

12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Cllr Hunt.

**Re: Construction phase update on the Newhurst Energy Recovery Facility, near Shepshed (Leicestershire).**

As you may be aware, the Newhurst Energy Recovery Facility achieved [Financial Close](#) earlier this year. This marked the start of a joint venture project between Biffa, Covanta and the Green Investment Group to develop a state-of-the-art energy from waste facility at the former Newhurst quarry near Shepshed.

As the Construction Project Manager and on behalf of the wider Project Team, I wanted to update you on the project's progress and to answer any questions you may have.

Strategically located just off the M1 motorway, the Newhurst energy from waste facility will be a significant addition to the UK's waste management infrastructure. Once the facility is built, it will support the Government's drive to both reduce reliance on landfill and the UK's ability to treat more non-recyclable waste without relying on export to European facilities.

The Newhurst facility will use proven technology to provide up to 350,000 tonnes of annual treatment capacity for non-recyclable waste and will also generate up to 42 megawatts of electricity. To put this into perspective, this is enough to power around 80,000 homes.

Importantly, the Newhurst facility will create over 300 jobs during the construction phase and will provide significant benefits to the local economy. Many opportunities will also be created for the local supply chain with a commitment from the project to purchase goods and services from nearby companies wherever possible.

Following Financial Close, Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI), a global leader in energy from waste projects, were appointed to lead the engineering, procurement and construction activities for the Newhurst facility and site.

On Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020, HZI will start mobilisation activities at the Newhurst site, which will see initial ground preparation works commence, alongside the installation of site safety features and construction welfare facilities.

However, in a time of Covid-19, it is absolutely necessary that HZI also introduces enhanced protection plans to ensure the welfare, health and safety of all site personnel, now and in the future. Fortunately, HZI has already built up significant experience of establishing Covid-19 protection plans at a number of live construction sites across the UK and in other countries around the world.

These site safety measures will apply to all Newhurst personnel from day one of the construction phase and will include temperature checks for everyone as they arrive on site and stringent social distancing measures, together with enhanced cleanliness arrangements and communications protocols. These measures, and others that will be deployed, are designed to ensure that the Site Operating Procedures fully comply with the latest UK Government and Public Health England guidelines. In short, our top priorities are the safety

of all operatives, our near neighbours and the environment throughout the construction and future operational phases.

We will separately be writing to all members of the Newhurst project's Local Liaison Committee (LLC) to advise them of the start of construction activities and to invite these members to future meetings. The LLC was originally formed by Biffa a number of years ago and proved a useful forum to discuss any matters in relation to the project and the Newhurst site. However, in the current period, it's likely that any LLC meeting will take place online and in virtual meeting room format, until the Government is in a position to safely ease vital social distancing measures.

Looking ahead and when your diary allows, we are keen to invite you to visit the Newhurst site to meet members of the Project Team and to answer any questions you may have.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact me to ask any questions you may have about the project or the construction phase activities.

Craig

**Craig Burdis**

Project Manager

Newhurst Energy Recovery Facility



Covanta Energy Limited

Mob: +44 (0)7958 193 973

Email: [cburdis@covanta.com](mailto:cburdis@covanta.com)