

Wrights

FARMING REGISTER

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Minister visits farm energy plant

LOCALLY grown oilseed rape crops are being used to produce green power for schools and other community buildings.

Secretary of State for Transport Geoff Hoon and Sherwood MP Paddy Tipping met with directors of Nottinghamshire green energy producer Phoenix Fuels for the launch of one of the UK's most sustainable and high-energy rapeseed-based pellet fuels for school, community and commercial buildings.

Phoenix Fuels senior director Jon Hammond explained: "The pellets are a co-product of the group's pure plant oil production, which offers a green fuel source for cars, lorries and buildings with a carbon value of up to 70 per cent less than mineral fuels.

"Our farm-based production plant in Rufford operates state-of-the-art green technology, developed in partnership with Nottingham University, to use all of the rapeseed crop for environmentally friendly food, transport fuel and energy."

Geoff Hoon said: "We have always been keen to encourage the use of alternative and sustainable fuels, and it was great to see the good work being done on our doorstep to achieve this."

■ www.phoenixfarmgroup.co.uk
■ www.greendragonfuel.co.uk



Phoenix Fuels directors Ben Guy, Colin Bower and Jon Hammond with Secretary of State for Transport Geoff Hoon and Sherwood MP Paddy Tipping launch the new rapeseed pellets. PHOTO SUPPLIED