

Devonport Incinerator Liaison Committee Meeting

Date: 16th October 2014

Tamar View Community Centre: 7 – 8:20 pm

Present:

Statutory bodies:

- George Wheeler – GW (PCC)
- Jane Ford - JF (MVV)
- David Mudge – DM (EA)
- Sarah Taylor – ST (EA)
- David Jarvis – DJ (MoD)

Resident members:

- Margaret McKee – MM
- George Cooke – GC
- David Angove – DA
- Steve Carder – SC
- Pamela Huson – PH
- Pat Patel – PP

ITEM		ACTION
1.	Apologies	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Turner (SWDWP)• Paul Carey (MVV)• Melv Chislett (resident)• Dennis and Sue Murphy (residents)• Harbour Avenue residents with pets (due to the storm)	
2.	Minutes from previous meeting	
	GW kindly offered to chair this meeting and two amendments were made to the previous minutes so that they included EA attendance and GW's role on this committee was clarified.	JF
3.	Commissioning activities	
	<p>JF described the four phases of commissioning and each was discussed in turn:</p> <p><u>Phase I</u> Due to commence in the second half of November and last for approximately 35 days. No waste will be incinerated during this phase but the boiler will be heated up using oil burners. The boiler will be repeatedly heated up and cooled down to expand and contract the pipes. This will cause any debris on the inside of the pipes to fall off. All debris is cleared from the pipes by blowing steam through them and this is necessary to protect the turbine. The steam is blown onto a special plate until it is clean.</p> <p>DM explained that a bespoke silencer has been fitted to the steam blowing vent but JF felt it important that residents are prepared beforehand as steam will be visible and there will be a noise like rushing air. Each steam blow will last for approximately 15 minutes and the intention is to do this once a day. DJ pointed out that this will be similar to other dockyard noises.</p> <p>PH asked whether the people conducting these activities need any</p>	

special qualifications. JF explained that each sub-contractor has their own commissioning team and MVV's own operational team will work with experienced colleagues from the parent company in Germany to oversee the safe commissioning of this plant. All staff will be suitably qualified and the plant must meet stringent quality standards.

GC mentioned the black smoke which appeared to be coming from the construction site during the week. JF confirmed that this was not from MVV's site as there are no open fires and the boiler has not been lit yet. DJ confirmed that the smoke was from a deliberate fire at Bull Point, within the dockyard. This is part of the MoD's weekly disaster exercise training, which includes firefighting.

GW asked how the public will be made aware of the boiler lighting and steam blowing activities. JF explained that the next Construction Newsletter is due to go out by post very soon. This will give an overview of the four phases of commissioning. There will also be a press release beforehand which will give a more definite start date. Subsequently, letters will be distributed for each phase, to the same mailing list as the construction newsletter, giving more details of activities, timings, likely impacts and mitigation measures employed. There will also be a 'Commissioning' section added to MVV's website which will be regularly updated as commissioning progresses.

Phase II

Due to commence towards the end of December and last for approximately 15 days. This phase marks the start of waste deliveries and firing the boiler with waste as a fuel. The steam circuit will also be tested during this phase.

GW asked how waste deliveries would be staggered. JF explained that there is an immediate switch from no waste deliveries to all waste deliveries. It is essential that the plant is commissioned on the same fuel as it will operate on.

PH reiterated a question she has asked before regarding financial penalties for the Local Authorities if they don't deliver the amount of waste predicted. It was acknowledged that this question should really be directed to SWDWP but JF explained that the waste prediction was calculated based on a number of factors, including increasing population (and therefore total waste) and increasing recycling. GW added that waste tonnages tend to fall during an economic recession and expressed some concern that figures such as gate fees and penalties were never made public.

It was noted that waste deliveries will commence just before Christmas and JF clarified the opening hours for the Facility:

Monday to Friday	08:00 – 19:00
Saturday	08:00 – 18:00
Sundays and Bank Holidays	10:00 – 16:00
Christmas Day	No deliveries/collections
Boxing Day	10:00 – 16:00

These opening hours relate to all waste deliveries both those from the Local Authorities and Commercial and Industrial customers, as well as to collections of IBA and Air Pollution Control residues.

Phase III

Due to commence in early January and last for approximately 40 days. During this phase the plant will begin generating electricity, with steam

	<p>being fed through the turbine. It was acknowledged that this phase is unlikely to have any significant impacts on the local community as activities are largely inside the buildings, although it does include the testing and fine-tuning of the emissions control and monitoring systems. PH expressed concern for the people currently working at Chelson Meadow. GW clarified that the HWRC will remain there and Viridor are in the process of constructing a new MRF (Materials Recovery Facility) there for Plymouth's recycling.</p> <p><u>Phase IV</u> Due to commence in the middle of January 2015 and last for around 15 days. This phase involves acceptance and reliability testing of the plant and there is the potential for variation in the timings. DM explained that MVV must demonstrate 15 days uninterrupted operation. If there is an issue on day 10 of testing, the 15 days start again.</p> <p>It was agreed that a further ILC meeting would be beneficial closer to the start of commissioning</p>	
6.	Any other business	
	<p><u>Low energy light bulb disposal + Hg monitoring</u> PH raised the issue of low energy light bulbs as she has been advised to wrap them in newspaper and put them in her residual waste bin. SC said that they no longer contain mercury (Hg) and DM suggested this advice may be aimed at her own safety in terms of not cutting herself. JF suggested that, if convenient, the local HWRC would be the best place to take light bulbs. Mercury is one of the elements that MVV have to report on and levels are measured by extraction samples. This means that a sample is taken from the chimney over a period of hours and sent away for analysis.</p> <p><u>Batteries</u> Batteries also contain heavy metals such as cadmium and JF explained that one part of her education programme is aimed at removing these from the residual waste stream. The plant has a sophisticated flue gas cleaning process which can deal with these pollutants but the aim of the education programme is to develop more responsible attitudes towards waste reduction in line with the waste hierarchy.</p> <p><u>St Dennis</u> DM confirmed that Sita's plant in Cornwall is due to become operational in 2016.</p> <p><u>Culvert removal</u> GC asked for some clarification of works in Barne Brake / Weston Mill creek. JF showed these works on a map, clarifying that the path along the edge of the two creeks on the residential side has not been affected. ST explained the EA's stance on culvert removal as a drive to get rid of reinforced concrete and restore natural waterways wherever possible.</p> <p><u>SWDWP/PPS attendance</u> It is hoped that both SWDWP and the council's Public Protection Service will be able to attend the next ILC meeting.</p>	
7.	Date of next meeting	

	Thursday 20 th November, 19:00 @ Tamar View Resource Centre	
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