

Environmental Management Plan – 1.65MW Biomass CHP Plant at Bridge Farm, Holme Fen Drove, Huntingdon, PE28 3RE

OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 The R.A Latta Farms Ltd recognises the paramount importance of the protection of the environment, its flora and fauna.
- 1.2 In undertaking its business, R.A Latta Farms Ltd also recognises that without appropriate procedures and control measures, it has the potential to cause damage to the environment.
- 1.3 Accordingly, in pursuance of its business operations, R.A Latta Farms Ltd will ensure such procedures and control measures are in place to safeguard the environment, whether required by statute or otherwise. Furthermore, it undertakes to keep to an absolute minimum all forms of pollution whether by deposition of materials, discharges of fumes, liquids or dust, also the generation of nuisance in the form of unnecessary noise.
- 1.4 In so far as it is able, R.A Latta Farms Ltd will use its best endeavours to ensure its policy in the environment is actively followed by its sub-contractors.

1. METHODOLOGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF OBJECTIVES

2.1 Generally:-

The Policy has the full support of the Board of Directors; the Managing Director has the responsibility of ensuring its implementation.

2.2 Appendix 1 “Communication Chart – Environmental Issues” indicates the various responsibilities of Company members with regard to implementation of the Environmental Policy.

2.3 R.A Latta Farms Ltd goal is to provide PRACTICAL, MEASURABLE AND IMPROVING OUTCOMES of good environmental practice. This will be achieved by the following:-

a) Raising of awareness

Members of the Company will be kept informed of current environmental issues by transmission of information to them identifying sources of information, e.g. websites, journals, books etc. Each Farm of operations will have issued to the Farm Manager, or other responsible person, an Environmental Information Pack containing relevant information and important procedural guidance to help ensure policy objectives. In addition, each farm of the Company's operations will have in place an Environmental Awareness notice board displaying necessary information as well as informative posters etc. At the commencement of employment, all Company personnel will, as part of the normal induction procedure, be made aware of this Policy and their role within it.

b) Training

Those members of the Company responsible for implementing this Policy comprising the Managing Director, S.H.E. representative, Purchasing and Supply, Contracts

Managers and farm Managers will undergo training on an ongoing basis, e.g. environmental seminars and “in-house” video presentations. Other members of the Company will also receive training, e.g. tool box talks, videos etc. and also be encouraged to embark upon training programmes.

c) Integration of formal environmental protection procedures into day to day Company operating procedures.

Managing the Company’s environmental responsibilities effectively requires that suitable operating procedures are automatically incorporated.

The strategy for ensuring this takes place is as follows:-

- c.i)*** Environmental matters will be separately considered whenever risk assessments are undertaken either at design or operational work stages.
- c.ii)*** Method Statements will be formulated to eliminate/minimise environmental damage.
- c.iii)*** Environmental matters, particularly emergency procedures, are to be incorporated within Health and Safety plans as a separate Appendix.
- c.iv)*** Environmental matters will be monitored at the workplace point of operations by a responsible person within each work team who reports to the Site Agent.
- c.v)*** The Company Quality Management System incorporates within it the requirements of this policy. It recognises a commitment shared with our Clients of the importance of a sound environmental protection policy improving standards and measurable performance.

d) Regular Reviews and Audit

d.i) Each site inspection undertaken monthly as a minimum will include an environmental component and generate a report for discussion at the monthly Management meeting.

d.ii) Farm Managers will inspect farm daily or more frequently if required and log findings on the Environmental Survey. If action is required, follow procedure at 3.8 hereunder for any emergency or employ preventative measures in other cases.

d.iii) Monthly Management meetings reviewing the Company performance in key areas include an assessment of environmental issues both generally and in respect of all operational farms. Minutes are taken and actions implemented.

d.iv) Environmental issues will form part of the Quality Assurance quarterly Management Review meeting; audited internally and also annually.

2. SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS AND RESPONSES

This list is not exhaustive but seeks to identify areas of concern regularly encountered within the Company sphere of operations. PLANNING specially to cater for environmental matters/issues is vital to ensure the best environmental outcomes.

3.1 Materials

All materials will be used strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and COSHH assessments. Any surplus will be disposed of in an authorised manner approved of by the Farm Manager or other responsible person having taken advice if necessary all in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

3.2 Mechanical Plant

All mechanical plant will be in good condition, properly silenced and regularly serviced. Daily inspections will be made by the Farm Manager logging condition and any leaks. Any such leaks found will be rectified without delay and any resultant contamination contained. Particular attention will be paid to the safe storage of all fuels, chemicals and oils in bunded containment. Disposal will be via licensed operators.

3.3 Local Ecology

Comprises habitat, watercourses, hedgerows, woodland, marsh etc., also sites of specific scientific interest. Local information/advice will be sought from organisations such as English Nature and the Environment Agency, especially with respect to S.S.S.I's to enable work to be undertaken with the minimum of impact. Protected species – bats, birds of prey, badgers etc. will be protected where encountered, in certain instances, this may involve re-homing species which will require the intervention of specialists. Direct effects of construction operations may have unwanted effects, e.g. dewatering, lowering water tables, draining wetlands/ponds etc. All such construction operations and their potential adverse effects will be subject to risk assessment and wherever possible, the adverse effects eliminated or ameliorated as far as is possible.

3.4 Pollution

The company will ensure controls are in place and prevention of pollution will be the preferred option rather than remedial action which non-the-less will be instigated when prevention has failed.

The Biomass plant is contained within an existing building, utilising the the existing floor slab. Given the nature of grade C recycled wood which will have a moisture content typically less than 25%, it will not leach any water/chemicals into the ground. The fuel storage bunker has concrete walls that will be sealed to the existing floor slab. The auger systems from the fuel bunker are enclosed and cannot spill material out into the plant room.

The boiler system and heating circuits are filled with clean water and present no risk of contamination.

Main pollutants:-

- a) Hydro-carbons
- b) Silt
- c) Paints
- d) Cement based products
- e) Chemicals
- f) Contaminated ground
- g) Fire

All of the above and others identified at risk assessment stage will have procedures to prevent pollution drawn up and fall back positions in the event of a pollution incident.

3.5 Emissions

The Biomass CHP Plant operations generates flue gas emissions/exhausts. The Emissions are to be maintained within the standards set out within the local authority SWIP Permit.

The continuous emissions monitoring system will monitor and record the flue gasses and any breach outside the set parameters will cause the plant to shut down. The CEM equipment will be checked on a daily basis in accordance with industry guidance and manufactures instructions. These checks will be incorporated into the monitoring and overall checks performed to maintain efficient and safe operation of the biomass plant.

The Herz Industrial boiler has a auxiliary burner that operates on kerosene to maintain the combustion temperature above 850°C degrees. This burner will operate during start up to bring the boiler up to temperature within the IED start up parameters.

The Combustion process of the biomass boiler is highly efficient producing between 1-2% ash from the proposed Grade C recycled timber. The ash is augured from the boiler into an enclosed skip where it will be disposed of appropriately.

3.8 Emergency Procedures

In the event of an adverse environmental incident, the following procedure will be adopted:-

- a)** Whosoever identifies the problem will immediately try to prevent continuation of the problem, always providing it is safe to do so.
- b)** Marshal sufficient help and resources to implement emergency prevention procedure where one exists. If one does not exist, consider and implement procedure for reducing/stopping incident impact.
- c)** At first opportunity following preventative action, report incident in accordance with agreed reporting procedure.

- ci)** Farm Manager.
- cii)** Company S.H.E. Representative/Managing Director
- civ)** Environment Agency
- d)** All emergency procedures must be “safe procedures” for those undertaking them.
- e)** Log all relevant information concerning the incident and prepare report.
- f)** Management will consider the report, learn lessons and promulgate information to all interested/affected parties.
- g)** Emergency procedures will be practiced on a regular basis and at least once on every contract. The scenario will be comprehensive, properly thought through to provide a meaningful test. The outcomes will be reported to the Company S.H.E. representative for general distribution throughout the Company.

4.1 Waste Management and Disposal

The Company will prevent waste wherever it can. It will adopt methods such as the Waste Hierarchy viz:

- a)** Reduce waste - control ordering/adequacy of storage procedures.
- b)** Re-use – topsoils, seed, straw,
- c)** Re-cycle - demolition materials/oils/lubricants.
- d)** Removal - to a facility which can recycle.

4.2 Disposal of Waste

This will be in accordance with all statutory requirements, such disposal will be actively monitored on each farm and disposal will be verified.

4.3 Reduction of Waste generally

Throughout the Company, existing procedures for reducing waste/saving energy, e.g. vehicle sharing, reduction of unnecessary journeys, controlled heating, re-use of consumables wherever possible, will be developed to maximise the net benefits.

5.0 Environmental Commitment and Quality Management

The Company's commitment to environmental issues is incorporated within the Quality procedures. The Company is committed to continuous improvement in all operational areas. Environmental performance, i.e. actual incidents/near misses, to be logged and will provide data to enable Key Performance Indicators to be generated in this regard. As data is accumulated on environmental matters, this will be extended. The Directors and Managers of give their full support to this policy in ensuring that Environmental, Safety and Health is an integral part of its operational and management functions. The Environmental Policy will be regularly updated to take account of legal and best practice amendments.