

February 2025

## Materials & Packaging

## Energy

## Waste Monetization



### Technology



#### [Viva Energy launched bio-based packaging material derived from used cooking oil](#)

Australian-based Viva Energy has produced a certified bio-based polymer from used cooking oil at its Geelong Refinery. The used cooking oil was sourced from Intersnack ANZ, which plans to utilize this bio-based material in its snack packaging.



University of Colorado  
Boulder

#### [Researchers developed new technology to convert waste heat into electricity](#)

Researchers at the University of Colorado Boulder have enhanced thermophotovoltaic (TPV) technology with an infrared-transparent glass spacer. Their innovation reduces heat loss and enables electricity generation at 1,000°C, unlike traditional systems that require 1,500 to 2,000°C.



#### [India unveils first automated biomedical waste plant](#)

India has inaugurated its first Automated Biomedical Waste Treatment Plant, Srjanam, at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). The plant processes waste without incineration and can handle up to 400 kg of biomedical waste and 10 kg of degradable waste daily.



### Regulation



European  
Union

#### [EU introduced Packaging waste regulation to curb environmental impact](#)

The EU has implemented a new packaging waste regulation to reduce the environmental impact of excessive packaging. The regulation includes measures to cut greenhouse gas emissions, lower water usage, and minimize overall ecological costs in the packaging sector.



#### [Ireland's proposed new rule for data centers](#)

Ireland's energy regulator, the Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU), has proposed new rules requiring data centers to provide on-site, local power generation and their storage capacity requests. They must disclose their renewable energy use and emissions data. Public feedback on the proposal is open until April 4, 2025.



#### [Indonesian government is preparing new regulations for waste management](#)

The Indonesian government has announced plans to draft a new waste management regulation to improve processing efficiency and address environmental challenges, replacing three existing regulations.



### Finance



#### [Pulpex secured grant to expand paper-based bottle production in Glasgow](#)

The UK-based Pulpex has secured USD 78 Mn in Series D funding to expand the production of its recyclable paper-based bottles made from wood pulp. The funding will support the establishment of its first commercial bottle production facility near Glasgow.



#### [Jordan secured funding from EBRD to enhance its electrical infrastructure](#)

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) approved USD 56.6 Mn to enhance Jordan's power grid infrastructure, including a new substation at North Green and four transmission lines to boost renewable energy integration and energy security.



#### [Empire Green secures USD 10 Mn for new recycling unit in the USA](#)

The West Virginia Economic Development Authority has approved an initial USD 4 Mn out of a total of USD 10 Mn in funding for the Empire Green Generation to develop a new recycling unit. The facility will use pyrolysis technology to convert 70 tons of plastic waste daily into pyrolysis oils.

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delfort 

#### [Delfort introduced improved paper barrier for food packaging](#)

Delfort introduced an advanced recyclable paper barrier (302) for food packaging with enhanced oxygen, moisture, and grease protection, such as plastic films. Ideal for snacks and frozen foods, it preserves freshness, prevents freezer burn, and works efficiently with both heat-sealing and cold-sealing machines.

 PennState  
University Park

#### [Harvesting thermoelectric energy from vehicle exhaust heat](#)

Researchers have developed a thermoelectric generator to convert vehicle waste heat energy into electricity. By utilizing bismuth-telluride semiconductors, heat exchangers, and heatsink, the system can generate up to 40W, enough to power a light bulb.

 NAGOYA  
UNIVERSITY

#### [Nagoya University developed a technique to convert waste into chemical and energy](#)

Researchers at Nagoya University have developed a method for converting organic waste into chemicals and energy through artificial photosynthesis using sunlight and water.

### Regulation



#### [FDA Postpones "Healthy" Food Labeling Rule to April 2025](#)

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has postponed the effective date of the final rule redefining the term Healthy in food labeling. Originally set for February 25, 2025, the new effective date is now April 28, 2025.



#### [Switzerland updates rules for rooftop solar, energy storage, and local energy communities.](#)

Switzerland strengthens energy regulations, set to take effect on January 1, 2026. Key changes include a tariff of CHF 6/kWh for solar systems up to 30 kW and CHF 6.2/kWh for systems between 30-150 kW. Additionally, energy communities can benefit from up to 40% lower grid usage fees.



#### [Indian Government amended Plastic waste management Rule](#)

From July 1, 2025, Indian PIBOs (Producers, Importers, and Brand Owners) must label packaging with barcodes, QR codes, or unique IDs for plastic waste traceability. Central Pollution Control Board will publish quarterly compliance reports, and non-compliance under Rule 19 will face legal action.

### Finance

 NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS  
INNOVATION CENTER

#### [NE-DBIC announced Dairy Co-Packaging grant in Northeast](#)

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) has announced a USD 1.1 Mn Dairy Co-Packaging Grant for 11 Northeast states. Dairy processors can apply for this grant to develop new or advance co-packing capabilities and dairy product availability growth etc.

 European Bank  
for Reconstruction and Development 

#### [Turkey secured grant from EBRD to enhance energy sector](#)

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) approved USD 9.5 Mn under the Clean Technology Fund to support Turkey energy sector by enhancing renewable energy and energy efficiency through solar and wind projects.

 ARENA  
Australian Government  
Australian Renewable  
Energy Agency 

#### [ARENA announced a USD 10.4 Mn investment in waste to fuel initiative](#)

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) has approved USD 8 Mn for Licella to convert sugarcane waste into sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and USD 2.4 Mn for Viva Energy to develop SAF storage and supply infrastructure at Brisbane Airport.