

SENT TO LSU AGCENTER/LOUISIANA FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT CENTER - FOREST SECTOR / FORESTY PRODUCTS INTEREST GROUP



Biomass Milestone Achieved as 200th Shipment of Renewable Fuel Departs Port of Greater Baton Rouge

Drax has processed over 10 million tons of sustainable biomass through the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, supporting thousands of jobs across the southeast U.S.



9 March 2023

This month, Drax, the world's leading producer and user of sustainable biomass, loaded its 200th shipment of sustainable biomass at [the Port of Greater Baton Rouge](#). The shipment marks a major milestone for Drax's operations in the United States as it amounts to more than 10 million tonnes having been shipped and used to generate renewable dispatchable power for homes and businesses in the UK.

“Reaching a milestone like this highlights the tremendous work of the thousands of people employed throughout our global biomass supply chain, including our shipping partners,” said **Matt White, Executive Vice President of North America Operations for Drax**. “Drax is committed to ensuring our

sustainable biomass continues to deliver positive outcomes for the climate, our environment, and the communities where we work.”



13 March 2023



The 200th shipment was loaded on to the MV Belguardian – a bulk carrier vessel that will travel across the Atlantic Ocean before arriving at Associated British Ports’ Humber International Terminal. From there, the biomass will be transported by rail to Drax Power Station. A cargo typically takes around 17 to 21 days to reach the UK. The logistics are achieved through a coordinated effort from long term partners including [HOST](#), [Alfred H Knight](#) and [Ultrabulk](#).

“Since 2014 when HOST began operating the Drax facility in Port Allen, we have anticipated the growth potential on the Mississippi River, and HOST is proud to have facilitated the loading of the 200th shipment of sustainable biomass from the DRAX facility,” said **Adam Anderson, Chairman and CEO of T. Parker Host**. “We appreciate our partnership with Drax and look forward to continuing to raise the bar collectively in Port Allen.”

“Alfred H Knight has a strong history of delivering independent inspection and analytical services for shipments of commodities around the world,” said **John McIndoe, General Manager of Energy Services for Alfred H Knight North America**. We are proud to have played a role throughout each of the 200 shipments of sustainable biomass fuel and will continue to provide support to Drax with their decarbonisation strategy.”

Over the last decade Drax has converted four of its power station’s six generating units to use sustainable biomass instead of coal. This has transformed Drax, which supplies 12% of the UK’s renewable electricity, into the [country’s largest renewable power generator](#) and the biggest decarbonization project in Europe.

“We are excited and proud to be a part of Drax’s journey towards becoming carbon negative,” said **Michael Paulsen, Head of US Gulf/Caribbean for Ultrabulk**. “Ultrabulk is also firmly committed to the transition towards zero emissions in the shipping industry, which is a significant part of our own decarbonization strategy.”

An [independent analysis by Chmura](#) recently showed that sustainable biomass is now a key industry across the southeast U.S., boosting the economic prospects for rural communities. The cumulative economic impact of Drax’s operations from 2023 to 2030 is estimated to be \$8.3 billion in total spending and \$3.4 billion in GDP across Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama.

[Sustainable biomass](#) uses harvest residuals and low-grade wood, such as tops and branches, low-quality trees or parts that are diseased or misshapen. The market for low-grade wood helps improve the health and productivity of forests while providing rural counties with a new income stream.

Richard P. Vlosky, Ph.D.



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