

28th March 2011

Sue Penaluna
Devon County Council
Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QD



Our Ref: 402.0036.00350

Your Ref: DCC/2975/2010

Dear Mrs Penaluna

Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999: Regulation 19 Request for additional information.

Application Reference DCC/2975/2010

Development of the New England Resource Recovery Centre, near Lee Mill, Devon, to include an Energy from Waste facility with a capacity of 275,000 tonnes per annum of residual Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I) with bottom ash recycling, a non hazardous landfill; and associated visitor centre, ancillary offices, welfare, parking facilities, weighbridge/wheel wash; also new access road linking into the A38 at Lee Mill with new river crossing over River Yealm and associated aftercare and landscaping improvements across the whole site with associated woodland management plan.

I refer to your letter dated 22nd March in respect of landscape/photomontage issues.

Photomontages

It is confirmed by my Landscape Architect that the latest set of photomontages (submitted January 2011), including updates to the building design, supersede the original montages. Some small issues have been corrected by the use of additional data to locate the proposed building within the landform – namely the use of detailed information on pylons and their heights (as shown on wireframes). Where any doubt exists in terms of building position we try and work to the worst case scenario so effects are not underplayed. This was the case with Viewpoint B in the original photomontages where we placed the building higher. The additional work undertaken during the Regulation 19 submission has enabled us to fine tune the building position in the various photomontages to a greater degree of accuracy.

Proposed planting is generally shown at a height of 5m in our photomontages. However in the case of this scheme, planting has not generally been shown on the photomontages as existing encircling vegetation would be taller, and any new 5m tall planting would thus not be visible. The two exceptions to this are Viewpoints I and J (LSI/47 and LSI/48) where the angle of view allows the existing quarry areas to be visible.

Please note the vegetation shown at the base of the building in Figure LSI/44 – Viewpoint C is existing vegetation/woodland located at Strashleigh Hams and is shown on the existing photograph.

The vegetation shown at the base of the building on the montage from Viewpoint J (Figure LSI/48) is an error. After the building was added to the photograph existing vegetation was added back in front of the building, however this vegetation would actually be behind the building from this viewpoint. An amended version of Viewpoint J (Figure LSI/48) is attached. This does not affect the position or apparent height of the EfW development in the montage, but does affect how much of the lower sections of the dome and ancillary buildings that will be visible from this viewpoint.

In the case of Viewpoint I (LSI/47) the new green field shown below and to the left of the main EfW building is the restored landfill surface, with planting adjacent to the EfW show at 5m height. In reality this planting will be much taller by the time the landfill is restored, but showing it at 5m illustrates how much of the development will generally be visible

Members’ Site Visit

Calculation of viewing distance and image height are carried out as shown below, using a 35mm focal length digital lens (which is the equivalent of a 52.5mm optical 35mm format lens).

NIKON D90

Enter Required Viewing Distance (mm)	300.000000	500.000000
Enter Focal Length of Camera (mm)	35.000000	35.000000
Magnification Factor (this is the figure that the negative/sensor size is multiplied by to give the print size and is calculated by dividing the viewing distance by the focal length)	8.571429	14.285714
Height of Image Sensor (mm)	15.800000	15.800000
Width of Image Sensor (mm)	23.600000	23.600000
Height of Final Print for set Viewing Distance (mm)**	135.428571	225.714286
Width of final single frame or Height of single final frame IF IN PORTRAIT FORMAT	202.285714	337.142857

The images shown in the various photographs submitted have all been scaled to have a 202.29mm height, the images are then subsequently trimmed to fit the A3 format of the drawing without altering their scale.

The scale factor for a 500mm viewing distance is 337.14mm. The figure 337.14 divided by 202.29 gives a ratio of 1.667, 500mm divided by 300mm gives the same result. Thus the enlargement factor needed to increase the viewing distance of the photographs/montages from 300mm to 500mm is 166.7%.

I can confirm that a sample of the proposed roofing material will be made available for the Site Visit on April 13th.

Yours sincerely

for SLR Consulting Limited

P.P. S. Upshul

Will Ryan

Principal

wryan@slrconsulting.co.uk

cc H. Ellard, Viridor Waste Management Limited;
M. Hinde, Devon County Council;
M. Jones, SLR Consulting (email only).

Encs.