

Minutes of the Northacre Resource Recovery Centre liaison committee meeting held on 14 May 2015.

Present

Wiltshire Council

Jo Riley (JR) John Carter (JC) Cllr J Wickham (JW) Cllr David Jenkins

Heywood Parish Council Cllr Francis Morland (FM)

Westbury Town Council No attendees

Westbury Dairies and Arla Foods

George Nicholls (GN) Brian Keir (BK)

Environment Agency

Paul Wilkinson (PW)

Hills Waste Solutions

Simon Thomas (ST) Ed Dodd (ED) Rachel Cann (RC)

Hills Group

Monique Hayes (MH)

	ACTION
1. Apologies	
Dean Thomas (Wiltshire Council); Cllr Prickett (Heywood Parish), Cllr S Ezra (Westbury town Council)	
2. Minutes of the previous meeting	
Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. Rachel Cann was introduced as the new site technician for the Northacre Resource Recovery Centre and is responsible for the environmental management of the site.	
3. Update on site progress	
Site Operations ST advised that there were no operational issues with the plant and confirmed that output rates of SRF were at anticipated levels. ST advised that additional outlets for SRF has been secured and the temporary stockpile of SRF on site would be cleared within the next 1-2 months. Temporary storage of SRF on site had been agreed with the Environment Agency. ST confirmed that there are no suitable outlets for SRF in the UK, however the proposed renewable energy centre on land between Northacre RRC and Westbury Dairies would provide a local solution. ST advised that there were no operational issues with the plant and confirmed that output rates of SRF were at anticipated levels.	

Environmental Compliance

Complaints

ST reported that 4 odour complaints had been received in relation to the plant, however on further investigation these had been found to be invalid and the source of the odour identified as not coming from the plant. This was verified by the Environment Agency who attended the site and undertook investigations at the time.

DJ enquired if there is a more scientific way of measuring smells, PW responded that such a system was not available for manufacturing plants such as the Northacre RRC.

PW confirmed that the odour management plan which Hills has in place for the plant was regarded as satisfactory by the Environment Agency and the plant was compliant with its environmental permit.

ST confirmed that people who complained about odours were invited to visit the site to view the operation and establish that the odour experienced was not emanating from the plant.

Pest control

ST confirmed that the fly management plan remained operational. ST advised that instead of installing an automated fogging system originally proposed, an alternative system was being installed in the next 6 weeks and this system does not require a shutdown period for maintenance.

JC advised that following reports of flies from local residents, inspections had been undertaken and both the Environment Agency and Wiltshire Council environmental protection officers had confirmed at the time to the complainants that the plant was not the source of the flies.

Plant shutdown

ED advised that an agreement had been reached with Wiltshire Council to have two 1 week shutdowns with the first due from 15-19 June. The second shutdown is scheduled for end September, exact dates to be confirmed. JR advised that during shutdown periods household waste will be sent to Lower Compton transfer station where as much as possible will be diverted from landfill. ST confirmed that odour managements systems and pest controls measures will be continued throughout shutdown periods and PW confirmed that environmental permit conditions will remain in force.

PPC Permit

PW confirmed that the application to convert the Waste Management Licence to a PPC Permit should be completed by the end of July and that this would have no impact on operations at the site.

4. Planning applications

Outlet for SRF / Northacre Renewable Energy

ED advised that Hills anticipated that the planning application would be heard at the July Strategic Planning Committee meeting of Wiltshire Council. ED confirmed that Hills had provided additional information to the planning department under Reg 22 and that this was part of the normal planning process.

5. Any other business

There was no other business.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 September at 4pm at the Northacre RRC.

All