

## REPORT TO PICKMERE PARISH COUNCIL

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

### AGENDA ITEM 9.6 – LOSTOCK SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PLANT (LSEP) – PROPOSAL TO VARY PERMISSION

#### 1. Report

- 1.1 An application has been received by the Secretary of State for Energy for a variation to the consent (effectively the planning permission) for this project. **The following information, and that contained in the Appendix, has been taken from the Company's website.**
- 1.2 *The plant is currently under construction following consent being granted in 2012 under Section 36 of the Electricity Act. The facility will export 69.9MW of sustainable energy from the residual waste remaining once recycling has taken place. The Company is proposing to apply to the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to vary the Section 36 consent to enable them to deal with more waste while remaining within the currently approved power generation capacity.*
- 1.3 *It is proposing to increase the amount of residual waste that the facility is permitted to take, meaning that it can divert an additional **128,000 tonnes** of waste a year from landfill and generate more sustainable energy. Its plans would not alter the currently approved buildings or structures, but would enable the use of the facility that is already being built to be maximised.*
- 1.4 *The increased throughput will result in a higher number of vehicle movements to and from the site, and more flexible hours for waste deliveries are required. Some detail on these proposed changes is included as an appendix to this report. As part of the application to vary the consent, the Company will undertake an environmental impact assessment which will look at the potential impact of the proposals on the environment. This will include updated transport and air quality assessments.*
- 1.5 *The Company needs to seek approval for the proposed changes to the planning consent through an application submitted to the Secretary of State for BEIS, following this period of pre-application consultation. (For more information on how you can have your say during the pre-application consultation visit the Company's [Have your say page](#).) The Company expects to submit an application to BEIS in Summer 2021.*
- 1.6 *After the application is submitted it will be published on LSEP's website and there will be another period of consultation where interested parties can submit their comments directly to the Secretary of State for BEIS.*

#### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That members note the report and comment as appropriate.

## APPENDIX

*With regard to the road only waste delivery scenario, the LSEP proposal as originally promoted, and as set out in the 2010/11 application documents, had a very simplistic HGV movement profile. All imports and exports were assumed to occur during a 12-hour window on weekdays, and in 20 tonne payloads. Movements were assumed to take place evenly over 286 days per year, which is six days per week (taking into account Bank Holidays and non-operational days).*

*In practice, the HGV movement profile will be more complex than envisaged a decade ago. HGV payloads will vary depending on the material being carried and the vehicle type. This includes planning for direct deliveries from local sources, for example in Cheshire, in refuse collection vehicles (RCVs). RCVs are smaller than conventional bulk transfer HGVs and carry around one third the quantity of waste. Thus, where RCVs might be used for waste deliveries, the total number of vehicle delivery movements will increase.*

*The average maximum weekday HGV delivery numbers need to have the flexibility to increase from **131** arrivals per day to up to potentially **217** arrivals, albeit spread over a wider 16-hour delivery window.*

*This is because of several factors:*

- An increase in total waste tonnage, and proportional increases in ash export and operational consumables*
- RCV deliveries, as well as HGV deliveries*
- Potentially limited delivery numbers on Saturdays (and other daily variation in deliveries)*
- A greater number of non-operational days.*

*The Company hopes the maximum number is unlikely to be seen on a daily basis, but taking the foregoing operational factors into account, LSEP states that it requires this level of flexibility.*

J Steel

Clerk to the Parish Council