to encourage people to come along to the public information events in March to find out more about our plans for the EMERGE Centre and wider vision for the site”.*

**Public Information Days**

Venue	Date	Time
Thrumpton Village Hall, Church Lane Thrumpton, NG11 0AX	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	3pm-7pm
Gotham Memorial Hall (Moonrakers Room) Nottingham Road, Gotham, NG11 0HE	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2020	3pm-7pm

For more information about the EMERGE Centre, please visit the project website [www.uniper.energy/emerge](http://www.uniper.energy/emerge)



## **About Uniper**

Uniper is a leading international energy company with around 11,500 employees and activities in more than 40 countries. With about 34 GW of installed generation capacity, Uniper is among the largest global power generators. Its main activities include power generation in Europe and Russia as well as global energy trading, including a diversified gas portfolio that makes Uniper one of Europe's leading gas companies. The company is headquartered in Düsseldorf, being the third-largest listed German utility. Under its new strategy, Uniper aims to become climate neutral in its European power generation by 2035.

**About Uniper UK** <https://www.uniper.energy/uk>

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