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Your Ref: K197.1~03~001
Date: 30 October 2014

My Ref: C/5/2014/5011
Tel No: (01603) 223318
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Dear Mr Hirst

Morton on the Hill: Atlas Works, Norwich Road, Lenwade, Norfolk: Request for an EIA Screening Opinion for a Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) production facility:

I refer to your letter of 14 October 2014 in which you have sought clarification as to whether a revised proposal that was previously the subject to a Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Opinion in December 2013, would still no longer require an EIA.

As stated in the original Screening Opinion provided by the County Council (letter of 16 December 2013), the proposed site forms part of WAS 78 that is an allocation within the County Council's adopted Waste Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) (2013).

You have confirmed that the proposal would still have capacity to deal with circa 200,000 tonnes of mixed municipal and similar commercial industrial waste streams per annum, which would be processed into RDF and recyclable fractions. Furthermore, although altered, the equipment for production of RDF would be of a similar design and nature in terms of noise emissions, process capability and capacity, to that previously proposed.

However you have outlined in your letter a number of changes proposed from the original scheme, namely:

- All waste treatment would take place within the existing buildings;
- A separate internal area will be made available for the acceptance of household waste;

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- Odour and dust control systems would be incorporated into the existing infrastructure;
- The external drying area proposed in the initial Screening Report would no longer form part of the proposal;
- Wrapped bales would be stored outside of the building;
- A small area within the building would be used for the acceptance and bulking of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment.

The development as amended would still fall into Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations, paragraph 11(b): *Installations for the disposal of waste*.

The site is not the subject of any statutory designations and is not within a 'sensitive area' in the context of the EIA Regulations. It is however circa 215 metres away from the River Wensum Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Alderford Common SSSI is also just over 1.3 kilometres to the north east.

Having had full regard to the original Screening Opinion of 16 December 2013 held on file reference C/5/2013/5012, it is considered that the characteristics of the amended proposal and of the potential impacts would not be significant.

I am therefore of the view that the development as amended is not one that which is considered to have significant effects on the environment in the context of the Town and County Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, and therefore the proposed development will not require an Environmental Impact Assessment to be undertaken.

As stated in my original letter, notwithstanding the above, it is expected that an application should contain sufficient information to allow it to be fully assessed, including information requirements detailed in the County Council's adopted Local List, with particular regard to those issues highlighted in Policy WAS 78 of the Waste Site Allocations DPD including the impact on the highway network, local landscape and amenity.

Specifically this would include the following documents:

- Arboricultural Impact Assessment (if trees are impacted);
- Biodiversity Survey (with regard given to the River Wensum SAC);
- Dust Assessment;
- Flood Risk Assessment (if the site exceeds 1 ha);
- Hydrological /Hydrogeological Risk Assessment;
- Land Contamination Assessment;
- Landscaping and Visual Impact Assessment & Landscaping Scheme (with regards given the Marriott's Way);
- Noise Assessment;

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- Planning Statement;
- Sustainability Statement (giving regard to NMWDF Core Strategy Policy CS13: *Climate change and renewable energy generation*);
- Transport Assessment (including provision of suitable access to the A1067);
- Statement of Community Involvement (this will be required along with appropriate engagement with the local community prior to submission of the application).

I hope the above satisfactorily addresses the questions raised in your letter however if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01603 223318.

Yours sincerely

R. Cox

**Ralph Cox MRTPI
Principal Planner (Development Control)**