

 Early Warning System

FMO-45042

USHER ECO POWER LIMITED



Quick Facts

Countries	India
Financial Institutions	Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2015-11-19
Borrower	Usher Eco Power Ltd
Sectors	Energy
Investment Type(s)	Loan
Investment Amount (USD)	\$ 14.00 million
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 14.00 million



Project Description

According to FMO website, Usher Eco will become the first company in the world to set up a commercial scale silica extraction plant for producing "green" high quality precipitated silica from rice husk ash. This ash is generated by burning rice husk in the boiler of a rice husk fired biomass power plant. The financing will be used for setting up the silica extraction plant and to expand Usher Eco's rice husk based waste-to-energy facility from 16 MW to 34 MW.

The green silica extraction process is the result of close collaboration between the open innovation team of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, the Indian Institute of Science Bangalore and Usher Eco. The produced silica will be used by Goodyear to replace carbon black and traditional silica in the high performance tires. Compared to carbon black and traditional silica, "green" silica reduces rolling resistance. Lower rolling resistance, in turn, improves a car's fuel economy. FMO classifies this as a green transaction due to the environmental impact and the closed-loop production process, resulting in zero waste:

1. Paddy milling results in rice and rice husk
2. Rice husk (biomass) is used to generate energy
3. Ensuing ash is used as input for the silica extraction. The silica extraction process allows extraction without using aggressive chemicals and at significantly lower temperatures than under the conventional process
4. Remaining waste product can be applied as fertilizer.



Investment Description

- Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO)



Contact Information

No contact information provided at the time of disclosure.

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF FMO

Communities who believe they will be negatively affected by a project funded by the Dutch Development Bank (FMO) may be able to file a complaint with the Independent Complaints Mechanism, which is the joint independent accountability mechanism of the Dutch Development Bank (FMO) and the German Investment Corporation (KfW) . A complaint can be filed in writing, by email, post, or online. The complaint can be filed in English or any other language of the complainant. The Independent Complaints Mechanism is comprised of a three-member Independent Expert Panel and it can provide either problem-solving, compliance review or both, in either order. Additional information about this accountability mechanism, including a guide and template for filing a complaint, can be found at: <https://www.fmo.nl/independent-complaints-mechanism>



Other Related Projects

- FMO-45037 USHER AGRO LIMITED