

CHARLTON LANE ECO PARK NEWSLETTER

MAY 2013



Artist's impression of approved Eco Park design

SITA Surrey is working on behalf of Surrey County Council to develop an Eco Park at Charlton Lane, Shepperton.

In March 2012, SITA Surrey was granted planning permission to develop an Eco Park at Charlton Lane, Shepperton on behalf of Surrey County Council.

Over the last year, we have been working hard to fulfil the conditions attached to the planning permission and to select a building contractor for the Eco Park so that we can move forward with the project.

As this has taken longer than anticipated and there are still a number of tasks we need to complete before construction can begin, we wanted to provide an update on progress to date and what will be happening over the coming months.

The Eco Park will provide facilities to treat waste from households in northern Surrey. It will divert as much of their waste as possible away from landfill by treating it as a resource that can either be sent for recycling to create new products or used as a fuel to generate energy. The Eco Park will comprise:

- A gasification facility with pre-treatment to process up to 55,000 tonnes of household waste per year.
- An anaerobic digestion facility (AD) to process 40,000 tonnes of food waste per year.
- A recyclables bulking facility.
- Further improvements to the existing community recycling centre, including the addition of a reuse centre.
- A visitor and education centre which will aim to inspire and motivate children and adults to change the way they think about waste.



working on behalf of



SITA Surrey is responsible for operating 15 community recycling centres and four waste transfer and bulking facilities on behalf of Surrey County Council.

THE ECO PARK'S GASIFICATION FACILITY

The original supplier of the Eco Park's gasification facility ceased trading last year so we needed to find an alternative. Following a review of gasification technology suppliers in the market and a tendering process, we have selected a new contractor to build the Eco Park and to supply the gasification and anaerobic digestion process technology.

The external design of the Eco Park's gasification building remains largely the same, with changes to the roof vents shown in the artist's impression on the previous page. The equipment within the building will change to reflect the new supplier's gasification process.

This process is known as fluidised bed gasification:

- Prior to gasification, up to 55,000 tonnes of waste a year will be mechanically sorted to remove recyclable materials such as metals and items unsuitable for the process. The remaining waste will be shredded into pieces of a similar size to create a refuse derived fuel (RDF). This is known as pre-treatment and will enable additional recovered materials to be sent for recycling.
- This fuel is fed into a chamber with reduced oxygen levels where it is suspended in a bed of hot sand and heated to temperatures above 700 degrees but not set on fire, to produce a gas.

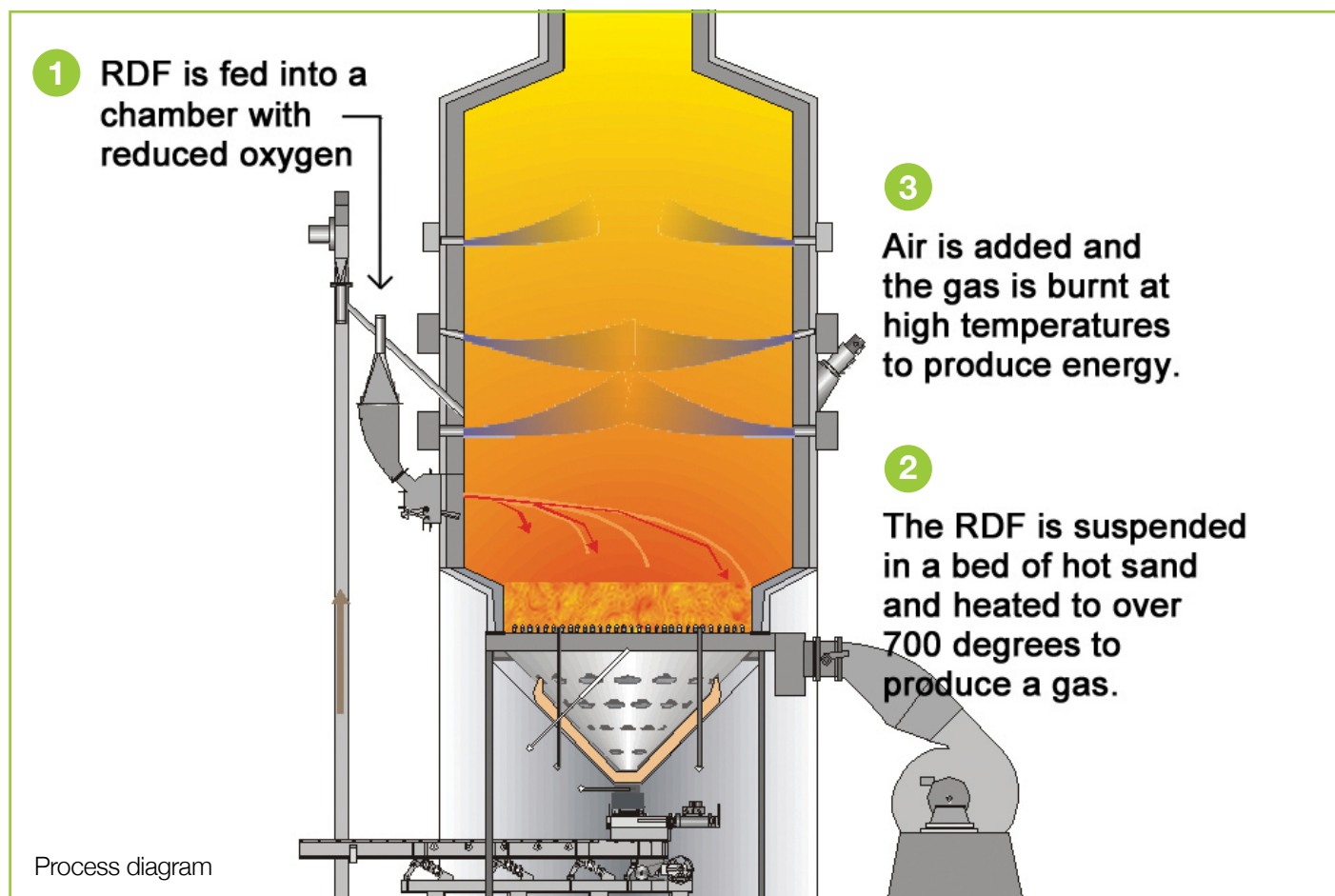
- This gas (known as synthesis gas or syngas) rises towards the upper part of the chamber.
- Here air is added and the gas is burnt at high temperatures to provide energy in a similar way to natural gas.
- The gases from the combustion of the syngas go through a multi stage clean up process before being released through the chimney.

We need to make some changes to our planning permission and environmental permit to accommodate the new process and propose to submit applications for these changes over the summer.

TRAFFIC

We are revising our traffic assessment to take account of the new gasification process and also to allow road sweepings to continue to be brought to Charlton Lane when the Eco Park is developed (road sweepings are currently bulked at the site and sent for recycling).

HGV traffic at the site will still be reduced when compared to the current use. Our initial calculations indicate that, when compared to the traffic assessed for the approved Eco Park, there will be a slight increase in HGV traffic on weekdays and a slight reduction in HGV traffic at weekends. We will provide further detail as our work on traffic progresses.





THE ECO PARK'S ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITY

The Eco Park's anaerobic digestion facility will treat food waste separated by householders.

We are currently in the detailed design phase for the anaerobic digestion facility, and as a result our applications to vary the Eco Park's planning permission and environmental permit will include some minor modifications to its design. These are:

- Changing the gas engines from one large and one small gas engine to two equal sized engines;
- Increasing the height of the bund around the anaerobic digestion tanks by 1.4m;
- Introducing separate electricity substations for the anaerobic digestion and gasification facilities;
- Changing the position of the gas holder;
- Adding extra equipment to control odours.

Reducing bulk heavy goods vehicle traffic using Charlton Village

We have submitted a bulk heavy goods vehicle (HGV) routing strategy to the county planning authority. This is designed to reduce the impact of bulk HGV traffic on Charlton Village and is a requirement of our planning permission (dust carts are not classified as bulk HGVs).

Our strategy designates routes to and from the Eco Park that avoid Charlton Village. These routes will apply to SITA's bulk HGVs and to bulk HGVs belonging to companies who have haulage contracts with SITA Surrey. In addition, the routes will apply to SITA's own HGVs and SITA's waste delivery vehicles.

Footpath diversion

The Eco Park's planning permission included diverting a footpath running around the site to enable the development of the anaerobic digestion buildings. An order to divert the footpath was subsequently issued which received objections. These objections were heard at a public inquiry in early April and at the time of going to print with this newsletter, we are awaiting the planning inspector's report to decide how to proceed.

NEXT STEPS

Surrey County Council's Cabinet is meeting on 25 June to decide whether to make the necessary changes to its contract with SITA to enable the delivery of the council's waste strategy, including the Eco Park.

If the changes are agreed, SITA Surrey will then apply to amend the planning permission for the Eco Park to accommodate the new supplier's gasification process and the modifications to the detailed design of the anaerobic digestion facility.

SITA Surrey will also apply to vary the environmental permit for the Eco Park.

Subject to the approval of these applications and the publication of an order to divert the footpath around the Eco Park, we anticipate that construction work could begin before the end of the year.

Please complete the enclosed card to let us know if you would like to continue to receive updates about the Eco Park during construction.

DROP IN SESSIONS

SITA Surrey is hosting two drop in sessions for the local community so you can ask any questions you have about this update:

**Friday 7th June 12 - 5.30pm,
Sunbury Golf Centre, Charlton Lane,
Shepperton, TW17 8QA**

**Saturday 8th June 11am – 4pm
Shepperton Village Hall, High Street,
Shepperton TW17 9AU**

PUBLIC MEETING

Surrey County Council is hosting a public meeting about the Eco Park for the community.

**Thursday 13th June 7 – 9.30pm,
Spelthorne Borough Council,
Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames,
TW18 1XB**

This will begin with a presentation by Surrey County Council, followed by a question and answer session chaired by Richard Hewitt of the Shepperton Residents' Association.

If you plan to attend, to help ensure there is space for all those interested, please contact Surrey County Council's waste management team on **03456 009 009** or email **waste@surreycc.gov.uk** to register your interest.



CONTACT US

For information on the Eco Park please:

Visit: www.sitasurrey.co.uk/eco-park

Call: Emma Jordan at SITA Surrey
on 0208 329 1030

Email: surrey@sita.co.uk

Or you can contact the waste management team at Surrey County Council on **03456 009 009**, email **waste@surreycc.gov.uk** or visit **www.surreycc.gov.uk/ecopark**



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