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# NEWS

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• **RELEASE** •

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## **INDIAN TEA PLANTATION AND AUSTRALIAN COMPANY IN KEY TRIALS OF LOW-CARBON POWER GENERATION**

One of the world's largest tea plantations in north-eastern India has contracted an innovative "dual fuel" system created by Australian alternative energy developer, Eden Energy Limited (ASX: "EDE"), in a groundbreaking trial of its dual fuel technology that could see diesel use slashed among thousands of industrial enterprises reliant on generator power.

Perth-based Eden announced today that the owner of the tea plantation in Assam had ordered three of its OptiBlend® dual fuel systems for use on three of its extensive network of diesel generators with a power output of between 400 and 1,250 kilowatts.

Tests in the United States, where the OptiBlend system was developed by Eden subsidiary, Hythane Company LLC, have found that Indian generators could be run on as little as 30-35% diesel with the rest being natural gas— reducing the cost of power generation dramatically due to the price of natural gas in India being between only 20% -55% of the cost of diesel.

The Assam trials of OptiBlend, which can replace diesel with natural gas or other alternative fuels, including Eden's own ultra clean, high efficiency Hythane®, a hydrogen-enriched premium blend of natural gas, will also serve to dramatically reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse and smog causing gas emissions – particularly oxides of nitrogen – in a country with one of the most notorious smog problems on Earth.

"This is a significant milestone in our efforts to roll out the OptiBlend system in the world's second largest country, where there is an enormous existing market of diesel powered generators already operating, a Government which has committed to ambitious targets for the replacement of fossil fuels with low-carbon alternatives, and where low-cost natural gas is becoming readily available," Eden's Chairman, Mr Greg Solomon, said.

"The OptiBlend system has already been proven to dramatically reduce the operational and maintenance costs of diesel-powered generators, while significantly reducing their emissions of carbon dioxide and oxides of nitrogen – by over 75 and 30 tonnes respectively each year from a single 1,250 kilowatt generator.

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“In a country like India, where there are literally hundreds of thousands of medium and large diesel generators producing baseload or backup power on a daily basis, the potential for the reduction of fossil fuel use and both greenhouse gases and smog-causing pollution is absolutely vast,” Mr Solomon said.

Mr Solomon said that Eden was in negotiation with other potential customers in India and the United States, and anticipated growing demands – particularly in India, where annual natural gas availability is projected to rise from 5 million tonnes to 25 million tonnes over the next five years. The first gas supplies from India’s huge offshore KG Basin came on-stream in April this year and will steadily increase in coming years.

In January this year, Eden completed construction for Indian Oil Corporation of the first public Indian Hythane® dispensing station in New Delhi, and anticipates a significant growth in use of Hythane® as a vehicle fuel over the next few years, particularly in the more than 50 cities where Bus Rapid Transit Systems are either already being built or are planned. These BRT systems are planned to operate natural gas powered buses, all of which could be suitable for Hythane® operation.

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