

COMPLETION OF NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT EXAMINATION

MJCA's first waste application to the National Infrastructure Directorate has reached the end of its examination period. The application, for an increase in the capacity of a hazardous waste treatment facility and the construction of an extension to a hazardous waste landfill in Northamptonshire was submitted in March 2012 and examined between October 2012 and January 2013. The work by MJCA for the



preparation of the application included extensive project management and coordination with the client and other key team members, in particular those providing legal and communications inputs. The work commenced before the implementation of the waste facility section of the Planning Act 2008 and the application is the first waste treatment and landfill facility application submitted through this route. During the development of the pro-

ject work carried out by MJCA included site phasing and design and materials balance including stockpiling considerations. MJCA coordinated several specialist technical experts to carry out the Environmental Impact Assessment including work on impacts associated with ecology, traffic, landscape and visibility, cultural heritage and noise. MJCA carried out the assessment of the potential impacts associated with health, water resources (including flood risk and a quantitative hydrogeological risk assessment), air quality and amenity. MJCA prepared the Environmental Statement and carried out the policy review and prepared the Planning Statement. The preparation of the application involved extensive communication with the local community and statutory consultees. MJCA provided input into the communications programme including the preparation and circulation of the preliminary Environmental Information Report, attendance at exhibitions and workshops and the collation of responses to the communica-

tion process. Throughout the project close coordination and cooperation of the client and the project team has been fostered actively by MJCA in order to address all the necessary documentation as well as to respond constructively to matters as they arose during this complex and new application process. Close contact has also been maintained with the relevant regulatory bodies including the National Infrastructure Directorate of the Planning Inspectorate, as well as the local County and District Councils.



The Examining Authority is expected to make a recommendation to the Secretary of State by 22 April 2013 and the Secretary of State will then have 3 months to decide whether to grant or refuse development consent.

CHP FACILITY APPLICATION IN ESSEX

In March 2012 MJCA submitted a planning application for the installation and operation of a Combined Heat and Power (CHP) facility together with ancillary equipment for a food manufacturing facility in Essex. MJCA prepared the Environmental Impact Assessment for the application including undertaking the air quality, traffic, flood risk and land contamination assessments. MJCA also prepared the Environmental Statement and the Planning Statement including the policy review.

Activities on site include the refining of liquid oils such as rapeseed, sunflower seed, palm and coconut

oil for the manufacture of a variety of edible products. No equine products are processed at this plant! The process produces approximately 10,000 tonnes of oil by-



product a year. Up to approximately 3.8MW of electrical energy and 7MW of heat energy is used at the site. CHP is a very efficient method of generating heat and power. The CHP Facility will use the oil by-

product from the oil refinement process to generate electricity and heat energy for the site operations and export unused electricity to the national grid. The CHP Facility has a standby system which will use natural gas or alternative imported fuels such as diesel or biofuels should the oil by-product be insufficient. The design of the CHP Facility means it uses these sources in a highly efficient way. By using these energy sources the site contributes to the UK's renewable energy targets and reduces its dependency on external sources of power.

NEW STARTERS

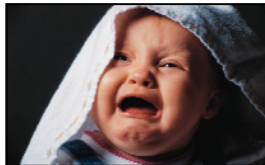
ANDY OWEN

Andy Owen has recently joined as a Senior Consultant in MJCA's planning team.

Andy has spent 14 years working in planning for a number of Local Authorities and consultancies and was most recently at Biffa Waste Services, where he gained experience of a range of waste related projects such as Material Recycling Facilities, Energy from Waste plants, Mechanical and Biological Treatment facilities and landfill sites. Andy's experience will complement the work of the planning team which includes the production and management of planning applications, Environmental Statements and submissions under the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects regime.

Andy enjoys gardening, athletics and DIY.

However since the birth of his daughter Hannah in February Andy now spends his spare time in Mothercare, changing nappies and perfecting the art of sleeping standing up.



MARK SUDWORTH

Mark joined MJCA as a Senior Consultant with the permitting team in October 2012.

Mark has spent over 15 years working in the environment industry working for the University of Manchester and other consultancies before establishing MWS Environment Ltd. With MWS he worked on a wide range of projects including the development of new and existing Material Recycling Facilities, Energy from Waste plants and landfill sites. Mark's experience provides a good match with the work undertaken across MJCA's permitting, planning, geology and contaminated land departments.

Mark enjoys testing himself against the elements as his regular trips abroad have often involved an encounter with one form of natural disaster or another including a landslide, forest fire, cyclone, hurricane and tsunami. He even managed to end up in hospital with decompression sickness on one trip – not recommended! Perhaps he should take the hint and stop going on holiday...

THE NEXT GENERATION:

MJCA were lucky enough to recruit 2 new graduate team members in 2012. Claire Biddle a Graduate Planning Consultant started in September and Ben Mason, a Graduate Engineering Geologist, started in October. We caught up with one of our graduates who told us:

"MJCA have been very supportive in terms of developing my career and knowledge of the environmental sector. Everyone is very friendly and always ready to answer my questions or go for a pub lunch on a Friday..."

Disclaimer: MJCA does not consider liaising with colleagues in the local public house as a Continuing Professional Development activity.

CROSSWORD

Here is a taxing yet topical crossword for you to complete during your tea break. If you return a correctly completed crossword to us by 30 April 2013 we guarantee that we shall deliver an exciting prize to you by return.

Across:

- National _____ Policy Framework (8 letters)
- Build (9 letters)
- Unreactive waste (5 letters)
- A pit where you might extract building materials (6 letters)
- Smell (5 letters)

Down:

- Required by the EA for non-exempt environmental activities (6 letters)
- _____ Infrastructure Directorate (8 letters)
- H₂O (5 letters)
- A protected 'great' newt species (7 letters)

