

RUNCORN ENERGY FROM WASTE LOCAL LIAISON FORUM MINUTES
Tuesday 17th July 2018

		Action
	Attendees	
	Roy Griffin, Viridor (Chair) Mark Paterson, TPSCo Chief Operating Officer Alex Sutherland, Environment Agency Isobel Mason EHO, Halton Borough Council Andrew Plant, Principal Planning Officer, Halton Borough Council Cllr Alan Lowe, Halton Borough Council Grant Scott, Planning Manager, Viridor Carole Riley, BECG	
	Apologies	
	Cllr John Bradshaw Cllr Christopher Rowe Cllr Dave Cargill	
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	This meeting was convened in lieu of the proposed date of the 13 th June by the Operator .	Note
	Grant Scott was introduced to the LLF; attending for the presentation of item 6 on the Agenda. Carole Riley was introduced to the LLF; attending for the Operator in support of item 6 on the Agenda.	N/A
2	Review of Actions	
	Actions from previous meetings included;	
	a. Circulation of information from Halton Borough Council (HBC) on where the environmental fund had been allocated.	Completed
	b. RG to look into contacting Higher Runcorn Residents Association – Hylands Road area – Isobel Mason was to check the contact details. Cllr Lowe (AL) had contacted the Association, but not heard back from them.	Completed
	c. Mr Plant (AP) had asked for information on the rail logistics, which Cllr Rowe had raised as an issue under AOB at the last meeting.	Not Completed

	RG was to circulate the notes of the discussions regarding rail logistics.	
3	Operators Presentation	
	Roy provided a presentation from the operator including the dates of outages during 2018 to date and Operations data for the period. The presentation is attached for the groups reference.	N/A
	Cllr Lowe commented that the tonnage processed had been exceeded and the amount delivered by rail/road. RG explained that in 2016 the site applied to the Environment Agency (EA) as part of a trial to process additional fuel at the site.	N/A
	Cllr Lowe commented that at night there appears to be black smoke coming out of the chimney. RG stated that the plant does not produce smoke in this manner and that the discharges observed are steam only and that light refraction that could give the impression of a black emission. RG confirmed that there are no fluctuations on how the plant operates during day/night times which could cause the effect reported.	N/A
	Cllr Lowe asked about the nature of the RDF that is processed at the site. RG explained that all fuel for the plant had undergone some form of mechanical biological treatment (MBT) whereby recyclables are removed (plastics/metals etc). RG offered to arrange a visit to an MBT plant nearby for AL.	RG
	Cllr Lowe asked if the site records near-misses as well as incidents/accidents. RG confirmed that there are processes in place to report incidents on site including 'near hit' events irrespective of whether an accident took place or not.	N/A
4	Community Matters	
	RG provided information on application received by the Viridor Charity Committee totalling circa £1500 and announced the renewal of sponsorship arrangements for Runcorn Town Football Club.	N/A
5	Environmental Fund Update	
	AP reported that the Environmental Fund Committee Meeting would be held in the next few weeks and that payments had been made recently. AP to circulate an updated list of the Environmental Fund payments and applications.	Completed
	AL suggested some funding could be provided for a playground in Halton Lodge.	N/A

6	Site Development Activity	
	<p>RG explained that as the plant was completely commissioned, and the operators could use it to its full effect, it had been determined that the plant is more capable than originally designed and also returning better availability than design; meaning the plant is capable of processing more waste per annum than current operations.</p>	<p>Note</p>
	<p>GS explained that in consequence Viridor would be applying to HBC under Section 73 of the Planning Act to vary a condition of the original planning application that restricted the amount of waste that could be brought to site by road and that an application would also be made to EA for a new environmental permit.</p>	<p>Note</p>
	<p>GS described the nature of the applications and stated that the current limit of 480k tonnes of fuel delivered by road was assessed based on an estimated 386 HGV movements in/out of site per day. These amount of vehicle movements were considered to be acceptable on the road network, by highways officers during the appeal process. However, to deliver 480k tonnes by road currently involved only 216 HGV movements in/out of site per day. The variation would request that the number of vehicles delivering fuel to site is limited to 386 per day (in/out) rather than the existing limit on the amount of fuel delivered by road.</p>	<p>Note</p>
	<p>A revised Environmental Impact Assessment would be required as part of the planning process and would consider (amongst other items) the impacts of the proposals on road traffic levels, air quality, noise and vibration.</p>	<p>Note</p>
	<p>A newsletter would be circulated to households in Halton and Mersey wards in the next couple of days after the meeting, which explained the Section 73 variation process and the reasons behind the change. A copy of the newsletter was provided to all members of the LLF by email following the meeting.</p>	<p>Note</p>
	<p>Cllr Lowe observed that he would not be involved in the planning process and raised a concern that recent roadworks on Picow Farm Road had closed the slip road causing an issue for HGVs exiting from site to join the Expressway. He suggested that Viridor should make their drivers aware if any roadworks were being undertaken and that slip roads would be closed. AP said he understood the slip roads would be closed on occasion and that he would let RG know when this would be happening.</p>	<p>Note</p>

6	Dates and Times of Future Meetings	
	<p>Meetings are proposed on as below to start at 4PM.</p> <p>12th September 2018 12th December 2018 13th March 2019 12th June 2019</p>	TBC
7	AOB	
	There were no other matters arising.	Note