



Befesa's industrial waste center in Nerva is fundamental to Huelva's industry and employment

- **Befesa presents its Environmental Declaration supported by the President of the CEA and the companies of the Polo Químico chemicals complex**

Huelva, June 14, 2012. Befesa's industrial waste management center in the town of Nerva is an essential facility for the functioning of the sector and for numerous jobs in Andalusia, especially in the province of Huelva. This message was also endorsed by the managers of Abengoa's environmental subsidiary and the business leaders that attended the presentation ceremony of Befesa's Environmental Declaration, which took place today at the headquarters of the Federation of Huelva Employers (FOE) in the city of Huelva.

The event was attended by the President of the Confederation of Employers of Andalusia (CEA), Santiago Herrero; the Chairman of Befesa, Javier Molina, as well as important representatives from the leading companies that deal with Befesa, most of which belong to the Polo Químico chemicals complex in Huelva, among others. Speeches were made by the President of the FOE, Antonio Ponce; the President of the Andalusian Institute of Technology and regional representative of AENOR, Remigio Carrasco, and the manager of the Association of Chemical, Raw Material and Energy Industries of Huelva (AIQBE), Juan Manuel Díaz del Valle.

In his speech, Javier Molina said, "The Environmental Declaration obtained by Befesa demonstrates our company's commitment to sustainable development". Juan Manuel Díaz del Valle, Santiago Herrero and Javier Molina all made the point that, "Befesa can guarantee, through its center in Nerva, the management of waste generated by the companies of the industrial complexes in Huelva and Palos, and helps to safeguard thousands of direct and indirect jobs in Huelva's industry".

Befesa, which is further consolidating its commitment to sustainable development through the publication of this Environmental Declaration, has managed an annual average of 420,000 tons of waste in Andalusia in recent years, of which the majority comes from the industrial complexes in Seville, Algeciras and Huelva. The company provides a fundamental service to Andalusia's industrial sector and this work is essential to maintaining the industry, helping to preserve employment for more than 18,000 people that are directly employed in these industrial centers.

Approval of the Environmental Declaration will help Befesa to consolidate its implementation of an environmental management system based on the UNE EN ISO 14.001 standard and its voluntary compliance with the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS II). The document presented today certifies that Befesa incorporates the principles of environmental protection and quality into the management and implementation of its processes and services. It has therefore implemented a system that enables it to control and mitigate all environmental risks, as well as instigating actions that enable continuous improvement based on the latest available technologies.

Befesa Medioambiente S.A., the international company of Abengoa's environmental services business group, principally operates in the sectors for steel waste recycling, aluminum waste recycling and the management of industrial waste. In the case of the latter, it has a significant presence in Spain and Latin America and is the Spanish leader in industrial waste management in terms of the volume treated, as well as being one of the main players in the other countries in which it operates (Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Peru).

In 2011 Befesa treated nearly 2.2 million tons of industrial waste with sales of €661.4 million, of which €242.4 million were in Spain, €323.6 in the rest of Europe and €95.3 million in other countries around the world. At the end of 2011 Befesa had a workforce of 2,312 employees, of which 215 belonged to units based in Andalusia.

Befesa has three industrial waste treatment plants in Andalusia; in Nerva (Huelva), Rimacor in Lucena (Cordoba) and Tracel in Guarromán (Jaen). It also has industrial cleaning units in Campo de Gibraltar and Huelva with a treatment capacity of 130,000 m³ of sludge, as well as managing municipal solid waste from Poniente Almeriense.

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