



31 July 2013

Update regarding fly issues in areas of Westbury

Hills would like to reassure the public that the company is taking this matter extremely seriously and has implemented the necessary steps to ensure that the operations at the Northacre resource recovery centre (NRRC) do not cause inconvenience to local residents or businesses.

Notable progress to control flies at the NRRC has been made and Hills can report that there has been a significant reduction in the number of flies present at the site.

Modifications and control methods deployed to ensure that the risk of flies at the site is minimised include:

- Routine fly spraying and fogging of the plant to target fly larvae and flies 'on the wing'.
- Modifications to the fly capture system including changing the light bulb colours.
- 4 mobile atomisers to spray mist barriers when doors are in use, and the filter on the in-built door mist system is being installed and commissioned.

Planned works to install a conveyor belt system as part of the commissioning phase, which meant that the plant was not able to receive waste for processing over the past weeks, have been completed and process equipment at the plant has been running since Thursday 25 July. Hills has been liaising with Wiltshire Council and the Environment Agency regarding the reduction of reported flies at the NRRC and is confident that the measures in place are functioning and effective. This means that the plant is able to resume operations and complete the commissioning phase which is due to end in September this year.

The Environment Agency and the Department of Public Health and Protection at Wiltshire Council are still working together to identify the source/s of excessive flies in areas of Westbury.

Hills has been hand-delivering and posting letters to local residents and businesses to keep them up to date on measures being undertaken to reduce fly numbers at the NRRC. Details have also been posted on the website www.northacrerrc.co.uk. In addition, the residents' contact number operated by Hills - 07747791386 - is still available should members of the public wish to contact the company on this matter. As a gesture of goodwill Hills will also continue to provide fly papers to those who request them by calling the residents' contact number. (Hills request that people do not arrive in person at the NRRC as it is a working site and not open to members of the public.)

The advice previously offered on ways to reduce flies in homes and businesses remains unchanged as follows:

- Promptly bag and bin food waste.
- Ensure bin lids are closed and if possible bagged food waste is double bagged within the bin to avoid the potential for flies to multiply (advice can be sought from Wiltshire Council via their website www.wiltshire.gov.uk - see section on pest control).
- Use of fly paper and fly sprays.

ENDS

Media contact:

Monique Hayes, Communications Officer, The Hills Group Limited

Tel: 01672 518941 monique.hayes@hills-group.co.uk



@HillsWaste



Hills Group

