



Eni and Hera together for the circular economy: from spent vegetables oils the biofuel for waste collection vehicles

The partnership will make it possible to transform the Eni bio-refinery in Venice into oils collected by Hera (800 tons in 2017) in Eni green diesel. Relevant environmental benefits with a reduction of up to 40% of polluting emissions

Bologna, 23 November, 2018 - Eni and Hera, companies long engaged in promoting a circular economy model through the continuous technological and organizational development of their respective businesses, have today signed a partnership aimed at transforming used vegetable oil into biofuel to fuel the Hera waste collection company vehicles.

The agreement provides that exhausted vegetable oils for domestic use, such as those for frying, recovered by Hera through approximately 400 road containers and in about 120 collection centers, will be sent to the Eni biorefinery in Venice, in Porto Marghera, the world's first example of conversion of an oil refinery into a biorefinery, which will transform it into green diesel, a completely renewable product which constitutes 15% of Enidiesel +. The biofuel will feed the Hera company vehicles for the collection of urban waste. In the experimental phase Enidiesel + will be used by some thirty large vehicles, in order to optimize the environmental benefit, in the Modena area.

The agreement signed today extends the virtuous circle already initiated by Eni with the multi-utility companies of Turin, Venice and Rome and whose tests have already demonstrated important benefits in terms of air quality, economic and industrial. In fact, compared to traditional diesel, Enidiesel + has a renewable component that reduces polluting emissions by up to 40%, saves fuel consumption by around 4% and reduces engine maintenance costs. The same technical improvement parameters deriving from the use of the biofuel will be subject to joint monitoring by the two companies, in collaboration with the CNR Institute of Motors.

To further support the initiative, Hera has chosen to enhance the collection of vegetable oils by introducing 300 new dedicated containers in the areas served. In 2017 alone, 800 tons of waste vegetable oils were collected, recovered and then processed to be valued as lubricants or through energy recovery. An increasingly widespread service which, by encouraging correct recovery, also aims to prevent behavior, such as the spillage of oils in the sink, which is harmful to domestic pipes and water purification plants.

“With the conversion of the Venice refinery, the first in the world to be transformed into a biorefinery, to which the Gela refinery will also be added in a few months, also remodulated to the organic cycle - comments Giuseppe Ricci, Eni Chief Refining & Marketing Officer - Eni has initiated that energy transition path that sees biofuels play an increasingly important role in the decarbonisation process of our planet. With the agreement signed with Hera, we add an important element to our concrete commitment to the circular economy and consolidate the use of waste, the frying oil, as an important raw material for the production of the innovative Enidiesel + fuel, in replacement of edible raw material. Thanks to the initiatives and agreements that Eni has developed following the agreement with CONOE (National Consortium for the collection and treatment of vegetable and animal fats and exhausted fats) and with its individual associates, today more than 50% of the used frying oil harvested in Italy it is transformed into biofuel in the Venice biorefinery, with obvious advantages for the environment and for the numerous economic operators in the sector”.

"An economy model is truly circular if it tackles the entire life cycle of resources, with real partnerships between responsible companies and citizens, going beyond the mere management of the terminal phase, ie the collection of waste, perhaps handed over to third parties - is the comment by Stefano Venier, Chief Executive Officer of the Hera Group - In this sense, Hera is committed not only to prolong the life cycle of materials, through recycling and reuse initiatives, but also to develop solutions and plants to transform the material in new products or obtaining energy, especially in the organic supply chain The agreement with Eni follows up on this orientation, identifying a new field of application in which we value the recovered material, contributing to decarbonisation and energy efficiency. A biofuel with an advanced environmental footprint and reused for waste collection is a perfect example of circular economy, which is inserted in the wake of the numerous initiatives that we have already started in this area”.