



### **Dimmer Community Liaison Group update**

Due to Government guidance on social distancing and restrictions on non-essential travel, Viridor was unable to host its March Community Liaison Group meeting.

As a result, we have prepared the following report to update you on activities at the site. Should you have any further questions for us, please email these to Viridor Landfill Restoration Manager Clive Barber at [cbarber@viridor.co.uk](mailto:cbarber@viridor.co.uk) or telephone 07801172351.

Our intention is to hold a meeting of the Community Liaison Group on site once the current restrictions are lifted by the Government.

### **General site update/Dimmer Transfer Station:**

On April 1, Viridor opened the Dimmer transfer station for Somerset's new fleet of refuse collection vehicles and the landfill was closed. The company is pleased to confirm the Avonmouth ERF has entered its commissioning stage, which includes putting the plant through its performance tests.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the company is currently operating on a contingency business plan, prioritising the deployment of its key workers. This deployment, and the availability of suitable drivers and vehicles, will influence how we transport and process waste during this challenging time.

Dimmer Transfer Station receives both commercial waste and material from Somerset Waste Partnership.

On site full-time we have: a supervisor, weighbridge operator and two plant operators.

### **Landfill Operational Report**

Tonnage of material received at the landfill between 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020:

Cover material – 8,951t from 541 loads

Municipal waste – 23,056t from 4002 loads

Restoration soils – 13,723 from 800 loads.

The landfill formally closed to waste on the 28 March 2020 with the opening of the waste transfer station which now handles the Somerset Waste Partnership material.

Works started in April to tidy the site and prepare it for final capping this summer.

The current programme of works is to cap the flanks of Cell N and leave an area of landfill available for any potential waste arising from the clean-up operation. This area will be capped towards the end of this year's engineering season.

Further restoration soil import will be required to complete the current planned works and remediate various areas of differential settlement.



## **Organics Operational Report**

Tonnage of recyclates received and compost sold 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020:

Green Waste: 2,355 tonnes

Grade A & B Wood: 619 tonnes

Grade C Wood: 0

Street Sweepings: 924 tonnes

Compost Sold: 2,074 tonnes

The S73 planning application for the removal of condition 1 attached to planning permission ref 96/02281/CPO and 97/02831 to allow for the continued use of land for composting of green waste was granted on 11 February. Viridor is now working towards submitting a Restoration & Aftercare Scheme and Noise Mitigation Scheme to SCC in accordance with conditions 2 and 6 of the consent.

Further to the Dimmer liaison group meeting in December, results of noise monitoring conducted at the wood yard at the end of the year have now been received. The results obtained show that mitigation measures are required to bring the noise level at the operation into line with levels approved in the planning permission. We are in the process of liaising with acoustic specialists in order to discuss what these further mitigation measures might involve. One option available is for the machine manufacturers to install a baffle onto the rear of the shredder in order to reduce the noise at source - this is currently being discussed with our suppliers. Further updates of our progress will be provided in due course.

The glass bulking operation has moved to the WTS along with refrigerator storage/bulking and is now managed by the WTS team.

## **Dimmer Leachate Treatment Plant (LTP)**

We are currently treating between 100m<sup>3</sup> and 150m<sup>3</sup> of leachate seven days a week at the Leachate Treatment Plant (LTP). On average 130m<sup>3</sup> of treated effluent is being discharged into the river Cary per day which is within the limits of the Environmental Permit.

There is a laboratory on site, where we do our own analysis, making sure we are meeting the compliance limits within our Environmental Permit and making sure the plant is running as it should be. Additionally, our monitoring contractor also takes samples of the process which are sent to an external laboratory for testing.

The number of tankers removing leachate from the site have reduced from nine per week when the plant was being built to one tanker a week. This is to collect excess sludge from the plant that builds up as part of the process.

We also receive a couple of tankers a month from our suppliers who provide chemicals and other consumables needed to run the LTP.

The plant is manned Monday to Friday and monitored remotely over weekends and bank holidays. The LTP is automated and sends out text message alarms to the Leachate Technician if there is a problem that needs manual intervention.

The photograph below shows liquid samples at different stages of the process:

- The bottle on the left is raw untreated leachate from the landfill.
- The middle sample is after ultra-filtration, the first half of the treatment process.
- The last sample on the right is after nano-filtration, the second part of the process, this is what is discharged to the river Cary



## Environment report

Viridor prepared the following report in response to a complaint to the Environment Agency with regard to litter, noise and site lighting.

### Litter:

Litter picking in Mansmead Wood is initially focussing on the footpath, starting from the north and progressing south. Any tree guards remaining from the planting in the area will also be removed. Additional staff from other parts of Viridor have joined the site team to tidy the area. It is anticipated that it will take two to three weeks to thoroughly clear the area. A weekly update will be provided to the EA on progress.

The capping contractors mobilised to site on Monday, 20 April to complete the cap on the remaining parts of Cells M and N. With good weather these works are expected to take approximately seven weeks. The contractor is intending to work 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday as well as weekend working to the same hours as the landfill would have operated.

### Noise arising from site activities:

The door of the transfer station had malfunctioned in the week of 13 April, after an electrical fault on Thursday. An engineer was called out that day and the issue resolved. However, a further issue arose with the main pin on the roller shutter door on Friday. Again, an engineer attended site the same day and the pin replaced. The door is now fully operational and remains shut at all times other than for access.

A summary of the wood-shredding noise monitoring activity will be provided, but it is noted that during the monitoring conducted in September the dominant noise sources at the receptor was nearby agricultural workings and the active landfill. Additional monitoring activity was conducted in December.

Use of the road sweeper remains under review by operational staff.



Site lighting:

Further to previous discussions regarding lighting for the new weighbridge and transfer station building it is understood that the lights have been redirected. Additionally, those in the weighbridge area are now on a timer to switch off at 19:00. Viridor welcomes contact from residents should further adjustments be required.

**Date of next meeting**

Thursday, 25 June. Assuming that Covid-19 restrictions are still in place in June, Viridor will issue a report the week before for residents to raise questions to and we would then look to respond with answers in the final report to be issued on or around 25 June.