

The proposed Rookery South Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) Order

Development Consent Order submission (August 2010)

Introduction:

The following identifies the different categories of documents submitted to the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) by Covanta to support its application for consent to build and operate the Rookery South Resource Recovery Facility (RRF).

Covanta has produced electronic copies of the RRF planning submission in DVD format. The application has been saved on to seven individual disks, each containing a number of key documents necessary for this application.

Each DVD has been categorised (e.g. Planning, Consultation etc) and a brief description of the documents contained within each category has been listed below.

Where to view hard copies of the RRF application in Bedfordshire?

Covanta has made hard copies of the RRF application available to view free of charge at seven locations which are geographically close to the Rookery South Pit site. These include public libraries and council offices.

How to find out more about the IPC and register your interest?

If you would like to take part in the examination and hearings, you must register with the IPC. The registration phase starts on Thursday 7th October 2010 and closes on Friday 19th November 2010 (end of registration phase). For more information on the IPC or for details on how to register you can:

1. Visit the IPC website at:
www.independent.gov.uk/infrastructure
2. Call the IPC helpline on **0303 444 5000** and request a copy of the registration form
3. Email the IPC at
ipcenquiries@infrastructure.gsi.gov.uk
4. Write to the IPC (quoting reference number EN010011) at: The Infrastructure Planning Commission, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol. BS1 6PN.

DVD category and contents

Disk 1

Category: Formalities

1.1 Letter:

This is from Covanta to the IPC (dated 4 August 2010) applying for a Development Consent Order (the equivalent of planning permission) to build and operate a RRF at Rookery South Pit, near Stewartby in Bedfordshire.

1.2 Application form:

The application form identifies Covanta as the applicant and provides a brief non-technical summary of the proposals. It explains which documents make up the application.

1.3 Copies of newsletter notices:

These are the notices placed in local and national newspapers advertising Covanta's intention to submit an application back in February 2010.

1.4 Development Consent Order

This is a draft of the Development Consent Order itself which, once finalised, could form the 'permission' for the RRF should the IPC approve it.

1.5 Explanatory Memorandum

The memorandum explains the draft Development Consent Order (document reference 1.4). It also identifies those parts of the proposal that are nationally significant.

1.6 Statement of Reasons

The Statement of Reasons has been submitted because it is necessary to acquire land, create new rights over land and override existing rights for the project, if need be by compulsion. It sets out the compelling case for doing so.

1.7 Funding Statement

This is a statement to demonstrate that Covanta has the necessary financial resources to fund the works to deliver the Development Consent Order, including construction, the costs of acquiring the land and any payable compensation.

1.8 Book of reference Parts 1-5

This is a list of all persons having an interest in the land comprising the Application Site, be it as an owner, lessee, tenant, statutory undertaker etc.

1.9 Statement of Engagement of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

This identifies those areas of construction / operational works that may create a nuisance and the mitigation proposals to deal with it.

1.10 Grid Connection Statement

This statement explains how electricity produced by the EfW Facility will connect to the National Grid network. The statement also outlines the level of new electricity infrastructure needed to enable this to happen.

1.11 Heads of Terms

These are draft Heads of Terms for a potential legal agreement (called a Development Consent Obligation) between Covanta, O & H Properties (as landowners) and potentially Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough Councils. Discussion with the Councils on the draft Heads of Terms, which cover aspects like a Community Trust Fund, local employment and the Rookery South Community Liaison Panel etc, will take place over the next few months.

Disk 2

Category: Plans (2.1 - 2.35)

This section of the application submission contains 34 separate plans, which illustrate what the built development will look like; the extent of the Application Site; proposed planting, footpath and access designs, which relate to the site and Work Plans for the Rookery South RRF.

Disk 3

Category: Environment Statement

3.1 Environment Statement I

This document presents the findings of the environmental impact assessment process undertaken for the Project. It looks at the impacts of:

- i. Traffic;
- ii. Noise;
- iii. Air quality and health;
- iv. Landscape and visual;
- v. Cultural heritage;
- vi. Water resources
- vii. Ecology; and
- viii. Land.

It assesses their impact in combination and cumulatively with other major development projects in the area.

3.2 Environment Statement II

This document is an Appendix to Environmental Statement I, and presents studies and photomontages of how the Rookery South RRF will appear on the surrounding Marston Vale landscape. Images, graphics and photomontages are presented from a number of viewpoints to accurately represent how the Facility will look in the future. It should be read alongside the landscape and visual impact chapter of the Environmental Statement I document.

3.3 Environment Statement III

This document contains further supporting technical Appendices to the Environmental Statement I.

3.4 Non-Technical Summary

This is a non-technical summary of the Environmental Statement I.

3.5 Environmental Statement Supplement

This document contains additional environmental information relating to chapter 8 (air quality and human health) and chapter 12 (ecology and nature conservation) in the Environmental Statement, which has been revisited in light of work undertaken for the purposes of Covanta's application for an Environmental Permit for the Project.

Disk 4

Category: Reports

4.1 Report on Natural Features

This report presents an assessment of the predicted effects that the RRF will have on statutory and non-statutory sites, or features of nature conservation (e.g. wildlife habitats, protected species and other diversity features).

4.2 Report as to effects on European Sites

This report identifies any site near the RRF that may be affected by the proposed development and are covered by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. These are sites which are commonly referred to as 'European Sites.'

4.3 Historic Environment Report

This report assesses the predicted impact on the historic environment by the RRF.

4.4 Flood Risk Assessment

This assessment sets out proposals for the control and management of flood risk and surface water run-off associated with the RRF proposals.

4.5 Report on Natural Features

This supplement report confirms the conclusions of document 4.1, Report on Natural Features, in light of the Environmental Statement Supplement (document 3.5).

4.6 Report as to effects on European Sites Supplement

This supplement report confirms the conclusions of document 4.2, Report as to effects on European Sites, in light of the Environmental Statement Supplement (document 3.5).

Disk 5

Category: Planning

5.1 Planning Statement

This document identifies relevant national and local policies and summarises how the Project accords with them. It identifies the need for the development, how it compares to alternative sites, considers the conclusions of the Environmental Statement and weighs up the pros and cons of the overall Project in land use planning terms.

5.2 Alternative Site Assessment

This assessment audits Covanta's approach to site choice and compares the Rookery South Pit with alternative sites at other locations using a range of relevant planning considerations, for example access, within the Green Belt, flooding, and protecting wildlife etc.

5.3 Need Assessment

This sets out the level of need for residual waste treatment capacity to which the RRF will contribute. It identifies:

- i. where waste would come from;
- ii. the quantities and types of arising;
- iii. future levels of growth and recycling; and
- iv. what remains to be managed.

5.4 WRATE, Carbon and Efficiencies of Scale Report

This document considers three assessments; a WRATE assessment (a Life Cycle Assessment tool developed by the Environment Agency for comparing environmental effects of different waste management systems); a carbon-specific assessment; and an assessment of the environmental economies of scale.

5.5 Economic Statement

This statement assesses the economic impacts of the RRF development including: job creation, inward investment opportunities; the impact on local house prices over time and Covanta's financial contributions to the local area.

5.6 Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

This report should be read alongside the Environmental Statement as it is partially based on its conclusions. The HIA assists in determining the potential health impacts of the proposed RRF on nearby residents, including identifying inequality issues. It identifies ways to maximise positive and minimise negative impacts.

5.7 The Sustainability Assessment

This document provides a summary of the expected effects of the RRF on the environment, economy and society, and shows how it will support relevant sustainability objectives for the area. The Sustainability Assessment also considers the sustainability of the project as a whole, and for integrating sustainability considerations throughout the life of the development to enhance the benefits locally.

Disk 6

Category: Design

6.1 Design and Access Statement

The Design and Access Statement records the design process for the RRF over the last 20 months. It identifies the design principles and objectives, explaining how consultation has influenced the design approvals and detail.

6.2 Engineering Design Statement

The Engineering Design Statement explains how the:

- 1) capacity of the EfW Facility was determined;
- 2) the technology for the EfW Facility was selected;
- 3) the configuration of the EfW Facility was determined;
- 4) the building height of the proposed EfW Facility compare with other EfW plants in the UK.

6.3 Combined Heat and Power Development Strategy

This document demonstrates how the best use of energy can be made by having a Facility to deliver heat as well as power (i.e. CHP). This document identifies the opportunities to supply heat to local users and supports this with a defined strategy.

6.4 Rail Feasibility Report

This report sets out the opportunities for rail links at Rookery South Pit to deliver waste and explains why (at this moment in time) rail is not feasible.

6.5 Transport Assessment

The Transport Assessment reviews the accessibility of the Application Site and the issues associated with changes or increases to accessibility. This includes:

- Increased traffic (specifically HGV movements);
- Pedestrian access (footpaths);
- Cycle routes;
- Bus routes and stops near to the Rookery Pit; and
- Rail access.

6.6 Travel Plan

The Travel Plan details how Covanta will encourage alternative forms of travel to minimise the RRF's impact on local roads and the environment.

Disk 7

Category: Consultation Report

7.1 Consultation Report

This report describes the consultation process and how it has informed the Project. It sets out how consultation feedback influenced design; the environmental impact process; public health considerations and socio-economic factors.

7.2 Consultation Report- Appendices

These are the detailed documents referred to in the main Consultation Report (document reference 7.1).

7.3 Consultation Report Supplement

This report makes some clarifications in relation to the consultation process as described in Section 8.2 of the Consultation Report (document 7.1).

If you would like a full set of the application documents in hard copy, these can be ordered for a charge of £1,800. Further electronic copies can be ordered for a charge of £15 (full sets). Copies of individual documents are available on request. A charge may apply. Further details in relation to the Project and these documents can be found on the Covanta website www.covantaenergy.co.uk/site/rookerysouth

Where to view hard copies of the RRF application in Bedfordshire?

The Rookery South RRF planning submission documents and the accompanying plans, are available to view on the IPC website www.independent.infrastructure.gov.uk or by visiting any of the following locations during normal opening hours:

	Bedford Central Library Harpur Street, Bedford MK40 1PG1	Amphill Library, Dunstable Street, Amphill, Bedford MK45 2NL	Wootton Library, Lorraine Road, Wootton MK43 9LH
Monday	9:00 - 6:00	10:00 - 6:00	2:00 - 6:00
Tuesday	9:00 - 6:00	Closed	Closed
Wednesday	9:00 - 6:00	10:00 - 6:00	10:00 - 1:00 and 2:00 - 6:00
Thursday	9:00 - 1:00	2:00 - 6:00	Closed
Friday	9:00 - 6:00	10:00 - 6:00	2:00 - 6:00
Saturday	9:00 - 5:00	10:00 - 1:00	10:00 - 1:00
Sunday	Closed	Closed	Closed

	Bedford Borough Council Town Hall, St Paul's Square Bedford MK40 1SJ	Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ	Marston Vale Forest Centre Marston Vale Millennium Country Park, Station Road Marston Moretaine, Bedford MK43 0PR
Monday	8:45 - 5:00	8:30 - 5:00	10:00 - 5:00
Tuesday	8:45 - 5:00	8:30 - 5:00	10:00 - 5:00
Wednesday	8:45 - 5:00	8:30 - 5:00	10:00 - 5:00
Thursday	8:45 - 5:00	8:30 - 5:00	10:00 - 5:00
Friday	8:45 - 4:45	8:30 - 4:00	10:00 - 5:00
Saturday	9:00 - 1:00	Closed	10:00 - 5:00
Sunday	Closed	Closed	10:00 - 5:00

In addition, the planning submission documents are available for inspection by appointment only at the Covanta Energy Bedfordshire offices in Eversholt (Unit 7, Water End Barns, Eversholt, Milton Keynes, MK17 9EA). To book an appointment, please email rookerysouth@covantaenergy.co.uk or call **0844 967 1101**. Office opening hours are from Monday to Friday between 9:30am to 4:30pm.