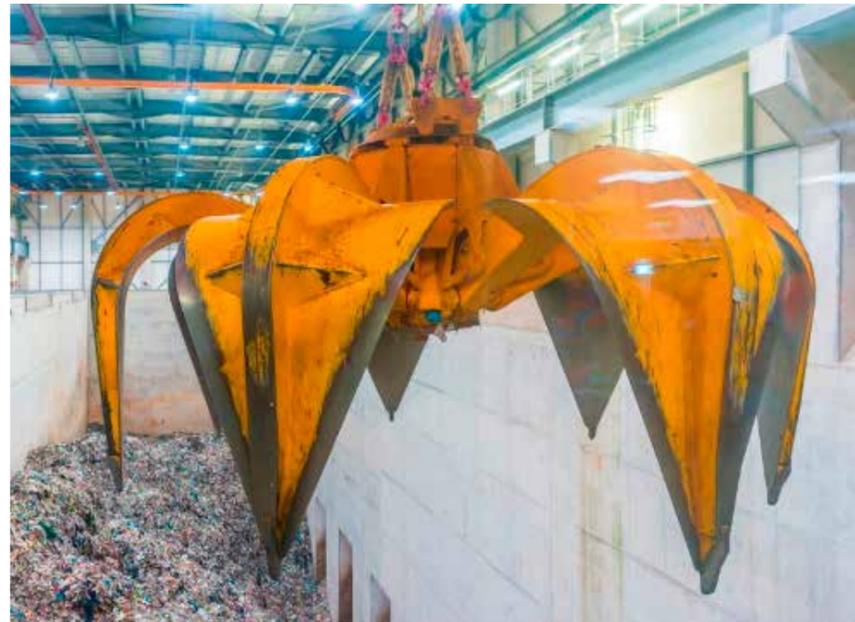


Runcorn Town FC

For the second season running, Viridor is the main sponsor of Runcorn Town FC.

As a community focused business, Viridor is proud to be able to support this local football team and hope to have a long and productive relationship with them.



Apprenticeship scheme

People are the lifeblood for any sector, but with the circular economy and low carbon goals of our industry, we look towards the best and the brightest to help drive our aspirations for our future development.

Apprenticeships are a fantastic way to gain valuable work experience, qualifications and can lead to a great job. Viridor offer a wide range of apprenticeship programmes at intermediate, advanced or high levels in different areas of its business.

Over 260 apprenticeships are currently registered across the company, including 8 at Runcorn. All apprentices are offered a wide range of training and career progression opportunities throughout their career, including apprenticeships in other businesses.

Viridor is currently working alongside EU Skills and other organisations in the industry and beyond to develop and deliver a series of trailblazer apprenticeships in waste management.



Contact us:

As a socially responsible local business, Viridor values the views of residents and businesses located in Runcorn, and in nearby areas.

Please feel free to contact us:

Online: www.viridor.co.uk/runcorn Email: RuncornERF@communityfeedback.co.uk

Freephone: 0800 169 5290 Post: FREEPOST CONSULTATION (no stamp required)

Our dedicated website will provide additional information as it becomes available over the coming months; should you have any specific questions regarding the project, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Viridor is preparing a planning application to revise one of the planning conditions at our Runcorn site and is also preparing an application to vary the Environmental Permit.

Our Plans

Viridor has been operating the Energy Recovery Facility in Runcorn since 2015, converting non-recyclable waste into energy and heat. The facility currently processes between 850,000 and 890,000 tonnes of refuse derived fuel each year; waste that would otherwise be sent to landfill. The fuel is produced from household and commercial waste, after recyclable materials have been removed.

Viridor is submitting a planning application to vary the condition that restricts the amount of fuel that can be brought to site by road. The limit currently stands at 480,000 tonnes per annum. Our planning application will ask Halton Borough Council to remove the tonnage restriction and replace it with a limit on the number of heavy goods vehicles that can deliver fuel to site. Whilst we propose to increase the amount of fuel delivered by road, it will not lead to an increase in the total number of HGV movements assessed and approved by the Planning Inspectorate in 2014.

This change will not require any construction work on site or any change in the operational hours of the facility. We will continue to process the same type of fuel that we have been using since the plant started running.

At the same time, we will be submitting an application to the Environment Agency to vary the Environmental Permit to increase the amount of waste that can be processed at the plant. The Environmental Permit places controls and conditions on our activities at site, and these are regularly monitored by the Environment Agency.

How energy recovery works

Energy recovery is a technology which uses non-recyclable waste as a fuel (burned at high temperatures) to produce steam. The steam is then used to drive a turbine and create electricity.

The process is efficient, robust and safe, and makes a substantial contribution to UK energy security and the transition to a low-carbon economy. Energy recovery technology is well established across Europe with over 400 facilities in operation, including city centre locations, such as Copenhagen, Paris, and Cardiff.

The impact that these modern facilities have on local air quality is negligible. Gases produced are carefully treated, before being released through the flue stacks. These gases are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by the Environment Agency to ensure they are within safe limits.

Next Steps

- A planning application to revise one of the conditions for the Runcorn ERF site will shortly be made to Halton Borough Council
- A separate application to vary the Environmental Permit will be submitted to the Environment Agency (EA)
- Once the applications have been submitted there will be a period for consideration and consultation by Halton Borough Council and the EA, before any decision is made
- A number of organisations will be asked their views, along with local stakeholders and near neighbours
- A traffic impact assessment will be submitted as part of the planning application. Highways officers will review this information and report their recommendations to the planning officers



Crane drivers

About Viridor

Viridor is one of the UK's leading recycling, renewable energy and waste management companies. Part of the FTSE 250 Pennon Group, Viridor puts waste into action, transforming it into high quality recyclables, raw materials and energy.

Viridor works with more than 150 Local Authorities making the most out of waste by delivering advanced recycling, composting, Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) management, Energy from Waste (EfW) treatment, waste transfer operations and landfill disposal services.

Each year Viridor transforms over two million tonnes of materials into high quality recyclate, and yet more into over 760 gigawatt hours of renewable energy (enough to power 330,000 homes). In total it safely manages over eight million tonnes of recyclables and waste materials for customers from all sectors across the UK.

Employing over 3,200 people, Viridor strives to be an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable business. All sites and services are operated under the Company's business management system incorporating the highest environmental, quality and health and safety standards.

Why make this change?

The Runcorn Energy Recovery Facility uses safe, environmentally sustainable, and reliable technology to divert between 850,000 and 890,000 tonnes of non-recyclable waste away from landfill each year. The facility generates up to 70 megawatts of electricity, enough to power the site itself and around 90,000 homes. In addition, it generates 51 megawatts of heat for use by the nearby INOVYN chemical manufacturing site.

Since becoming operational our team has steadily improved the performance of the facility, allowing us to treat more waste that would otherwise be destined for landfill and reduce the UK's reliance on fossil fuels. This has been done with the agreement of the Environment Agency for a trial period.

Due to decreases in the energy content of the waste, improvements, and fewer planned 'outages' for maintenance, the facility has the ability to process more waste fuel.

While there are no planning conditions restricting the tonnage that the plant can process and no limit on the number of HGVs that can visit the site, there is, a tonnage restriction on the amount of fuel that can be brought to site by road.

It is envisaged that the additional waste fuel would arrive at the site by road. Therefore, it is proposed that Condition 1 of the appeal decision is varied to remove the tonnage restriction of the amount of fuel that can be delivered by road; and replace it with a restriction on the number of HGVs that can visit the site.

There would be no other changes to the facility which would continue to comply with all other conditions incorporated in the planning consent and the Environmental Permit.

Benefits:

- **Fewer outages:** Fewer maintenance outages will mean fewer steam discharges during start-up.
- **Delivery flexibility:** By operating more efficiently and having less outages, Viridor will be able to offer customers better continuity of service. Rail deliveries to site would be unaffected.
- **Maximising the environmental opportunities:** By allowing the Runcorn ERF to operate longer, Viridor will be able to maximise the environmental opportunities that the facility provides to Halton and the wider community. Less waste would be sent to landfill and more waste would contribute to sustainable energy generation.
- **Employment sustainability:** The facility currently employs 89 people on site and provides full-time work for over 30 local contractors. Additionally, we take on two apprentices each year as part of our four-year apprenticeship programme.

Furthermore, by providing a more reliable source of heat to INOVYN, we can help them maintain their competitiveness by reducing their operating costs.

- **Viridor's Environment Fund:** For each tonne of waste processed by the Runcorn ERF, Viridor makes a financial contribution to an Environment Fund. The Fund is administered by Halton Borough Council and is set up to support local improvement projects. The fund has already paid over £2 million to support local causes and initiatives. Additional RDF treatment at the Runcorn facility will boost the fund even further and help Halton Borough Council to support more projects in the future. Recent projects benefitting from the Environment Fund include – improvements to **Runcorn Hill Park**, supporting the **community garden in Runcorn town centre** and air quality monitoring in **Weston**. Residents can also apply for smaller grants of up to £20,000 via the Viridor Credits scheme.



Runcorn ERF