



PRESS RELEASE

Vienna, 1 October 2010

Construction of a CO₂ recovery plant at the AGRANA bioethanol facility in Pischelsdorf

AGRANA and AIR LIQUIDE have today concluded a contract entailing the construction of the latest state-of-the-art CO₂ liquefaction plant at AGRANA's bioethanol facility in Pischelsdorf | Lower Austria. AIR LIQUIDE's total investment for the plant, which is scheduled to be commissioned in Q1 2012, amounts to around €15m.

During the production of bioethanol, some of the carbon dioxide stored in the renewable raw materials (primarily wheat and corn) is released. The planned plant will recover, clean and liquefy over 100,000 tonnes of the biogenic carbon dioxide released from these renewable raw materials. This liquefied CO₂ will be available for use in various industrial applications, particularly for carbonated beverages.

"According to a life cycle analysis performed by Joanneum Research, the bioethanol produced at the AGRANA facility in Pischelsdorf accounts for a saving of around 380,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (particularly CO₂) in the Austrian transport sector.

The AIR LIQUIDE CO₂ recovery plant represents an additional, sustainable improvement in the natural CO₂ cycle. The CO₂ released during the fermentation of alcohol is prepared for industrial use and replaces CO₂ obtained from less sustainable sources," says Johann Marihart, CEO of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG.

Jean-Luc Robert, General Manager of AIR LIQUIDE Austria Core Central Europe: "We are particularly proud to have concluded this agreement with Agrana one of the leading companies in its domain. This new investment will recover and reuse carbon dioxide from renewable resources while enabling us to develop our presence in the carbon dioxide market and to strengthen our overall positions in this growing region.

About the contractual partners

At its bioethanol plant in Pischelsdorf | Lower Austria, **AGRANA** Bioethanol GmbH annually processes up to 620,000 tonnes of cereals to produce up to 240,000m³ or 190,000 tonnes of bioethanol as well as up to 190,000 tonnes of the high-quality, GMO-free, protein-rich animal feed Actiprot.

In Austria, 5% bioethanol by volume is currently added to petrol in line with the mandatory admixture legislation. The bioethanol is also used in the new and environmentally sensitive fuel SuperEthanol E85, which consists of up to 85% bioethanol, the remainder being petrol.

AGRANA is the leading sugar refiner in Central and Eastern Europe, a major producer of

customer-specific starch products in Europe, the largest producer of bioethanol in Austria and Hungary, as well as the global leader in the manufacture of fruit preparations for the dairy industry and an important producer of fruit juice concentrates in Europe. AGRANA's approximately 8,000 personnel, based at 52 facilities in 25 countries, generated revenues of around €2bn in its 2009|10 financial year.

AIR LIQUIDE is the world leader in gases for industry, health and the environment, and is present in over 75 countries with 42,300 employees.

AIR LIQUIDE AUSTRIA GmbH employs about 300 people and is a leading company on the Austrian gas market. Present in all Austrian regions, AIR LIQUIDE supplies a wide range of industries such as food & beverages, healthcare, chemicals, automotive, energy, metallurgy, mining and metal fabrication.

Caption: Contract signing

Left to right: Johann Marihart, CEO of AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG, and Jean-Luc Robert, General Manager of Air Liquide Austria GmbH

Enquiries:

AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG

Ulrike Pichler

Email: ulrike.pichler@agrana.com

Tel. +43-1-21137-12084

Air Liquide Austria GmbH

DI Thomas Nern

E-Mail: thomas.nern@airliquide.com

Tel. +43-1-70 10 93 40

This press release is available for download in German and English at www.agrana.com.