

Hughes Energy Ownership and Finances

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Research by Don't Trash the Catskills and Clean Air Action Network of Glens Falls
www.donttrashthecatskills.org

Hughes Energy Group is a privately held, Limited Liability Corporation, incorporated in the state of Delaware in 2010. Hughes Energy has never built or operated any facilities in the U.S. Hughes Energy claims that NDA (Non Disclosure Agreements) keep them from sharing any information about the facilities they claim to have operated in Ireland and the UK.

Hughes Energy Group is the exclusive license holder for the Wilson System in North America. Brendan Hughes is the founder of Hughes Energy and the chair of the Board. He is also the premier shareholder and a director of Wilson Bio-Chemical, Ltd. in the UK. The same list of individuals serve as directors of Wilson Bio-Chemical and many appear to have prominent role in Hughes Energy.

FINANCES

Wilson Bio-Chemical had (771,176£) or (\$1,051,005.00) in debt at the time of its last financial statement (June 2020).

Since Hughes Energy is an US based LLC, no public information is available about the company's directors or financial status.

Overlapping Boards of Directors

The Hughes Energy Group website displays names and photos of its team. Through LinkedIn and other sites, we were able to piece together information about the roles, positions, and identities of some of the team members. We found that the Hughes Energy Group team overlaps substantially with the directors of a series of privately held, limited liability ("Limited") companies, incorporated in the UK.

The following individuals are associated with the UK company, Wilson Bio-Chemical, Ltd. All are also listed as members of the Hughes Energy Group team.

Tom Wilson, steam autoclave designer and chief engineer

Peter Metcalf, R & D, chemical engineer

Anthony James Bramley, mechanical engineer

Brendan Hughes, Irish American builder, premier shareholder. (As sole representative of the Wilson Solution in North America, he created Hughes Energy Group, the main selling agent in the U.S. and Canada.)

Mark Ennis, professional director (appointed chairman, Invest Northern Ireland in 2012; chairman, SSE/Ireland in 2010; non-executive director, Liberty Insurance, Ltd in 2013, etc.)

A UK government database allows the public to find information about any private, limited liability corporation, including the date it was chartered, past and current directors, financial statements, and if, when, and how the corporation was dissolved (including court orders). This

searchable database also makes it easy to determine all of the corporate boards on which an individual has served. <https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk>

A number of the UK companies that are precursors of Hughes Energy have failed or dissolved.

All of the UK-based Hughes Energy precursor companies are privately held, limited liability corporations. Using the UK government database, we were able to piece together the web of corporations associated with the Wilson System. Most of these corporations have dissolved or been liquidated (declared bankruptcy).

- Thermsave Engineering UK Ltd. Chartered 1992. *Dissolved 2013*.
Peter Metcalf. Tom Wilson.
- Abatec Management Services Ltd. Chartered 1998. *Dissolved 2013*.
Brendan Hughes, Bridget Hughes. Deborah Boyd.
- Resources Recycling & Recovery Ltd. (Re3). Chartered 2002. *Dissolved 2012*.
Deborah Boyd, Trevor Boyd.
- Eco Systems Management Ltd. Chartered 2004. *Dissolved 2010*.
Deborah Boyd. Brendan Hughes
- Fajast Development 2 Ltd. Chartered 2005. *Dissolved 2017 (Voluntary Strike-Off)*.
Peter Metcalf. Tom Wilson.
- Wilson System Ltd. Chartered 2006. *Liquidated (bankruptcy) 2011*.
Deborah Boyd. Trevor Boyd. Anthony Bramley. Peter Metcalf. Tom Wilson.
- TWS (Tom Wilson System) Environmental Systems Ireland Ltd. Chartered 2008. *Liquidated (bankruptcy) 2011*.
Brendan Hughes. Anthony Bramley, Deborah Boyd. Trevor Boyd.
- Wilson Steam Storage Ltd. Chartered 2007. *Dissolved 2019*.
Anthony Bramley, Peter Metcalf. Mark Ennis. Brendan Hughes. Tom Wilson.
- Wilson Bio-Chemical Ltd. Chartered 2006. Active.
Anthony Bramley. Mark Ennis. Brendan Hughes. Peter Metcalf. Tom Wilson.
- Wilson Biotech Ltd. Chartered 2015. Active.
Brendan Hughes. Mark Ennis.
- Wilson Steam Ltd. Chartered 2017. Active.
(Engineering services company owned by Tom & Julie Wilson.)

Dane McSpedon became the CEO (chief executive officer) of Hughes Energy Group in March 2018. He has stated that Brendan Hughes, who the owner of Hughes Energy, is “an old family friend” who has “known my parents for many, many years.”

History of the Wilson System.

A pilot project in Sheffield, England, processed 1 ton per hour.

Re3, in partnership with Greyhound Recycling, built and operated a demonstration plant in Limerick, Ireland using The Wilson System. Based on press releases and company filing this test project facility happened in 2008-2012. Again, Hughes will not share any information with us.

Correspondence Philippa King, Regional Waste Regulator in Limerick, Ireland below:

“There is very little evidence of success with mixed municipal waste.”

“When we went to visit the unit in France, it was not operational.”

She also stated that even with well separated [waste] streams, she thinks “it will be a struggle in terms of energy efficiency.”

A pilot autoclave plant operated in our Region for a few months and I spent time there for the full cycle of the operation. The issues with operation in Limerick were as follows:

1. Waste going in was very mixed municipal type waste and therefore as well as the fuel required to heat the autoclave, there was also energy required to separate the waste into suitable streams which could be done pre or post autoclaving.
2. The autoclave did successfully break down paper and cardboard reduced their volume but when this material was separated and needed to be dried further which uses more energy. If not dried biological activity commences and spores begin to grow on the waste fines. So this process is not considered a final destruction process.
3. The steam emissions required further cleaning including activated carbon and neutralisation.
4. Whilst all the streams such as steel and aluminium that are separated before or after autoclaving could be sent for recycling, the degraded organics from the paper and cardboard such a fine compost like material also needs to find a final destination.

So in terms of your questions regarding the project you need to be asking what is the full carbon count for this project including all energies used and carbon used in location of all final destinations. In fact you want a full life cycle carbon analysis that includes embodied carbon and operational carbon of the project and how it compares to other options currently proven in the market place.

You should be asking how the emissions line up are they within your local/state guidance parameters. This includes emissions to foul sewers and air emissions. Has a study of the air emissions dispersion modelling been complete to show that it would have no impact on your water abstraction point? Does the size of the propane tanks require major emergency planning?

In September 2016, Wilson Bio-Chemical opened a pilot autoclave waste project in cooperation with Biorenewables Development Center (a for-profit business entity) on the campus of York University, England. This pilot project does small test runs and it not a full-scale facility.

Hughes Energy CEO declined to share the names and locations of facilities they claim to have built in Europe (the UK companies in their lineage) as they have NDAs (non disclosure agreements). There is no evidence that there are any facilities in operation, other than the pilot project in York.