

Preliminary works for EfW plant to start at North Yard Devonport

Following the formal issue of its planning decision notice by Plymouth City Council, MVV Environment Devonport is commencing the construction of an Energy from Waste plant at North Yard, Devonport starting with some preliminary works.

These early works are necessary to separate the construction site from the Naval Base and prepare the area before main construction begins. Works will include a new access road, underground electrical connections and preparation of an area, known within the Naval Base as Table Top Mountain, which is to be used during the main construction phase as a construction camp and equipment lay down area.

MVV are aware that there is talk of a challenge to Plymouth City Council's decision to grant planning approval but these preliminary works must be undertaken as planned in order to meet the project programme.

"We have worked hard with the Local Planning Authority to discharge all the relevant pre-commencement planning conditions to allow us to start the preliminary works in preparation for the main construction works", says Paul Carey, MD of MVV Environment Devonport. "From the very beginning, we will do as much as we can to minimise any nuisance from the works, and are committed to complying with the planning conditions set out by the Council Planning Committee."

These conditions are designed to protect the public and the environment and cover issues such as working hours and noise. MVV will use low noise construction plant whenever possible and implement a noise and water quality monitoring regime. The results of the monitoring process will be reported to the Council regularly.

Starting this week, the following activities will be taking place until June:

 MVV will set up an area in the existing MOD car park to house the site offices, welfare facilities, to be used as storage of plant and equipment and to serve as parking for the construction staff.

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- Vegetation and trees will be cleared to prepare the construction areas.
- The new access road to the site will be constructed along the northern edge of the existing MOD car park passing under the railway viaduct and up to the existing bridge. MVV will also erect noise barriers on the northern edge of the car park to minimise noise from vehicles entering the site.
- A signalised right turn will be created so that vehicles can enter the new access road after passing through the Wolseley Road and Weston Mill Drive junction. Improvements will include a new pedestrian crossing on the Camels Head entrance road.
- The Bull Point area of the Dockyard is currently accessed via the North Yard site. Therefore, a new internal Naval Base road will be built to the west of the site to enable continued access to the dockyard area at Bull Point from 14 Wharf.
- Construction sites like the one at North Yard need power supplied by a cable to minimise the need for mobile generators on site. This power supply will come from the MOD Bull Point substation via a high voltage underground cable.
- Various site preparation activities will take place. An area will be set up on Table Top Mountain which will be used for storing equipment, car parking for some construction staff and site offices during the main works phase, although MVV will not start construction on the main site before June 2012.
- MVV will carry out road safety mitigation measures at the Weston Mill Drive junction of the A38. This includes new safety signs and road markings and the renewal of existing high friction road surfacing.

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Notes to editors:

MVV Environment Devonport Limited is an English registered company with its registered office in Plymouth. It is the subsidiary company of MVV Umwelt. Both companies are members of German utility company MVV Energie, whose headquarters are in Mannheim. MVV Umwelt provides flexible solutions for waste disposal, producing environmentally sustainable energy. In Germany, MVV Umwelt operates six Energy from Waste and biomass plants, managing 1.6 million tonnes of waste a year. With over 45 years' experience, MVV Umwelt is in the top three companies in Germany in its field.

For further information, please contact Harry Hudson at Green Issues Communiqué on 01189 839455 or via email at harry.hudson@greenissuescommunique.com

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