



Green: the building on the South Bank

South Bank HQ of the bean counters will run on chip fat



Sri Carmichael, Consumer Affairs Reporter

A leading accountancy firm is in talks with a London oil refinery over a plan to power its new multi-million-pound offices on chip fat.

[PricewaterhouseCoopers](#) aims to make a quarter of the energy it needs for its HQ, on the South Bank near City Hall, from biodiesel the equivalent of 45,000 litres each month. And it is looking to get the oil from the kitchens of London's restaurants and hotels.

PWC is in talks with Uptown Oil, based in Southwark, which recycles waste fat from 750 venues, including [Marco Pierre White's](#) Steakhouse and Grill outlets in King's Road and the City.

The company, the only licensed biodiesel manufacturer in London also collects from the [Marriott Hotel](#) in Park Lane, Davy's wine bars in the Square Mile, and Tiger Tiger nightclub in Haymarket.

PWC's glass building in the More London complex, designed by Lord Rogers, will open next year. It has been identified as the most eco friendly in London under criteria from the independent Building Research Establishment.

Jon Barnes, head of building and facilities services at PwC, said: 'I'm trying to source used chip fat from local restaurants. It's a pretty pointless exercise using biofuel if it's been all round the world on a ship.'

PwC may also turn to water companies Thames and Anglian, which skim off waste oil as part of the water treatment process.

The [European Union](#) is set to limit all new buildings' use of fossil fuels to nearly zero by 2020. About 500 black cabs also use Uptown Oil, filling up from a forecourt by its refinery.

The biodiesel costs 105p a litre compared with an average 121p a litre for normal diesel.

Jason Askey-Wood, a director of Uptown, said: 'We want all of London's restaurants and bars to let us come and take away their waste oil.'



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