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Utilities UK

BOILER LIFT TAKES POWER STATION PROJECT PAST MAJOR MILESTONE.

A major Tees Valley renewable energy project has passed a significant milestone.

A massive boiler furnace has been lifted into place at the £60 million Wilton 10 power station construction site at Wilton International.

At a height of 30 metres and weighing more than 185 tonnes, the operation to lift the unit into a space, with just 12 inches of clearance on either side, required great precision and skill. Having taken months in the planning the lift itself took just an hour to complete.



Work was carried out by a team from the station's owners SembCorp Utilities UK in conjunction with the boiler construction team from Foster Wheeler and its subcontractors, including the lifting specialists Abnormal Load Engineering Limited. As the main boiler contractor, Foster Wheeler is involved in the design, engineering, construction and commissioning of the complete boiler island, including the flue gas treatment system.

Tony Lewis, the Wilton 10 Project Director, said: "It was a technically challenging job carried out safely and successfully by a team from several companies working together in partnership."



The project, to build a 30 MW power station fuelled by a variety of sources of wood – is beginning to take shape and is now more than half way through construction. It is expected to be operational by the summer of 2007.

Other significant lifts have also taken place within the past six weeks including the steam turbine built by Siemens and an associated steam condenser.

Construction is also progressing at the wood recycling facility to be operated by UK Wood Recycling Limited.

When operational, Wilton 10 will require around 300,000 tonnes of wood as its fuel every year. Around 40 per cent of this will be recycled wood, with the remaining 60 per cent being sourced in equal proportions from forestry management schemes in the north, sawmills and specially grown 'energy crops' in the form of short rotation coppice grown throughout the region.