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For immediate release

## **Greenergy sustainability audit programme leading the industry**

- **Audit programme brings “biofuel dividend” with indirect benefits for sugar in food**
- **Greenergy continues to significantly exceed Government target for sustainable biofuel 18 months into the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation**

Greenergy, one of the biggest fuel suppliers in the UK, announced today that 76% of the bioethanol it supplied during the first 6 months of this RTFO year (15 April to 14 October 2009) met approved environmental sustainability standards, compared with a Government target of 50%<sup>1</sup>. This reflects the success of Greenergy’s sustainability audit programme for Brazilian producers.

Greenergy started auditing in Brazil in 2007, having drawn up criteria to demonstrate compliance with the “gold standard”<sup>2</sup> environmental and social sustainability principles of the UK Government’s Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO). Since then it has been working with selected suppliers in Brazil as part of an ongoing commercial relationship to help them develop and implement sustainability action plans. These have been followed by independent third-party audits to formally measure compliance against the RTFO sustainability principles.

For the biofuel that Greenergy reported during the RTFO period 15 April – 14 October 2009 the results were as follows:

- 80% of Greenergy’s Brazilian bioethanol was sourced from mills for which Greenergy had organised third-party audits. It is Greenergy’s intention to audit the remaining 20% during the next harvest season.
- Of the audited volume, 94% was found to meet environmental sustainability criteria with 78% meeting social sustainability criteria<sup>3</sup>.

Greenhouse gas savings compared to mineral petrol averaged 72%, far exceeding the Government target of 45%.

Andrew Owens, Greenergy Chief Executive commented:

“We are sending the strongest possible commercial signal to our suppliers. If significant non-conformances are found that the mill is unwilling to address, we take our business elsewhere.

“We are far ahead of the food industry in driving demand for sustainable production of the crops that we both use. We are creating a very significant biofuel dividend not only directly in the mills we buy from but also indirectly by raising awareness of sustainability more broadly within the industry.”

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<sup>1</sup> For biodiesel and bioethanol combined the figure reached 62%.

<sup>2</sup> Greenergy’s sustainability criteria assess compliance with all the RTFO meta-standard principles – described by the Government’s Renewable Fuels Agency as a “gold standard for sustainable biofuel”.

<sup>3</sup> Audit results received after the RTFO reporting deadline put the proportion of bioethanol meeting social sustainability standards at 100% of audited volume.

## **ENDS**

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## **Notes to editors**

Greenergy has over 15% share of the UK road fuel market and supplies 130 million litres of fuel every week to oil companies, supermarkets as well as bus, haulage and industrial suppliers. As a significant supplier of biofuel into the UK, it sets standards of best practice on biofuel sustainability.

The bioethanol that Greenergy supplied during the period 15 April – 14 October 2009 was derived from the following feedstocks: Sugar cane 98.5%; sugar beet 1%; Sulphite (by-product of the paper industry): 0.5%.

For further information see [www.greenergy.com](http://www.greenergy.com)