

## Is garbage just garbage?

Ever wonder where your garbage is headed after you drop it off on the curb? Just North of Montreal in Lachenaie, is where 40% of Montreal garbage is sent. But garbage is not just garbage; biogas is produced from the decomposing waste and within a year, this recuperated gas might be sold!

“There is no official signature yet, but from the technical aspect, everything is in place”, says André Chulak, coordinator at FBI (Federal Bureau Initiative) Canada, the enterprise that runs the site.

Since 1995, many collectors have been recuperating the methane gas released throughout the site. In turn, this gas is used to run four generators that produce 4 MW of electricity per year, the equivalent of the annual consumption of 2,500 homes. But not everything you toss out can be recuperated; roughly 75% is burned. However, with an investment of 32 M\$ into the processing of methane, this site could transform the biogas into natural gas capable of supplying electricity to the equivalent of 30,000 homes.

- Adapted by Tina Scardochio from *L'Itinéraire*

