

Press Release

Bologna, 15 April 2019

Clean energy for IMAB thanks to the agreement with the Hera Group

The trigeneration plant that will be built by the multi-utility in Fermignano will increase the efficiency and sustainability of the production cycles, avoiding the emission of 750 tons of CO₂ each year, the same "absorbing" power expressed by a forest of 125 hectares in the same time frame. The primary energy savings are also significant, thanks to the high-performance standards of the plant

The Hera Group, one of the leading Italian multi-utility companies, has reached an agreement with IMAB, a historic national furniture manufacturer, for the construction of a trigeneration plant that will supply clean energy to the Fermignano plant, in the province of Pesaro Urbino.

The agreement was signed by IMAB with Hera Servizi Energia, the energy service company of reference for the industrial sector of the Hera Group, which over the years has built production plants, in cogeneration and trigeneration, for the main Italian industrial companies, employing the best technologies on the market. The new Fermignano plant will also be managed according to a logic of optimization and efficiency, with the help of a remote management and remote control system, active 24 hours a day, and emergency response.

The energy efficiency intervention made possible by the new plant will guarantee primary energy savings of around 17%, with an overall efficiency, in terms of energy conversion, of 64%. When fully operational, the plant will be able to express important environmental performance, avoiding annual consumption of around 440 tons of oil equivalent and the emission of 750 tons of CO_2 , equal to the absorption of a forest of 125 hectares. An environmental benefit comparable to around 320 diesel cars stolen from circulation.

Implementation, management and maintenance of the infrastructure will be headed by Hera Servizi Energia, which will invest a total of over one million euros, within the framework of an 11-year agreement.

As far as the technical aspects are concerned, the plant will have its fundamental core in a 1,000 kWe trigeneration plant which, thanks to complex mechanical and electrical connections and the installation of a cooling unit fed by hot water, will operate the thermal utilities and refrigerators of the plant. In fact, it will heat the entire body of the building and adjacent offices, as well as the summer cooling of two mechanical workshops serving the production. In short, a technological pole capable of generating electricity produced and consumed in itself, thermal energy in the form of hot water and cooling energy.

With this plant, IMAB will therefore be able to improve efficiency in the use of plant energy and bring benefits to the environment, orientation in line with the historic vocation of the Hera Group, always attentive to energy efficiency issues and developing its own business, together with those of the partners, in harmony with the ambitious path traced to 2030 by the UN Agenda.

"Energy efficiency is one of the axes on which the circular economy model is based, which the Hera Group has been developing for some time, addressing the issue of resources at 360 degrees - says **Cristian Fabbri**, **Hera's Central Market Director** -. As an energy service company, we



work in support of public and private bodies and organizations, backed by a wide and high quality service offer. We are pleased with the success of the agreement with IMAB, of which we will be a partner in this delicate phase of energy transition that the country is experiencing and which allows us to add excellence to excellence, adapting the energy profile of the plant to the absolute value of the product that is made inside it. "

Gianfranco Bruscoli, President of IMAB Group, comments: "It is no longer sufficient to worry only about the healthiness of the products that we know will enter our homes and will be in close and daily contact with us and our families. We need to work hard to ensure a healthy environment and we strive to do more because we know we owe it to the world, to our community, to our collaborators and to their families."