

Pressemitteilung · Press Release

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MVV starts commissioning process of EfW CHP Facility at North Yard

Work at the Energy from Waste (EfW) Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Facility being built by MVV Environment Devonport Limited at North Yard, Devonport, has progressed steadily over the last two years. With construction almost complete, commissioning, as the final stage of the development, is due to begin next week.

During commissioning, MVV will demonstrate that the facility meets all safety, regulatory and construction requirements. Furthermore, the facility will be tested through a controlled and safe sequence of activities including a progressive start-up to achieve full operation. The overall commissioning process takes about three months and is monitored by the Environment Agency.

“This is a very important milestone in the development”, says Paul Carey, Managing Director of MVV Environment Devonport Limited. “During commissioning, we will prove that the facility can indeed do what it is supposed to do – turn waste into usable energy in a safe and environmentally friendly way.”

Whilst most of the activities during commissioning and testing will take place within the building, a few steps in the process will be visible and audible from the outside. During the initial period of commissioning using the diesel oil burners for the first time to heat up the boiler may cause some dark smoke to be issued from the chimney, not unlike smoke from an idling ship engine. This will be short-lived, while the fuel flow is adjusted.

Additionally, the boiler will be repeatedly heated up and cooled down again, causing the pipes to expand and contract. This will cause any debris left over from manufacture on the inside of the pipes to fall off. This debris is then removed from the pipes by blowing steam at high pressure through them until they are clean.

Steam blowing will cause a noise like rushing air, and plumes of steam will be visible outside at ground level, usually only once, but occasionally twice, a day, lasting about 15 minutes each time. Steam blowing will only be carried out during normal construction site working hours between 8 am and 6 pm. To further minimise disturbance to our neighbours, we have installed a bespoke silencer which will reduce the noise from this activity.

In limiting the time of steam blowing and using a silencer, MVV have taken every precaution to minimise the impact of the activities to the outside community. Additionally, the public and the neighbours of the plant at North Yard are regularly informed with a newsletter and letter drops, via the media and with latest news on the website www.mvvuk.co.uk.

Note 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.

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