

1 *RESPONSE TO CLP COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR ACTION*

1.1 *COMMENT FROM THE CLP*

The higher levels of pollutants to the North East of the site matches information from the Met Office about the prevailing winds in the area – it is important that levels continue to be monitored by the continuous monitoring station at Stewartby rather than the Forest Centre otherwise the monitoring will miss the most affected area.

Action Covanta to review the siting of the diffusion tube to place it back in the north east direction

1.2 *RESPONSE*

There are a couple of issues that need to be addressed regarding these comments and actions. The first is to state that in the last line, this should refer to the continuous monitor, not the diffusion tube being relocated to the north east direction.

At the present time Covanta are undertaking a baseline air quality survey in the vicinity of the proposed facility. This has various elements as summarised below:

- 1) In June 2008, 19 diffusion tube were deployed in the surrounding area monitoring ambient concentrations of nitrogen dioxide a key pollutant associated both with vehicle emissions and stack emissions.
- 2) In July 2009, this survey was expanded to 26 sites to include additional locations to the northeast of the proposed facility (reflecting the prevailing wind direction) and also to monitor pollutant concentrations at sensitive ecological receptors. At this point, in addition to nitrogen dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and sulphur dioxide were also included in the survey. Three additional diffusion tubes were also co-located alongside the continuous monitor, for the purposes of validating the diffusion tube results.
- 3) In July 2009, a continuous monitor was set up in Stewartby monitoring nitrogen dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, PM₁₀, PM_{2.5} wind speed and wind direction. This location is close to the predicted point of maximum long term exposure, predicted by the dispersion modelling.
- 4) In June 2010, the diffusion tube survey was revised to twenty locations. Eight sites were discontinued, these being mainly roadside sites, those associated with habitats or those furthest from the facility. Four sites were moved to better reflect human exposure locations. Two new sites were commissioned, in Wixams and Wilstead.

- 5) In June 2010, the continuous monitor was moved. Initially it was proposed that this would be to the Forest Centre, however due to power supply issues, it is proposed that this may instead be moved to Millbrook. This is currently awaiting confirmation.

The baseline survey is designed to identify the variation in pollution concentrations throughout the area surrounding the proposed facility. Whilst it is acknowledged that Stewartby Village is the key monitoring location as this is the location which would be downwind for the greatest percentage of the year, other locations will also, periodically, be downwind and therefore it is also appropriate to collect baseline monitoring data from locations other than Stewartby if possible. The placing of the continuous monitor at another location besides Stewartby provides a better reflection of short term variations in the baseline pollution that cannot be identified from the diffusion tube monitoring, and also variations across the area surrounding the proposed facility. This is an important consideration as it is useful to identify whether there are locations where there are particularly elevated baseline pollution concentrations. On this basis, both Millbrook and the Forest Centre are appropriate for monitoring as at periods throughout the year they will be downwind of the proposed facility, albeit less than Stewartby.

With regard to the continuous monitoring that was undertaken in Stewartby, this provided a good dataset with excellent data capture for all monitored parameters. The diffusion tube survey has also provided a good dataset with only a small number of missing results, usually because of missing tubes.