

**NEWHURST ERF LOCAL LIAISON COMMITTEE (LLC) MEETING NOTES**  
**MEETING HELD 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 (IN PERSON AND BY TEAMS)**

**In attendance:**

Mr Mark Revill	Environment Agency
Mr N Hunt	Loughborough University
Coun. Christine Radford	Leicestershire County Council
Mr. Peter Cunnington	Local Resident
Mrs Mary Tappenden	Biffa
Dr David Best	Independent Facilitator
Mr. G Newborough	Local Resident
Mr. Jim Thompson	Encyclis
Coun N Bestwick	Shepshed Town Council
Ms L Hoelmer	Leicestershire County Council
Ms Jeannette Quirk	Encyclis
Ms M Raiment	Local Resident
Mr K King	Local Resident
Ms Helen Power	Environment Agency
Ms Ann Green	Charnwood Borough Council
Councillor M Hunt	Leicestershire County Council

**Apologies for absence**, Ms. J Hammersley (resigned), Mr P Wood, Mr Henderson, Coun. Grainger; Coun. Lennie, Gary Peters, Laura Bratby.

No communication had been received from Ms Gamble or Coun. Harvey.

**Disclaimer:** Membership of the LLC does not imply either support for, or objection to, the Newhurst Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) development. Rather it is an opportunity to facilitate the flow of information between the developer and local communities and vice versa.

---

**1. Welcome**

- 1.1. **David Best** (DPB) welcomed members to the meeting and in particular Mr Nik Hunt joining the Committee to take the seat vacated by Dr Yang.
- 1.2. A copy of the agenda and Mr Thompson's report will be available on the Newhurst ERF website in due course.
- 1.3. DPB stated that the meeting would be recorded to help prepare the meeting notes, but the recording would be deleted once these were approved at the subsequent LLC meeting. The transcript would not be published.

[The community engagement page of the site is here:](#)

**2. Previous Update**

The update provided by Encyclis for the previous quarter was noted.

### **3. Operations and Maintenance Update.**

**Mr Thompson** presented the O&M presentation update, using a slide deck which will be available on the web site.

#### **3.1 Key points:**

##### **Availability**

- During October – December 2024, the facility processed over 95,000 tonnes of residual waste that would have otherwise been diverted landfill and supplied over 86,000 megawatt hours of electricity to the National Grid for onward distribution.

##### **Performance**

- Across the whole of 2024 the plant operated at 92.5% boiler and 98.3% turbine availability across the year. This performance was in spite of requiring an additional shutdown in September to inspect grate and refractory tiles, and therefore the full years' results were ahead of availability targets due to exceptional performance throughout the remainder of the year and minimal unplanned downtime.
- The combined total outage days for April and September 2024 was 27.1 days.
- IBA and APCR volumes were below budget which evidences the overall efficiency of Newhurst, which produced less than the planned volumes of residues.

##### **Notifications**

- There were no reportable environmental notifications or non-compliances received in 2024.
- There were eight odour observations received and investigated in 2024 and details have been provided.

##### **Planned Major Outage 2025**

- 2025 major outage is scheduled for 23rd March – 6th April

This will include all maintenance inspections and repairs, along with a big push from KVI to close out existing defects in advance of the expiry of the 24-month warranty

- The current expectation is that the grate bars and refractory tiles will require an extended warranty due to changes in the original design
- During the outage, Doosan Skoda will also carry out a maintenance inspection of the steam turbine and Brush generator.

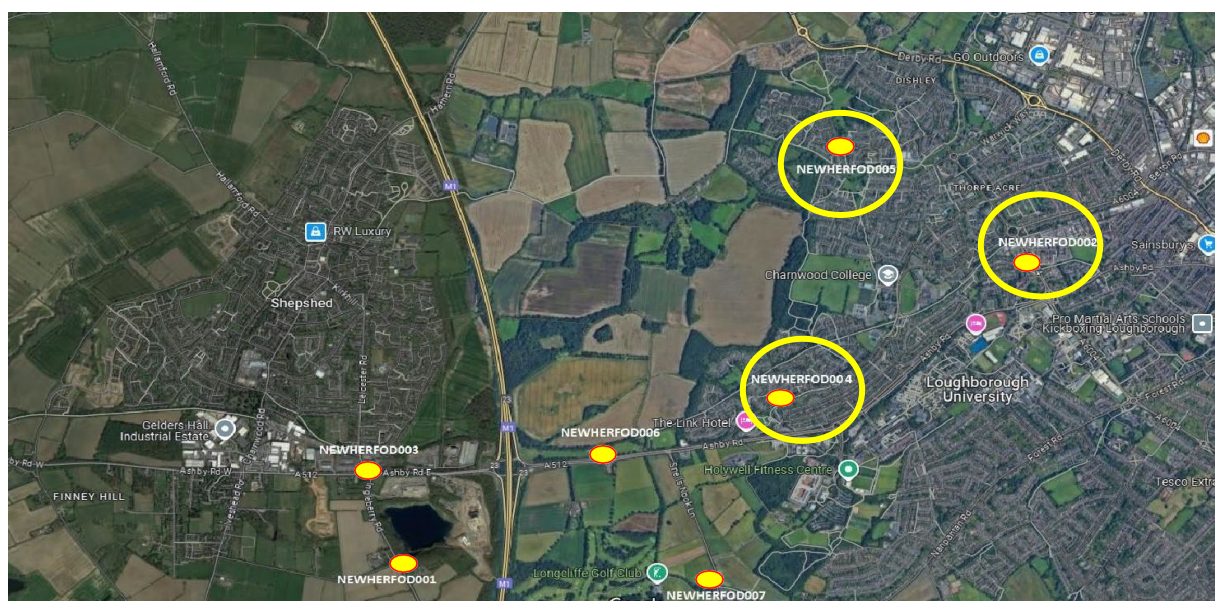
### 3.2 Monitoring and Reporting

- As above eight reports of odour were received in the whole of 2024, and three of these were received between October and December. These were:
  - 25th Oct - Near to Leicester Road, complaint regarding external surfaces described as an oily/greasy film. There were no plant or emissions issues at the time of the observation. Newhurst has 2496 filter bags providing over 8000m<sup>2</sup> of filtration area. The dust emission is low at 0.1mg/m<sup>3</sup> (the legal limit is a daily ELV = 5mg/m<sup>3</sup>).
  - 28th Nov - stack vapour reaching ground level on M1 junction and odour of burning plastic. The footage of CCTV showed that the stack vapour was normal and no odours on site, or emission issues on CEMS. Given the height of the stack and the distance to the reported site, it would be highly unlikely that vapour from the stack would be a ground level.
  - 4th Dec – plastic fume type odour in the area near Morrisons. Encyclis attended the location and made several stops in the surrounding area detecting one feint fume type odour.

Discussion took place on the possible sources of these odours. Ms Raiment reported that on one occasion from her house she had observed a garden bonfire in the adjacent area which appeared to be burning something resulting in dense smoke. Ms Green asked that this be reported to the authority at the time if possible.

#### Independent Odour Monitoring

As a result of the reports received the independent monitoring stations had been adjusted so that their positions were more closely aligned to the apparent sources of the odours.



Mr Thompson reported that Encyclis have engaged with a meteorologist who recently attended Newhurst to demonstrate a system called Plumecast®, which provides highly accurate real time plume mapping and post-analysis of events from an onsite weather station.

Plumecast® analyses wind speed, direction and turbulence to calculate the location of an airborne plume or can be used to pinpoint the location of an odour complaint and provide a potential source location. Mr Thompson stressed that Encyclis are committed to ongoing investigations in an attempt to identify the reoccurring source of plastic and fume type observations and malodorous complaints which are predominantly received from the Loughborough area.

**NOTE: The contact details for any reports of incidents are:  
Specialist Call Answering & Handling services.  
03331 887802  
Or email us at  
NewhurstEnquiries@encyclis.com**

**4. Planning Update**

**Ms Hoelmer, Mrs Tappenden and Mr Thompson** reported that they had met on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 for a planning monitoring meeting. They had gone through the planning conditions attached to the site and these are all being met.

**Mrs. Tappenden** that soil sampling in the area outside of the main ERF on land under Biffa's control had shown the soils to be alkaline, as it is within the main ERF area. The approved restoration scheme for this area is being tweaked and an aftercare scheme produced to satisfy condition 31 of the planning consent. This will be submitted to LCC for approval following landlord approval. The revised Ecological Landscaping, Management and Mitigation Scheme in respect of Condition 2 of the consent (for the main ERF area) has been revised and is with the landlord for approval. **Note:** this was submitted to LCC on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The aftercare of the landscaping will be required for a period of 5 years starting in 2025. Mr Thompson is investigating appointing a landscape contractor to carry out the aftercare on Encyclis's behalf.

**5. Permit update.**

**Mr Revill reported** that there were no permitting issues.

**6. Progress on Heat Offtake**

Jeannette Quirke reported that there was excellent engagement with Loughborough University and that the grant funding of some £90m into this area would facilitate the Newhurst Project as well. The project would begin in August 2025, with heat distribution expected to begin in 2027. Mr Hunt commented that this collaboration was a very good exemplar in this area.

**7. Questions**

An enquiry from Councillor Hunt concerned the recent change in the regulation of ERF facilities with regard to carbon capture and he had asked what the position of Encyclis on this issue was.

The meeting was provided with a statement from Encyclis as follows:

- Encyclis welcomes the latest guidelines from Defra on future Energy-from-Waste development in the UK.
- Through our industry bodies, we have been calling for measures to make sure the development of new facilities is carefully managed in order to meet local and regional needs for residual waste treatment and avoid a situation of over-capacity which is in nobody's best interests.
- We are also keen to ensure new Energy-from-Waste facilities are equipped to contribute to the UK's decarbonisation goals – by preparing for carbon capture and enabling district heat networks wherever possible.
- Both considerations were built into the development of Newhurst ERF. As with other facilities across the Encyclis fleet, we are exploring the potential to introduce carbon capture and working with local and national partners towards the development of a district heat network.

Most important of all is that Defra's announcement recognises the importance of EfW as a critical component of the UK's waste management infrastructure – providing an essential treatment option for residual waste that cannot be recycled, and recovering resources (electricity, heat, ash and metals) for reuse in support of the circular economy.

In discussion, **Mr Hunt** asked if the conversion factor of the amount of carbon from a given unit of waste was likely to change as a result of these new requirements. This was not known to members of the Committee.

**Mrs Tappenden** noted that a carbon capture system was included in the build of the Protos unit of Encyclis.

## **8. Date of the next update and meeting**

The next update will be by e mail toward the end of April. Provisionally on or about the 21<sup>st</sup> April. The next face to face meeting would then be towards the end of July or at a convenient time, subject to avoiding the holiday period.

**The meeting was terminated due to a fire alarm, and the participants vacated the building.**

## **9. Any other Business- post evacuation.**

Subsequent to the evacuation, **Mr King** submitted a question that he had begun at the end of the meeting, concerning the fire suppression systems. This has been submitted to the Company for **a response**.

**Members should also be aware** that Dr Hammersley has resigned from the Committee due to professional commitments. Soundings have been taken about her replacement, and this will be discussed at a future meeting of the LLC or dealt with by correspondence.

**Mr Revill also reported his retirement and that therefore this was his last meeting.** He was warmly thanked by numerous emails for his participation in and support of the work of the LLC.