

Application for a Material Recycling Facility and Gasifier

MJCA have been involved in the preparation and submission of a application for the installation and operation of a materials recycling facility adjacent to an existing non hazardous waste landfill site in Oxfordshire. The appeal for the materials recycling facility was granted following a conjoined appeal with planning applications for two quarry extensions at the same site. Expert evidence was prepared and presented at the inquiry by MJCA. MJCA prepared and submitted all three planning applications which were supported either by detailed supporting statements or Environmental Statements following detailed assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed operations including cumulative impacts. The objective of the materials recycling facility was to recover value from the existing commercial and industrial waste streams accepted at the non hazardous waste landfill site. The grant of planning permission established that all waste deposited at the site would in future comprise only the residues from the consented materials recycling facility.

In 2012 MJCA secured planning permission for the addition of biodrying, gasification and power generation at the consented materials recycling facility. The proposals did not change the consented waste types but provided for the recovery of more value from waste delivered to the site. The recovery of more value from the waste will help reduce the quantity of residues generated by the materials recycling facility which will be landfilled. The introduction of further recycling and the associated power generation will contribute to the renewable energy targets that have been set in the UK Renewable Energy Strategy together with the carbon emissions reductions set in the UK Low Carbon Transition Plan. MJCA prepared the planning application which was supported by a detailed Environmental Impact Assessment. Together with a detailed assessment of planning policy and need detailed air dispersion modelling was undertaken and a scheme of ecological mitigation was prepared.