PRESS RELEASE

4th International Ecotec Exhibition 2011 – Ecoforum
Expo Athens, Anthousa Attica Region

Eco-Forum entitled:

“Why Waste-to-Energy technology should be applied in MSW management in Attica Region. European & International practice”

Athens, 11th of April 2011 - With great success Waste-to-Energy Research & Technology Council - SYNERGIA organised on Friday April 8th, 2011 a forum during the 4th International Exhibition Ecotec 2011. The main goal of the organisation was the application of Waste-to-Energy technology in Athens and Attica Region, based on information from the European and International experience.

The Forum of SYNERGIA was officially opened by Mr. George Iliopoulos, Vice President of the Technical Chamber of Greece, who stressed that it is legitimate to apply a combination of all waste treatment technologies in Attica, including waste-to-energy technology.

On behalf of the District Commissioner Mr. Yiannis Sgouros, Mrs Iro Zervaki the Regional Director of the Western Sector of Athens, noted that the Attica Region Commission understands the need to proceed with the application of modern waste management technologies in order to minimize the amount of waste residues which deposit in the sanitary landfills. Moreover, he stressed that all technologies are acceptable and that the region during the next period will open discussion about the waste management in Athens inviting all the sides interested.

During the forum professors and scientists presented elements on the crucial issue of sustainable waste management, recycling and waste-to-energy in Greece. President HSWMA Mr. Constantinos Aravosis made a presentation based on embodiment of the Directive 2008/98 on Greek Legislation in which was stressed the necessity of finding a solution to the problem of waste management in Attica Region and especially in Athens.

The Emeritus Professor NTUA and a founding member of SYNERGIA Mr. Dimitrios Tassios, presented financial data for investing possibilities in Waste-to-Energy Technology and he underlined the "Gate fee" for the proposed Energy Plants are 70 € and 60 € /
tonne MSW for 400,000 and 700,000 tonnes / year respectively, which are 20-30 € above the current landfill Ano Liosia.

The President of SYNERGIA Dr. Efstratios Kalogirou presented examples of WTE Plants from major European and Global capitals, in which a combination of Recycling at source and WTE Technology is successfully applied. During his speech it was stressed that a final solution to the issue of MSW management in Athens will be the implementation of an integrated recycling system in combination with the environmental friendly and energy efficient waste-to-energy technology.

Moreover, Professor Petros Samaras presented information on the management of waste residues (ash) from waste-to-energy and analyzed the management and use of bottom ash, used in road construction and other applications. Finally, Associate Professor of AUTH Mr. Avraam Karagiannidis analyzed and compared the alternative scenarios for the objective of installation Waste-to-Energy plants in Greece.

The final and clear conclusion from all lectures was that recycling at source works in harmony with waste-to-energy technology. The combination of those two MSW management technologies gives a final solution to the problem of the Municipal Solid Waste treatment in Attica Region but also in Greece.