

CLYDE SHANKS

Planning Development



Hightown Quarry, Boghill Road, County Antrim: **Residual Waste Treatment Project**

Statement of Community Involvement

March 2014



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Context

- 1.1 As part of the PAD (Pre-Application Discussion) submission to DoE Strategic Projects Team in February 2013, a Statement of Intent relating to the strategy for undertaking community consultation and sharing information with the public on what the proposals for Hightown Quarry comprise was submitted to DoE.
- 1.2 It identified the proposed public consultation to be undertaken by the Becon consortium to share the proposed development plans for Hightown Quarry with members of the public and their elected representatives and explain the supporting information that has been prepared as part of the pre application discussion engagement with DoE Strategic Projects Team and its consultees.
- 1.3 Hightown Quarry has been chosen by Becon Consortium as the site to deliver arc21's proposed residual waste management facility where the technologies of Mechanical and Biological Treatment (MBT) and Energy from Waste (EfW) will be co-located on a single site to manage future waste arisings from the 11 Council areas that make up the arc21 region.
- 1.4 In advance of this full planning application being submitted the proposed development has been the subject of the DoE Planning's PAD process which encourages early dialogue with developers of major development projects and engagement both with it and its wide collection of consultees.
- 1.5 That process has been a highly collaborative exercise, sharing information relating to site survey findings and draft ES chapters and seeking feedback on Becon's approach in bringing together the necessary environmental information required to enable the application to be determined.
- 1.6 The Hightown Quarry project represents a regionally significant waste management infrastructure project. It is inevitable that a project of this scale and complexity requires extensive engagement across many public bodies to ensure that the Environmental Impact assessment process and wider draft application documentation are comprehensively and robustly prepared. That is exactly what Becon Consortium have tried to achieve in the approach taken to preparing the full planning application.

PAD Documentation

- 1.7 The formal stage of the PAD process commenced with submission of the draft PAD documentation. Accordingly, on 28 February 2013 the following documentation was formally submitted to DoE:
 - Draft Environmental Statement Volumes 1, 2 and 3;
 - Draft Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary;

- Draft Supporting Planning Statement;
- Draft Design Evolution: Landscape and Visual Mitigation by Design Statement;
- Draft A3 booklet of design drawings; and
- Statement of approach to public consultation.

Public Consultation – Programme

1.8 A detailed and highly engaging period of public consultation was initiated which included political briefings and public exhibitions held on a number of days at a range of venues.

1.9 As the application site straddles both Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council areas and is located adjacent to the Belfast City Council area, a series of presentations were made to locally elected Council members on the following dates:

- Presentation to Newtownabbey Borough Council – 04 March 2013;
- Presentation to Belfast City Council – 06 March 2013; and
- Presentation to Antrim Borough Council – 07 March 2013.

1.10 The project was publicly launched thereafter at a media event on 12 March 2013 in Corrs Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey. At that event the site for the proposed development was revealed together with details of the project and the planning and public consultation programmes that arc21 and Becon Consortium intended to embark upon.

Fig 1.1 Photograph taken at Media Launch, Corrs Corner Hotel



1.11 It also confirmed that a specific project website (www.becon.co.uk) was launched that day to explain the background to the proposed development and what is involved. For the first time in Northern Ireland, the project website allows the public to access and download the PAD documentation submitted to DoE.

Figure 1.2 Home Screen of Project Website



1.12 In order to further share information on the project with those who live within a two mile radius of the site, a project brochure was distributed to 28,000 households in the week following the public launch, which in turn explained that a series of drop-in public consultation/information sessions in each of the three Council areas around the application site were planned and invited the public to come and attend these events where members of the Becon's professional team would be on hand to discuss any queries or concerns they might wish to share.

Figure 1.3 Extract from Brochure



- 1.13 At the time of the public launch the drop-in sessions were initially planned as follows:
- 20 March 2013 – Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey Borough Council – 11am–7pm;
 - 21 March 2013 – Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey Borough Council – 11am–7pm;
 - 25 March 2013 – Holiday Inn hotel, Antrim – 11am-7pm;
 - 26 March 2013 – Holiday Inn hotel, Antrim – 11am-7pm;
 - 27 March 2013 – Ramada Encore hotel, Belfast city centre – 11am-7pm; and
 - 28 March 2013 – Ramada Encore hotel, Belfast city centre – 11am-7pm.
- 1.14 The reasons for choosing these venues were based on the juxtaposition of three separate Councils around the application site – the main quarry element of the proposed application site area being within Antrim Borough Council, the Boghill Road within Newtownabbey Borough Council and surrounding areas beyond the proposed application site within Belfast City Council.
- 1.15 In advance of each of the drop-in sessions there was widespread coverage of the proposed events, venues and timings in the local press through insertion of public notices as well as journalistic coverage (see Appendix 1). The journalistic pieces, carried in local newspapers such as the Ballyclare Gazette and Antrim Times, elaborated on the key points of information provided during the media launch and offered political insight into the proposal.
- 1.16 The public notices were carried in the following publications:
- *Newsletter (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013);*
 - *Belfast Telegraph (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013);*
 - *Irish News (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013);*
 - *North Belfast News (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013);*
 - *North Belfast Community Telegraph (18 March 2013; 17 April 2013; 01 May 2013);*
 - *Antrim Times inc. Ballymena Times (19 March 2013; 16 April 2013; 30 April 2013);*
 - *Newtownabbey Times inc. Larne, Carrick, East Antrim Times (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013);*
 - *Ballyclare Gazette (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013; 02 May 2013); and*
 - *Antrim Guardian (14 March 2013; 18 April 2013 and 02 May 2013).*
- 1.17 At each of the sessions there was a professionally manned exhibition which articulated why the project is needed, what it involves, the on-going procurement process and a range of

graphical information material to explain how the site will be developed and the studies and assessment that have been undertaken to date in assessing the potential environmental effects associated with its construction and operation.

- 1.18 In addition, an animated short five minute video presentation of the overall process was played to those who attended to fully explain and demonstrate the operational activities that will occur on site from arrival of waste vehicle through the MBT, conveyance to EfW facility and production of electricity and bottom ash aggregate. This provided a full understanding of what is proposed and how the new facilities will operate, with opportunities provided for members of the public to express their views on the proposed development and engage with professional advisers who have contributed to the planning process so far. In this regard the specific opportunity to provide feedback by completing forms designed for this purpose was made available and encouraged by the professional team who attended each event.

Figure 1.4 Photograph taken at Mossley Mill Drop-In Event



- 1.19 As well as the public drop-in sessions there has also been engagement with residents groups in the Mallusk area, with a number of meetings between Becon, arc21 and representatives of Mallusk Action Group and Mayfield Residents Association. To date there have been three meetings on 14 March 2013, 25 April 2013 and 30 May 2013. The last two of these involved specific presentations from Becon professional team to the residents groups on Traffic and Transportation and Health Impact issues.
- 1.20 A full complement of the documents which comprised the PAD submission to DoE Strategic Projects Team was provided to the residents groups at the initial meeting held with them on 14 March. Following discussion at this initial meeting Becon and arc21 representatives

agreed to review the prospect of adding further drop-in sessions in addition to the six initially planned to times and venues which will be most accessible to the local community.

- 1.21 The matter of 'community benefit' from the project was raised at the initial meeting and this was discussed in broad terms with further thoughts on what this might comprise invited from the residents.
- 1.22 Following the initial meeting with the residents groups, it was agreed that Becon would hold four further 'local' drop-in sessions which took place as follows:
- 26 April 2013 - Corrs Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey - 11am-7pm;
 - 27 April 2013 - Corrs Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey - 10am-4pm;
 - 10 May 2013 - Mallusk Sports Academy - 3pm-8pm; and
 - 11 May 2013 - Mallusk Sports Academy - 10am-4pm.

Feedback and Engagement

- 1.23 A key approach as part of the public consultation has been to share project details to enable local people to understand what the project is all about. It has also focused on sharing work that has been done as part of the collaborative engagement through the PAD process in bringing together draft environmental assessment documentation. At the drop-in sessions a comprehensive exhibition provided commentary and illustrative material that explained work that had been undertaken to assess all aspects of the Environmental Assessment, including:
- Geology, Soils and Agriculture;
 - The Water Environment;
 - Land Quality;
 - Ecology;
 - Landscape and Visual Impact;
 - Cultural Heritage;
 - Transport;
 - Noise;
 - Air Quality;
 - Climatic Factors;
 - Population and Socio-Economic Impacts; and

- Material Assets, including aviation safeguarding, grid connection and other service infrastructure relating to the site.

1.24 As well as providing the opportunity to fully understand the project and the planning process it will be subject to, a further focus was on encouraging those who attended the events to provide feedback and to articulate their comments having seen the exhibition and taken the opportunity, where applicable, to discuss things in further detail with the attendant Becon and arc21 professional team.

1.25 Feedback forms were provided at a desk near the exit to the exhibition and attendees were invited to complete these and leave them in the feedback box provided.

Figure 1.5 Feedback Form

Feedback Form

Name (inc title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address

Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

How did you hear about the information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

*If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.

Thank you for your time

1.26 The total number of people who visited the drop-in sessions across the 10 days was 144. This was spread over the 10 sessions with the following daily turnouts:

Table 1.1 Attendees at Public Drop-In Events

Day No.	Venue	No. of Attendees
1	Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey	48
2	Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey	44
3	Holiday Inn, Antrim	8
4	Holiday Inn, Antrim	6
5	Ramada Encore Hotel, Belfast	8
6	Ramada Encore Hotel, Belfast	8
7	Corrs Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey	6
8	Corrs Corner Hotel, Newtownabbey	4

9	Mallusk Sports Academy, Mallusk	8
10	Mallusk Sports Academy, Mallusk	4
Total		144

- 1.27 From the above numbers it can be seen that there was a significant fall in attendance after the first two days. It is also apparent that the requested additional days to hold the drop-in sessions in locations where local people would have easier access to the information were not any better attended, with a low attendance of 12 people during the Friday and Saturday at Mallusk Sports Academy and 10 through the doors during the Friday and Saturday sessions held in Corrs Corner Hotel.
- 1.28 That relatively low turnout came despite consistent and high profile local media coverage that the events were taking place, with each event preceded by coverage in the local press advertising the nature of the drop-in sessions, venue and times. Appendix 1 provides copies of all related coverage for further information.
- 1.29 Of the 144 people who attended the total number of feedback forms completed was 54. These are included in Appendix 2 in the order they were received, with names and addresses of the attendees redacted.
- 1.30 36 of these completed forms (66%) were complimentary about the project, the quality of the information available to view at the drop-in sessions and the knowledge and time taken by the professional team to address questions and queries that they had.
- 1.31 In summarising comments made, these included the following:

Positive

- *'Very informative presentation and help from professional team who willingly answered all questions and took time to listen to concerns';*
- *'Excellent presentation for much needed project not only for future of waste management in NI but also construction industry';*
- *'Fully behind the principle in all respects – good for province in terms of system; business, energy and green credentials';*
- *'Very well presented and informative';*
- *'Staff helpful';*
- *'Well thought out project, well integrated into existing brownfield site';*
- *'Hope will do away with unpleasant odour which comes from existing landfill and will create jobs';*

- *Well-presented and good information – best way forward if all promises kept and monitored’;*
- *‘A lot of questions and concerns answered, well presented and helpful experts – in favour of project’;*
- *‘Hope it will be successful and you convince people of the different benefits – aware of many successful plants in Germany’;*
- *‘Great project for Northern Ireland – more jobs, less waste, more sustainable energy. It can only be a win-win situation. Thank you for all the information’;*
- *‘Plenty of people to answer questions and range of knowledge was a benefit – video brought the concepts to life and everything was well explained – only criticism was communicating the times/venues of the exhibition – did not receive the brochure’;*
- *‘Found people I spoke to could answer questions very well – didn’t know much about what was entailed with the site but found it was all explained very well – understand it much better’;*
- *‘All for construction of the plant as it will bring jobs to the economy, remove waste from going to landfill and prevent NI being fined by EU’;*
- *‘Looks like a good project which should bring good benefit to the area’;*
- *‘Very informative’;*
- *‘Attitude towards the Becon project is 100% positive. Waste being dumped at the landfill is neither good for the people in the local area nor the environment itself’;*
- *‘Excited about the project and would like to find out more about job opportunities and the recruitment of staff’;*
- *‘Appears to be well researched and thought through from all aspects including impact on skyline’;*
- *‘Development itself fits as well as any such development can into the environment’;*
- *‘Experience of company in managing other European sites would create a degree of confidence that project will be well managed and the facility itself will be efficiently operated’;*
- *‘Staff very helpful and forthright in their presentation and discussion’;*

- *'A very useful initial information opportunity. People available were engaging and willing to answer questions – appreciated';*
- *'Found the road show very enlightening and well explained by the staff. All of my questions have been answered';*
- *Very informative. My questions re traffic answered comprehensively. Thank you';*
- *Was satisfied with answers given. Realise that waste needs to be dealt with and as long as no bad smells and the traffic and litter dropping is controlled I am happy enough for this facility to be built in this area';*
- *'Appears satisfactory';*
- *'Concerned about smells but impressed with negative air pressure and filtration systems. Very clear presentation of full process including re-use of materials and flue gas treatment';*
- *Concerned about impact on the existing roads infrastructure but now feel that the impact will be less than I thought. Concerns about impact on health caused by emissions have also been addressed. Very useful';*

Neutral

- *'Need to work with local angling organisations';*
- *'Council should gain as the location for the facility that brings its and 10 other Councils' waste to the area';*
- *'More information to understand Boghill Road upgrade plans and land take – will it have street lighting?';*
- *'Staff were very helpful and I did get answers to most of my questions. Still concerned about the closeness to my development however I think that is more of a personal worry. Will keep considering!';*
- *'One hopes the Environment Agency will fulfil its responsibilities';*

Negative

- *'Disappointment from residents on Boghill Road that they were not informed that consultation events taking place';*

- *'HGV traffic generation a concern – safety and traffic congestion fears during construction and when operational';*
- *'Traffic routes a concern – ensure restrictions on routes to be used by HGVs; restrictions on hours of deliveries';*
- *'Dirt and litter from the HGV traffic';*
- *'Visual impact of the proposed buildings';*
- *'Concern about potential smell and adding to difficulties already experienced with Cottonmount landfill';*
- *'Site selection concerns, why not elsewhere?';*
- *'Need assurances that will be no impact/pollution on recreational fishing and surrounding watercourses';*
- *'Health concerns about stack plume';*
- *'Fear of reducing house prices';*
- *'Want assurances about plant being environmentally friendly';*
- *'Concern about risk of gas build up particularly through bale storage';*
- *'Concern about walking roads with children – traffic, germs, rats, noise';*
- *'Did not receive brochure';*
- *'Understand the need for facilities but those who live in vicinity should benefit for the inconvenience';*
- *'Please update the maps and pictures as currently the perception is of trying to be duped. Presentation has been useful and worth taking to other venues. More information on apprenticeship needs to be published';*
- *'With best of intentions still have concerns over traffic, noise, smell and the inevitable drop in house prices';*
- *'Main concern is with access to the site. Upper Crumlin Road has been blighted by landfill activities which were poorly regulated resulting in dangerous road conditions. Mind has been put at rest in relation to how vehicles will access the site and how traffic will be managed. Fact that overwhelming majority of vehicles involved will be Council controlled is more reassuring';*

- *'Good information, questions answered fully and additional information given that I didn't think I needed to know, but that was very helpful. Main concerns would be traffic speed and cautious driving. If main roads accessing plant are cleared during snow/ice this would help. Widening road and access from Mayfield link would be a help'; and*
- *'Unhappy about lorry movements, concerned about name of quarry, Boghill Road would be more correct. Need to see land take for road';*

1.32 There have also been a number of queries and comments raised through the project website portal. Where received, Becon has made every effort to respond to issues raised with a prompt and informative response. The full collation of responses received and replies are included in Appendix 3.

1.33 In addition to the extensive public consultation drop-in sessions, three specific meetings with residents groups, project brochure circulation to 28,000 homes within a two mile radius of the site and website information, there have been a number of presentations and discussions with a number of other bodies including:

- Responding to specific queries raised by Six Mile Water Trust and meeting with their representatives to explain the project and Becon Consortium approach to containment and ecological impact assessment;
- Presentation to Belfast Hills Partnership to show video and explain approach to the PAD process and respond to queries and questions; and
- Various meetings with appropriate political party representatives to provide an overview of the proposal and its current planning status.

1.34 In reflecting upon the helpful feedback received through the drop-in sessions and from other related meetings and discussions, there have been a number of refinements made to the project documentation that will form part of this final submission.

1.35 These include:

- *Consistency in the OS mapping used* – some concerns were raised at the drop-in sessions over the use of an OS context plan that did not show all of the completed and on-going residential development in the area. The vast majority of the OS mapping did utilise a more recent OS base which reflects the latest available OS mapping of on-going residential developments at Mayfield and Blackrock;
- *Traffic impact* – more simplistic graphical information has been prepared to explain the routes of the HGV traffic to and from the site; the volumes of traffic presently using these routes on a daily basis; the daily profile of arrivals and departures to the site and the types of vehicles that will be used to make this more easily understood. This information was

prepared as part of the presentation given to the Mayfield and Mallusk residents groups and will be included in the final transport chapter;

- *Litter and waste from trucks* – arc21 has confirmed that all vehicles transporting waste to the site would either be enclosed refuse collection vehicles or bulk containers that are either fully enclosed or netted;
- *Construction Management Plan* – following the issues raised during the drop-in sessions, and specifically through the very comprehensive meeting with Six Mile Water Trust further detail has been included in the CMP to explain more fully the mitigation proposed during construction and operation of the plant to address concerns relating to potential silt and debris entering the watercourse and monitoring of water quality at source within the site;
- *Landscape and Visual Impact assessment* – following comments received from a resident of Boghill Road an existing view of a property looking towards the proposed facility has been removed from the documentation and replaced with a viewpoint that does not include the property;
- *Land take information and information packs to affected parties* – the land take that is required to deliver the enhancements to the Boghill Road was something raised in a number of discussions with immediately affected residents and landowners who attended the drop-in sessions. It was explained that arc21 were in discussions with Land and Property Services who will be engaging with affected landowners. That is a matter that is being actively progressed; and
- *Apprenticeships and job opportunities* – Further information was requested on how the new jobs might benefit the local area. As detailed in Chapter 16 Population and Socio-Economic Impacts, employment opportunities will be advertised in the local media along with creating potential linkages with local colleges. Similar to other EEW plants, it is anticipated that Becon will also hold an ‘open day’ event where local businesses and people can attend to find out more about the opportunities available.

Appendix 1 – Public Notices and Media Coverage of Community Consultation



Public Consultation Coverage



Up in smoke

First ever incinerator at Hightown Quarry would create 750 jobs and power 30,000 homes, claim developers



Antrim and Belfast by within a two mile radius of the Hightown Quarry site and a website for the project now up and running. All residents within a two mile radius of the Hightown Quarry site will receive a brochure detailing the plans, Mr Shanks added, with the group expected to submit a full planning application in September of this year.

Continued from front
The group sought to allay any fears over environmental hazards for residents, living nearby, saying that the proposals would meet strict environmental and safety requirements and that dangerous gases would be destroyed or removed in the MBT facility during the process.

Planning Consultant for Becon.

Terminology
Mr Shanks said that the term incinerator was a "misrepresentation" of the facilities proposed, pointing to the fact that the plants will convert waste into energy.

"I have been dealing with DOE regarding various planning application since late 2007 and in all those years this has been the most exacting and precise planning application that I have ever been involved in," said Clyde Shanks,

"To simply call it an incinerator misrepresents the whole process. Rather than waste being got rid of, it is something that we can use. The great benefit of Becon being behind this project is that Becon has experience in this field and in dealing with public concerns," he said.

If the plans do go



The location of the proposed incinerator site between Belfast and Newtownabbey

ahead, The Becon Consortium estimate that it will be a major boost to the local labour market. The group claim that 450 jobs would be created in construction to build the site, while an additional 330 posts would be needed to run the incinerator if and when it becomes operational.

The project, financed jointly by the public and private sector, is expected to be worth £240m of direct capital investment, although Ricky Burnett, arc21 Planning and Operation director, said that it could "exceed over £1 billion of investment" over a 25 year period.

The plans straddle two councils, with the site in the current Antrim Borough Council area, while the Hightown Road, needed to gain access to the site, sits within Newtownabbey Borough Council. The two councils are set to merge before the project is complete.

Strategic
Ian Smith, Project Director with Becon, said that Hightown Quarry had emerged as a clear favourite for the choice of location

given its close location to key roads.

"The site is best because of its connections to the road network and the National Electricity Grid," he said.

In response to concerns that the Becon Consortium represented value for money since it was the only candidate remaining wishing to run the project, Ricky Burnett, arc21 planning and operation director, said that cost details were in the process of being clarified.

"There are many elements to it. We are working with the bidder to ensure that there is clarity on the details," he said.

The proposal was given a mixed welcome by two Ballyclare councillors.

DUP MLA Paul Girvan said that while there was a clear need to reduce landfill use, he did not wish to be drawn on supporting or rejecting the proposal.

"We have to wait and see the detail of it and I would think that there would be some opposition to it, but we have to see both sides of the argument. However, I acknowledge that we do need

to address the landfill issue," he said.

Exciting
However Alliance councillor Pat McCudden said that he was in favour of the proposals, which he described as "exciting".

"It is a plan which will cut back on the use of landfill. It will meet and surpass the government targets of 60% recycling and in addition will offer the benefits of generating energy. There will be no toxic waste from this - all the toxins will be processed and removed," he said.

"There will have to be a widening of the Hightown Road but there will be no significant increase in traffic compared to what there is now. In Sheffield in England there was a facility built in the middle of the city and there appears to have been no issues with that," added councillor McCudden.

Mr Shanks outlined the current status of the planning process, which has been ongoing since 2010. The proposals are now open for public consultation, with information sessions to be held in Newtownabbey,



Source: Antrim Times



Date: Tuesday 19. March 2013
Page: 5
Circulation: 3803
Size: 82

(MOC-705)

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Ref: Arc21 867796

MP urges community to 'fully engage' with waste plant consultation

SOUTH Antrim MP has urged the local community to "fully engage" with a planned consultation into proposals for an energy from waste and recycling plant at Mallusk.

William McCrea said that while he had received briefing on behalf of Bercon Consortium regarding their plans, he said it is of "vital importance" that the council, community organisations and elected representatives "carefully consider the impact of such a plant".

"I am aware of concerns already being expressed by local residents in respect to the visual impact, smell, and traffic management issues," Mr McCrea said.

He added: "I encourage the local community to be fully engaged during the

public consultation period so as to ensure their views are taken on board by all the relevant authorities.

"This proposal is partly proposed by arc21, an umbrella waste management organisation for 11 councils in the east of the Province.

"I am fully aware that Northern Ireland must meet its obligations under EU targets and that the landfill solutions of the past are no longer acceptable.

"In the final analysis the Minister for the Environment will have to make the final determination, but the issues raised by the community must not simply be passed over, but must be accredited with in-depth investigation and consideration."



Source: County Antrim Post

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Date: Tuesday 19. March 2013
Page: 6
Circulation: 0
Size: 739

(MOC-705)

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Ref: Arc21 867487

Excitement and caution in wake of incinerator announcement

Planned incinerator could create hundreds of jobs and power thousands of Co Antrim homes



Paul Ainsworth

news@countyantrimpost.com

Residents of Co Antrim are being urged to have their say on a planned new waste incinerator which aims to provide power for up to 30,000 homes.

The £240 million project was announced recently and immediately sparked debate over whether it should be built. The **Becon Consortium** group will be lodging the planning application, and hope to burn mountains of waste from across 11 local council areas in order to help them meet targets on the amount of rubbish going to landfill.

Mallusk

Described as a 'mechanical biological treatment' facility, the incinerator is planned for the Hightown Quarry site near Mallusk, but Becon are seeking local opinions before submitting their planning application to the Department of the Environment.

Three 'drop in sessions' have been announced in which members of the public can view the plans in detail, and give feedback to Becon reps. These will take place this week in Newtownabbey's Mossley Mill Museum on March 20 and 21; the Holiday Inn Express in Antrim on the 25th and 26th, and Belfast's Ramada Encore in St Anne's Square on the 27th and 28th. All sessions will be open between 11am and 7pm.

Becon claim that although they will be burning rubbish to create energy, the effect on the environment will be minimal, and will be similar to large waste incinerators on mainland Europe. If built, it will also boost the local economy to the tune of £24 million each year, and create up to 340 jobs.

Describing the plans, Ian Smith, Project Director at Becon Consortium said: "This is a very





Source: County Antrim Post

Date: Tuesday 19. March 2013
Page: 6
Circulation: 0
Size: 739



(MOC-705)

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exciting project which will see Northern Ireland catch up with the rest of Europe in ensuring we view waste as a valuable resource. Not only will it address the European imperative to divert our waste from landfill, but this project will ensure we extract the maximum value from the remaining non-recyclable black bin waste to generate much needed renewable and sustainable energy."

Speaking of the commitments of arc21, the collective waste management group representing 11 NI council areas including Ballymena, Antrim, Carrick, Larne, Belfast and Newtownab-

beys, Ian added: "we believe we are proposing the best available technology solution in the most suitable location to manage arc21's waste in a more environmentally responsible and sustainable way. In doing so, we will maximise the value from waste using proven technology and processes that will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency in compliance with strict EU permits."

Commitments

"As this project will introduce this type of technology to Northern Ireland for the first

Background:

The Becon proposal is not the first planned incinerator to become a burning issue for Co Antrim.

For a number of years, residents of Crumlin and Glensnavy fought against an incinerator planned for the shores of Lough Neagh, which was due to burn chicken waste to create energy.

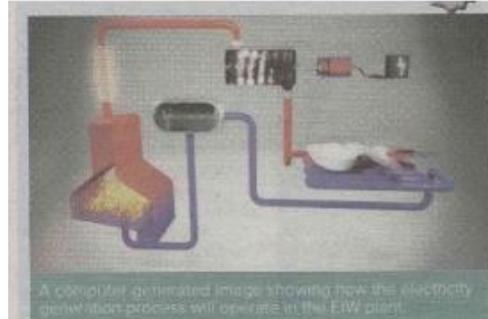
The Rose Energy firm behind the proposal, waited several years for the planning decision to be considered, facing staunch opposition from

the locals who formed their own pressure group, claiming the incinerator could release dangerous toxins into the air and ruin the scenic value of the Lough.

Last December, Environment Minister Alex Attwood finally rejected the plans, but critics warned the decision could damage NI's huge poultry industry, which needs to find new ways to dispose of chicken waste in line with strict EU rules.

Neither burying nor burning waste is good for people, good for the economy or good for the environment

Image of the proposed poultry waste incinerator at Glensnavy, which was rejected by planners



A computer generated image showing how the electricity generation process will operate at the EIW plant.

How the Becon incinerator will create energy from waste

An estimated 245,000 tonnes of household and commercial rubbish will be delivered to the plant each year for treatment. Metals, plastics and other recyclable materials will be removed by both machine and by hand, and the remaining waste will be treated in 'bio drying tunnels' to create a 'refuse-derived fuel'. This is then mixed with huge quantities of more general

waste in huge bunkers to create a 'homogenised fuel' which is then burned to create huge levels of heat. This heat boils water to create steam, which in turn drives turbines that generate electricity. 14MW of power will be exported to the electricity grid, while the ash leftover from the process will be processed into a material used by the construction industry.

time, we are expecting a number of questions and issues to be raised. However, with more than 20 years' experience of developing and operating similar facilities across Europe, we are confident that we will be able to explain our proposals and the many benefits they bring." However, a Green Party spokesman expressed concern at the proposals, and urged a full consultation with locals who would live close to the facility. Ross Brown told the Co Antrim Post: "We have yet to see the details on this waste incineration plant and, while waste sent to landfill are more harmful to the environment than incineration, incineration should only be considered when the possibility to re-use and recycle our waste have been exhausted. "Currently, 70 per cent of our

renewable waste ends up in landfill and we need to tackle that through more initiatives to collect such waste from peoples doorsteps and into the recycling process. As a society we need to urgently rethink our attitudes to waste generation and disposal rather than figuring out more ways of getting rid of it. Neither burying nor burning waste is good for people, good for the economy or good for the environment." A DOE spokesman confirmed to application had yet been lodged to planners, adding: "If an application is submitted, it will be advertised in the normal manner and members of the public and other interested parties, including local politicians and residents will have every opportunity to make representations."



Source: Antrim Times



Date: Tuesday 19. March 2013
Page: 2
Circulation: 3803
Size: 261

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1
Ref: Arc21 867792

arc21 unveils plans for energy from waste plant

PLANS for a new waste management infrastructure which will enable arc21 - the umbrella waste body for 11 councils including Antrim - to meet European landfill diversion targets and manage its waste more sustainably have been unveiled.

Representing a capital investment of £240m, the plans, if approved, will see the Becon Consortium deliver a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility alongside an Energy from Waste (EFW) plant located in the existing Hightown Quarry on the Boghill Road, near Mallusk.

Those behind the project say it will complement existing arc21 waste, reduction, reuse and recycling programmes to maximise recycling levels and create a sustainable energy source from the remaining residual black bin waste.

The Becon Consortium, aims to develop the facilities on behalf of arc21 pending the completion of a competitive procurement process.

The Consortium is backed by E.ON Energy from Waste AG, a leading European company with decades

of experience in developing and operating similar EFW plants. It currently operates 19 plants in Germany, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Ricky Burnett, Policy and Operations Director, arc21 said: "The need to ensure we meet targets and avoid potentially heavy fines has been well documented.

"Providing infrastructure to treat residual waste within our area represents the preferred option to meeting the challenges ahead.

"The proposals from the Becon Consortium, being unveiled, are in response to our ongoing procurement to provide this infrastructure.

"They contain a mix of technologies and facilities which satisfies our requirements and is at a site which is well located for a development of this nature. It will significantly reduce our dependency on landfill and contribute to improving the security and diversity of energy production in Northern Ireland.

"The consultation offers an opportunity for the public to engage

through a variety of means and people are encouraged to offer comments to Becon on the proposals."

Describing the project, Ian Smith, Project Director with Becon Consortium, said: "This is a very exciting project which will see Northern Ireland catch up with the rest of Europe in ensuring we view waste as a valuable resource.

"We believe we are proposing the best available technology solution in the most suitable location to manage arc21's waste in a more environmentally responsible and sustainable way. In doing so, we will maximise the value from waste using proven technology and processes that will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency in compliance with strict EU permits.

"As this project will introduce this type of technology to Northern Ireland for the first time, we are expecting a number of questions and issues to be raised. However, with more than 20 years' experience of developing and operating similar facilities across Europe, we are confident that we will

be able to explain our proposals and the many benefits they bring.

"That is why we are keen to undertake a comprehensive consultation programme prior to submitting a formal planning application."

Public consultation will include a project website www.becon.co.uk the distribution of an introductory brochure to approximately 30,000 homes and businesses in the vicinity of the site and a number of planned community drop-in sessions within Newtownabbey, Antrim and Belfast City Council areas.

Ongoing communication and community engagement will be carried out in the weeks and months ahead and detailed information will be made available on the website.

It is anticipated that the plants will be constructed and in full operation within four years of securing the necessary planning and permitting consents, and a successful conclusion of arc21's procurement process.

"Local MP's reaction to the proposal - see Page 5



Community invited to view proposals for **Becon** project to generate energy from waste facility

THE Becon Consortium, which would built the proposed incinerator in Mallusk if it got the go ahead has invited the public to view its plans at a series of information events.

Prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn the Becon Consortium, backed by leading European energy company E.ON Energy from Waste, is undertaking a programme of extensive public consultation.

This is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and provide the public and other stakeholders with an opportunity to provide their feedback.

The Becon Consortium, in response to the ongoing procurement by Arc21, the umbrella waste group representing 11 councils in the east of Northern Ireland, has said the incinerator

plan would help those councils meet their EU landfill diversion targets and manage waste in a more sustainable way.

An information session was scheduled for Wednesday (March 20) and Thursday (March 21) in Mossley Mill between 11am and 7pm.

Another session will take place in the Holiday Inn Express in Antrim on March 25 and March 26, again between 11am and 7pm on both days.

The final information event will be held in the Ramada Encore in St Anne's Square, Belfast on March 27 and March 28.

To support the consultation programme, a project website has been launched - www.becon.co.uk.

The Project remains subject to the successful conclusion of separate public procurement and planning processes.



Plans were unveiled last week for a multi-million pound recycling and waste incinerator plant to be built in the Hightown Quarry in Mallusk. Under the plans waste from 11 councils will be collected, sorted and recycled and the materials which can't be reused will be incinerated to create electricity.



Source: Antrim Guardian

nimms

Date: Thursday 21. March 2013
Page: 11
Circulation: 13796
Size: 243

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1
Ref: Arc21 567460

Members of the public invited to discuss waste plant proposals at Holiday Inn on March 25-26

Council tries to keep £240m talks a 'secret'

by Jeremy Hopkin
news@antrimguardian.co.uk

ANTRIM Council met in closed session last week to discuss the £240 million waste plant earmarked for the Hightown Quarry.

The press were barred from the briefing, but it has emerged afterwards that councillors 'endorsed' arc21's vision for the future.

The umbrella waste body for 11 councils, including Antrim, believes the sprawling plant on the Boghall Road, near the edge of the Antrim Borough, will help them meet European landfill diversion targets and manage their waste more sustainably.

The announcement has triggered a programme of extensive public consultation designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and provide the public and other stakeholders with an opportunity to provide their feedback ahead of submission of a formal planning application in the autumn.

The consortium behind the huge project will be at the Holiday Inn Express in Antrim from 11am to 7pm on

March 25-26 to meet with locals.

The project is subject to the successful conclusion of both public procurement and planning processes - and given the scale of the ambitious scheme the latter may be far from a foregone conclusion.

Representing a capital investment of £240m, the plans, if approved, will see the Becon Consortium deliver a Mechanical Biological Treatment facility alongside an

Energy from Waste plant.

This type of waste infrastructure is commonly used across the rest of Europe and will form an integral part of Northern Ireland's agreed waste management strategy.

arc21 claim that the project will 'complement' existing waste, reduction, reuse and recycling programmes to maximise recycling levels and create a sustainable energy source from the remaining residual black bin waste.

They also maintain that the project will export 14MW electricity to the National Grid - enough to power more than 30,000 homes - contributing to Northern Ireland's

arc21

renewable energy targets, while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions compared to using landfill.

An independent economic assessment by Oxford Economics estimates that the project will create or sustain approximately 340 permanent direct and indirect jobs when operational - contributing over £24m Gross Value Added to the Northern Ireland economy per annum.

It will also create up to 455 direct construction jobs and support a significant number of additional jobs in the construction supply chain, generating an estimated £215m in the process.

"It is anticipated that the plants will be con-

structed and in full operation within four years of securing the necessary planning and permitting consents, and a successful conclusion of arc21's procurement process," said a spokesman.

While they admit

they are awaiting full details of the proposal, the Green Party have already voiced their concerns.

"As a society we need to urgently rethink our attitudes to waste generation and disposal rather than figuring out

more ways of getting rid of it," said spokesman Ross Brown.

"Neither burying nor burning waste is good for people, good for the economy or good for the environment."

Residents view proposals for the Becon Project

THE Becon Consortium, the organisation behind plans to develop new residual waste management infrastructure to help all 11 councils within the arc21 area meet their EU landfill diversion targets and manage waste in a more sustainable way, recently held a local community information session in the Holiday Inn in Antrim.

The proposed site for the development is the Hightown Quarry, Mallusk.

Prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn the Becon Consortium, backed by leading European energy company E.ON Energy from Waste, is undertaking a 12 week programme of extensive public consultation.

This is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and offer the public and other stakeholders an opportunity to provide their feedback.

Further 'drop in' events are also being planned for the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area during April and May.

To support the consultation programme, a project website has also been launched - www.becon.co.uk which people can also use to provide feedback and ask questions.

Further event details will be also made available on the website when confirmed.

Speaking about the first series of events, Ian Smith, Project Director, Becon Consortium said: "We have had a very successful first engagement with local residents and businesses across Newtownabbey, Antrim and Belfast and found their comments and feedback very helpful.

"Most of those who attended the exhibition and drop in sessions have told us they have left much better informed about our proposals.

"Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application.

"We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project this is especially the case since many here will not be familiar with the proposed tried and tested technology that has been common practice across Europe for over 20 years.

"Throughout this consultation programme we are committed to informing people fully about our plans and answering as many questions as possible. We



Pictured at the information session are (l-r) Mary Gallagher, Becon Project; Richard Hart; Pam Brown, MLA for South Antrim and Ricky Burnett, Policy and Operations Director, arc21.

are also keen to listen to the views of local residents and will use their feedback to inform our planning application later in the year.

"We look forward to hosting more community information events in the local area during April and May."

Representing a capital investment of £240m, the plans, if approved, will see the Becon Consortium deliver a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility alongside an Energy from Waste (EFW) plant located in the existing Hightown Quarry on the Boghill Road, near Mallusk. This type of waste

infrastructure is commonly used across the rest of Europe and is entirely consistent with Northern Ireland's waste management strategy recently consulted upon.

The project will complement existing arc21 waste prevention, reuse and recycling programmes to maximise recycling levels and create a sustainable energy source from the remaining residual black bin waste.

The Project remains subject to the successful conclusion of separate public procurement and planning processes.

Mallusk incinerator consultation meetings at Corrs Corner

THE group behind the plans for an new incinerator facility at Mallusk, the **Becon Consortium**, has announced details of drop-in consultation meetings in the Newtownabbey area.

There will be four drop-in sessions during April and May, to be held in Corrs Corner Hotel and in the Academy Sports Club in Mallusk. The first sessions will take place this weekend on Friday and Saturday.

The proposals, which Becon Consortium claim would create 750 jobs and produce enough energy to power 30,000 homes, have already met with opposition from both residents groups and local politicians.

The former site of the Hightown Quarry is the chosen site for the planned development, which aims to reduce Northern Ireland's landfill waste totals and convert some of the waste into energy.

Prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn the Becon Consortium is undertaking a programme of extensive pub-

lic consultation. This is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and provide the public and other stakeholders with an opportunity to share their feedback.

To support the consultation programme, a project website has also been launched - www.becon.co.uk - where people can also use to provide feedback and ask questions.

Ian Smith, Project Director with Becon Consortium, urged the public to come and see the plans for the plant for themselves.

"Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents in particular have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns considered. We are particularly mindful that while the proposed solution has been common place across the rest of Europe for over 20 years, many in Northern Ireland

will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology we are proposing," he said.

"Throughout this consultation programme we are committed to informing people fully about our plans and answering as many questions as possible. We would therefore encourage anyone who is interested in finding out more to come along to these drop-in information events where they will get an opportunity to meet directly with the Becon team," added Mr Smith.

Friday 26th April 11am-8pm

Corrs Corner Hotel,
Ballyclare Road,
Newtownabbey

Saturday 27th April 10am-4pm

Corrs Corner Hotel,
Ballyclare Road,
Newtownabbey

Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm

Academy Sports Club,
Hydepark Road, Mallusk

Saturday 11th May 10am-4pm

Academy Sports Club,
Hydepark Road, Mallusk



Source: Ballymena Guardian

nimms

Date: Thursday 25. April 2013

Page: 48

Circulation: 13796

Size: 39

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1

Ref: Arc21 886225

Information on new waste plant

THE organisation behind plans to develop a waste management plant to serve councils within the arc21 area - including Antrim - has confirmed the details of a series of drop-in information events.

Community groups and individual members of the public are

invited to attend at any of four upcoming sessions, beginning this Friday (April 26) from 11am to 8pm at Carrs Corner Hotel in Newtownabbey.

The website www.becon.co.uk has also been launched to allow the public to ask questions and provide feedback about the project.



Source: Ballyclare Gazette

Date: Thursday 25. April 2013

Page: 10

Circulation: 3465

Size: 179

nimmw

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1
Ref: Arc21 887498

Mallusk incinerator consultation meetings at Corrs Corner

THE group behind the plans for a new incinerator facility at Mallusk, the **Becon Consortium**, has announced details of drop-in consultation meetings in the Newtownabbey area.

There will be four drop-in sessions during April and May, to be held in Corrs Corner Hotel and in the Academy Sports Club in Mallusk. The first sessions will take place this weekend on Friday and Saturday.

The proposals, which Becon Consortium claim would create 750 jobs and produce enough energy to power 30,000 homes, have already met with opposition from both residents groups and local politicians.

The former site of the Hightown Quarry is the chosen site for the planned development, which aims to reduce Northern Ireland's landfill waste totals and convert some of the waste into energy.

Prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn the Becon Consortium is undertaking a programme of extensive pub-

lic consultation. This is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and provide the public and other stakeholders with an opportunity to share their feedback.

To support the consultation programme, a project website has also been launched - www.becon.co.uk - where people can also use to provide feedback and ask questions.

Ian Smith, Project Director with Becon Consortium, urged the public to come and see the plans for the plant for themselves.

"Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents in particular have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns considered. We are particularly mindful that while the proposed solution has been common place across the rest of Europe for over 20 years, many in Northern Ireland

will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology we are proposing," he said.

"Throughout this consultation programme we are committed to informing people fully about our plans and answering as many questions as possible. We would therefore encourage anyone who is interested in finding out more to come along to these drop-in information events where they will get an opportunity to meet directly with the Becon team," added Mr Smith.

Friday 26th April 11am-8pm

Corrs Corner Hotel,
Ballyclare Road,
Newtownabbey

Saturday 27th April 10am-4pm

Corrs Corner Hotel,
Ballyclare Road,
Newtownabbey

Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm

Academy Sports Club,
Hydepark Road, Mallusk

Saturday 11th May 10am-4pm

Academy Sports Club,
Hydepark Road, Mallusk



Source: Newtownabbey Times

nimms

Date: Thursday 25. April 2013

Page: 13

Circulation: 9213

Size: 100

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1

Ref: AIC21 887253

Hightown incinerator plant information events

THE Becon Consortium, the group behind an incinerator plant plan for the Hightown area, is holding another series of information events on the multi-million pound proposal.

At 21, the organisation which represents 11 councils including Newtownabbey, is planning to build a waste sorting plant and incinerator in the Hightown Quarry.

The proposal will see a huge power plant built which will burn waste which can't be recycled and convert the resulting energy into electricity, which could potentially power 30,000 homes for a year.

The Becon Consortium, which is handling

the proposal is keen to engage with the public about the proposal.

Representatives from the organisation will be in Carr's Corner hotel this Friday, April 26 from 11am to 8pm and on Saturday, April 27 from 10am to 4pm.

And on Friday, May 10, they will be holding another information session in the Academy Sports Club from 4pm to 8pm and on Saturday, May 11 from 10am to 4pm.

The event is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and provide the public and others with an opportunity to share their feedback.

Project director with Becon Ian Smith said:

"Most of those who attended the exhibition and drop in sessions to date have told us they have left much better informed about our proposals and we therefore are keen to host some more in the local area.

"We have found them very useful as a way to listen to the comments and feedback from local people and will use this feedback to inform our planning application later in the year.

"We would encourage anyone who is interested in finding out more to come along to these drop-in information events."

Further details on the plan can be found at www.becon.co.uk.



Source: Newtownabbey Times

nimmms

Date: Thursday 16. May 2013

Page: 11

Circulation: 9213

Size: 140

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 2

Ref: Arc21 898530

Mallusk residents view waste plant proposals

THE latest local community 'drop in' information session for the Becon Project took place in the Academy Sports Club, Mallusk, at the weekend.

Representing a capital investment of £240m, the plans, if approved, will see the Becon Consortium construct a Mechanical Biological Treatment facility alongside an Energy from Waste (EfW) plant in the existing Hightown Quarry on the Boghill Road, not far from residential areas of Mallusk, Hyde Park and Glengormley. The EfW plant

(a)

residual waste from 11 local council areas, producing electricity and helping to divert more waste away from landfill.

While the Becon Consortium has pointed out that similar waste disposal infrastructure is commonly used across the rest of Europe, the plan has already met with considerable opposition from local residents and political representatives, who believe the rural location of the site means it's not suitable for such a large scale project, particularly in terms of the roads infrastructure in the area and the potential

affect on nearby residential areas.

The Becon Consortium has been holding information sessions in the Newtownabbey area over the past number of weeks as part of an extensive period of public consultation, prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn.

Speaking about the events, Ian Smith, Project Director with the Becon Consortium said: "We have had a very successful engagement with local residents and businesses and found their comments and feedback

very helpful. Most of those who attended the exhibition and drop in sessions have told us they have left much better informed about our proposals.

"Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project this is especially the case

since many here will not be familiar with the proposed tried and tested technology that has been common practice across Europe for over 20 years.

"The consultation programme will continue until the formal planning application is submitted and we continue to welcome feedback from the public on our proposals via the website, post, email or phone."

For more information about the Becon Consortium's plans, or to take part in the consultation process, log on to www.becon.co.uk



Source: Carrickfergus Advertiser and Larne Gazette 

Date: Thursday 18. April 2013

Page: 31

(MOC-705)

Circulation: 3465

Page 1 of 1

Ref: Arc21 683774

Size: 132



Public Consultation for the Becon Project

Residual Waste Infrastructure to Serve the arc21 Council Area

The Becon Consortium, in response to the ongoing procurement by arc21, the umbrella waste group representing 11 councils in the East of Northern Ireland, recently announced plans to develop new residual waste management infrastructure to help all 11 Councils meet their EU landfill diversion targets and manage waste in a more sustainable way.

Prior to the submission of a formal planning application in the autumn, the Becon Consortium, backed by leading European energy company E.ON Energy from Waste, is undertaking a programme of extensive public consultation. This is designed to explain the proposals in detail, answer questions and offer the public and other stakeholders an opportunity to provide their feedback. The Project is subject to the successful conclusion of separate public procurement and planning processes.

Representing a capital investment of £240m, the plans, if approved, will see the Becon Consortium deliver a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility alongside an Energy from Waste (EFW) plant located in the existing Hightown Quarry on the Boghill Road, near Mallusk. This type of waste infrastructure is commonly used across the rest of Europe and is entirely consistent with Northern Ireland's waste management strategy, recently consulted upon. The project will complement existing arc21 waste prevention, reuse and recycling programmes to maximise recycling levels and create a sustainable energy source from the remaining residual black bin waste.

To support the consultation programme, a project website has been launched - www.becon.co.uk. Further to a number of drop-in sessions held in March in Newtownabbey, Antrim and Belfast, we are holding a second series of events. These will enable members of the public to come along, meet the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals. These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:

Friday 26th April, 11am - 3pm

Carrs Corner Hotel, 315 Ballyclare Road, Newtownabbey

Saturday 27th April, 10am - 4pm

Carrs Corner Hotel, 315 Ballyclare Road, Newtownabbey

Friday 10th May, 4pm - 8pm

Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

Saturday 11th May, 10am - 4pm

Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

If you are interested in finding out more information you can visit the website www.becon.co.uk.



Source: Antrim Times

nimms

Date: Tuesday 30. April 2013

Page: 37

Circulation: 3803

Size: 117

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1

Ref: Arc21 590726



Public Consultation for the Becon Project

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To support the consultation programme, a project website has been launched - www.becon.co.uk. Further to a number of drop-in sessions held in March and April, in Newtownabbey, Antrim and Belfast, we will now be holding more events. These will enable members of the public to come along, meet the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals. The next sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:

Friday 10th May, 4pm – 8pm

Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

Saturday 11th May, 10am – 4pm

Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

If you are interested in finding out more information you can visit the website www.becon.co.uk.

Source: Antrim Times

nimms

Date: Tuesday 30. April 2013

Page: 37

Circulation: 3803

Size: 117

(MOC-705)

Page 1 of 1

Ref: Arc21 890726



Public Consultation for the Becon Project

Residual Waste Infrastructure to Serve the arc21 Council Area

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If you are interested in finding out more information you can visit the website www.becon.co.uk.



Public Consultation for the Becon Project

Residual Waste Infrastructure to Serve the arc21 Council Area

The Becon Consortium, in response to the ongoing procurement by arc21, the umbrella waste group representing 11 councils in the East of Northern Ireland, recently announced plans to develop new residual waste management infrastructure to help all 11 Councils meet their EU landfill diversion targets and manage waste in a more sustainable way.

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To support the consultation programme, a project website has been launched - www.becon.co.uk. Further to a number of drop-in sessions held in March in Newtownabbey, Antrim and Belfast, we are holding a second series of events. These will enable members of the public to come along, meet the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals. These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:

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Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

Saturday 11th May, 10am - 4pm

Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Newtownabbey

If you are interested in finding out more information you can visit the website www.becon.co.uk

Newspaper title	Date of insertion
Newsletter	14/03/13
Belfast Telegraph	14/03/13
Irish News	14/03/13
North Belfast News	14/03/13
North Belfast Community Telegraph	18/03/13
Antrim Times inc Ballymena Time	19/03/13
Newtownabbey Times inc Larne, Carrick, East Antrim Times	14/03/13
Ballyclare Gazette	14/03/13
Antrim Guardian	14/03/13
Newsletter	18/04/13
Belfast Telegraph	18/04/13
Irish News	18/04/13
North Belfast News	18/04/13
North Belfast Community Telegraph	17/04/13
Antrim Times inc Ballymena Time	16/04/13
Newtownabbey Times inc Larne, Carrick, East Antrim Times	18/04/13
Ballyclare Gazette	18/04/13
Antrim Guardian	18/04/13
Newsletter	02/05/13
Belfast Telegraph	02/05/13
Irish News	02/05/13
North Belfast News	02/05/13
North Belfast Community Telegraph	01/05/13
Antrim Times inc Ballymena Time	30/04/13
Newtownabbey Times inc Larne, Carrick, East Antrim Times	02/05/13
Ballyclare Gazette	02/05/13
Antrim Guardian	02/05/13

Appendix 2 – Completed Feedback Forms from Drop-In Events

Name

(inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address:

Address [REDACTED]

Postcode [REDACTED]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

[REDACTED]

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE RESERVATIONS AFTER THE RIFFA SCENARIO, WHAT ASSURANCES CAN YOU GIVE THAT THIS PLANT WILL ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO LOOK AFTER LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, CAN YOU HELP IMPROVE THIS SITUATION? DO YOU PLAN TO WORK PROACTIVELY WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS & ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS?
WHAT CAN I REPORT TO MY ANGLING CLUBS & ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATION?
MALLORCA ANGLING SOCIETY / RESIDENTS GROUP
ARTUM DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB ← ENVIRONMENTAL
SIX MILE WATER TRUST
ARTUM LINC COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM ← TRAFFIC SITUATION

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other LETTER

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email:

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Seems to be well thought out
Project, well integrated into
Existing Brown Site.
Hopefully will do away with a lot
of unpleasant odour, which
we get at present from landfill.
It will create jobs!

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

*If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.

Thank you for your time

Name

[REDACTED] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details:

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email:

Address:

Address [REDACTED]
Postcode [REDACTED]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

At the moment everything looks well thought out, but as a Malletts resident, my main concern is TRAFFIC - during building and everyday use of the complex - Malletts is a busy residential area - have you thought of their inconvenience - noise, dirt, smell!

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

At present I have only had a small piece of information about the proposal through local media. My first reaction is horror for two main reasons.

- 1 - Level of traffic
- 2 - Smell of pollution from the site.

I have a young boy who attends Gueltscoileanna primary school on the Hightown road and fear the high levels of lorries going up the Hightown Rd will be increase safety concerns for me as well as road congestion.

I also do not think that 95 direct jobs are a huge opportunity for local people.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

*If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

INTERESTED TO SEE AND DISCUSS THE PROJECT.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Email: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Address:

Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Recreational fishing ponds & relationship
site drainage / potential cabarets - 2 North
of Boghill Rd. Wants assurances that
assessment ensures no impact - construction of road/
plant and
dry operation.
- Ecology } wants
- Hydrology } reassurance
from professional team.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Very informative presentation on the plant itself + the technology which is undoubtedly needed as an alternative to Landfill.

However I remain unconvinced as to the location on the following grounds -

- ① unsightly in one of the last remaining green areas of Mallow
- ② in the vicinity of a densely populated area - Mallow + Mayfield (although the 2,000 houses in Mayfield are inexplicably ~~missing~~ missing from the map!!)
- ③ Increased traffic in an already clogged up area due to industrial estate + Cottonmount / PTO

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

We are very disappointed that we were not informed by the company that this consultation was taking place. I am most concerned by the amount of traffic, road noise + impact this project will have on a very rural area. We also learned this project was earmarked for Dargan Rd. Why was this removed from an industrial complex to a rural one. Mallusk will be the proud proprietor of two waste units making us the dumping ground of Northern Ireland. Lots more consultation needs to take place with the local residents as your proposal of Mail drops to Antim, Belfast + Ballyelake is of no indication of how people feel as there will be NO impact on these areas.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Pure Luck

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

OBjects to this project
Due to smell, noise
Rats, Gears.
Traffic

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Customer Name (inc Title if applicable)
[REDACTED]

Contact Details: Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address:

Address	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]

Preferred Method of Follow up:

Telephone Email Post None Required

Event Attended:

Mossley Mill 20th 21st Holiday Inn, Antrim 25th 26th

Ramada Encore 27th 28th

Comments/Agreed Actions:

Interested in info re: road + land requirements
 + Didn't get brochure in post
 - issues of horse breeding / training
 on-site adjacent to ~~factory~~ facility.
 - Very concerned about potential land take
~~and~~ for road upgrade +
 - concerned about impact on property
 values

Dealt with by: Staff Initials: S.Kg

Name

 (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: 

Email: 

Address:

Address 
Postcode 

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

JOEY INTERESTED IN THIS PROJECT BOTH AS A LOCAL RESIDENT
AND A COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHER INTERESTED IN ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.
IF POSSIBLE CAN YOU ADD ME TO YOUR PUBLIC MAILING LIST
AND ALSO ANY PR/ PRESS DISTRIBUTION LISTS.

MANY THANKS

Joe joe@joefoxphoto.co.uk

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

Address:

Address [Redacted]

Postcode [Redacted]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Great project for N. Ireland - more jobs, less waste, more sustainable energy. It can only be a win-win situation.
Thank you for all the information.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

A. LOT OF QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS.
ANSWERED, WELL PRESENTED AND
HELPFUL EXPERTS.

I WOULD BE IN FAVOUR OF SUCH A
PROJECT. PROVIDING I COULD SEE A
SAMPLE PROJECT (WORKING PROJECT)
ELSEWHERE.

GOOD LUCK.

D. D. D. " 21/3/03

How did you hear about the Information events: (POST)
Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *
Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

(inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone:

Email:

Address:

Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

I found the open day information quite difficult to find - could all public information days etc be prominently displayed on the home page or an obvious section of the becon website?

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Good information, questions answered fully, and additional information given that I didn't think I needed to know, but was very helpful.

Main concerns would be traffic speed, and cautious driving.

If main roads accessing plant are cleared during snow/ice this would help. Widening road, and access from Mayfield lane would be a help.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other Twitter

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]

Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

A very useful initial information opportunity. People available were engaging and willing to answer questions — appreciated.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

 (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

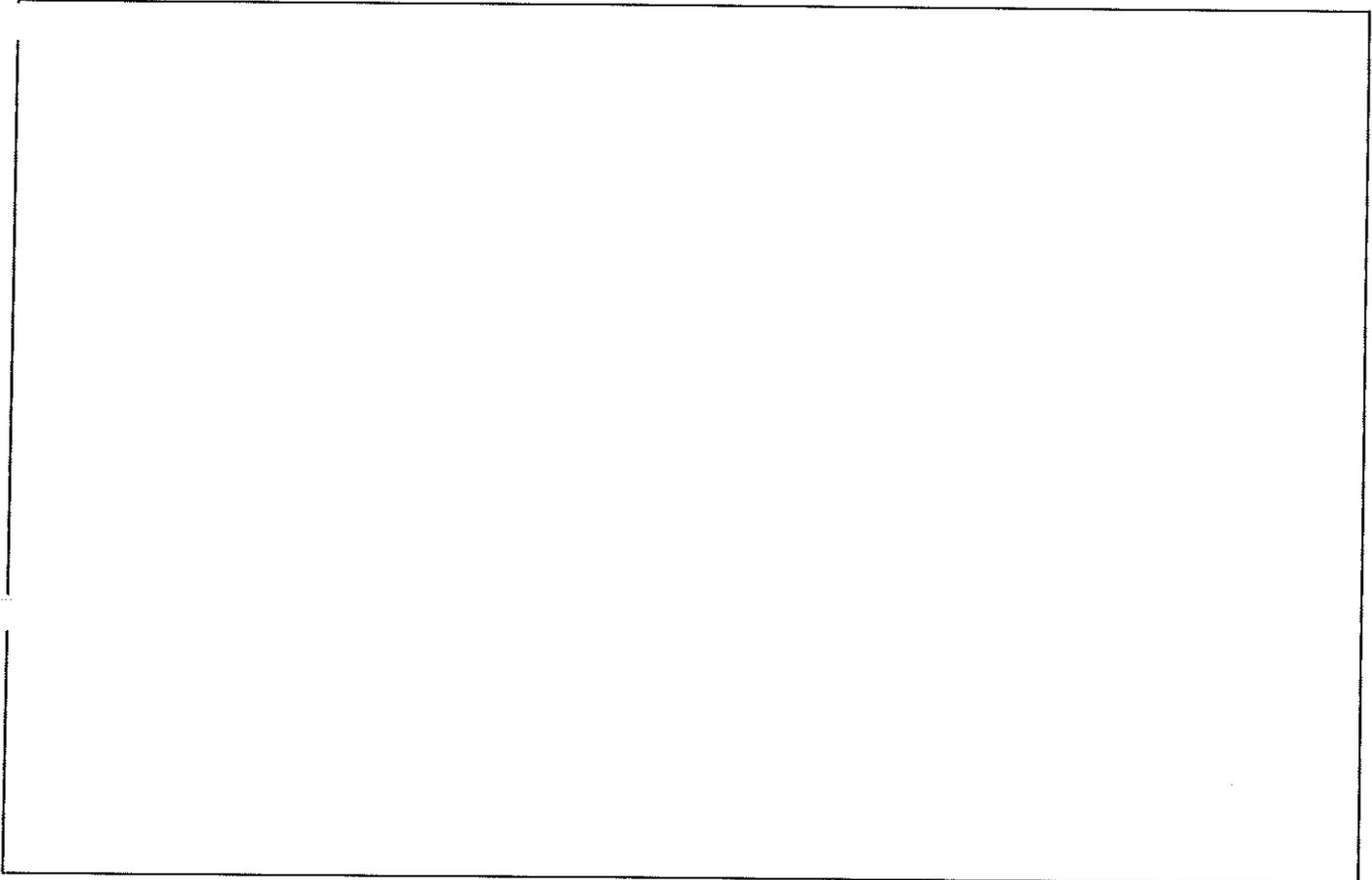
Telephone: 

Email: 

Address:

Address
Postcode 

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)



How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone:

Email: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Address:

Address ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Postcode ~~XXXXXX~~

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

My main concern was with access to the site. The main upper Crumlin Road has for many years been blighted by land fill activities which were poorly regulated, resulting in dangerous road conditions etc. My mind has been put at rest in relation to how vehicles will access the site & how traffic will be managed. The fact that the overwhelming majority of vehicles will be 'Council' controlled is also more reassuring. The development itself fits as well as any such development can into the environment.

P. O.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

Address:

Address [Redacted]

Postcode [Redacted]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Staff were very helpful, and I did get answers to most of my questions. Still concerned regarding my development however more of a personal wo will keep considering!

S.H.D

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

APPEARS SATISFACTORY - WILL SEND FURTHER COMMENTS

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other DIRECT MAIL

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

(inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone:

Email:

Address:

Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Was satisfied with answers given. I realize that waste needs to be dealt with, and as long as we have no bad smells and the traffic and litter dropping is controlled, I am happy enough for this facility to be built in this area.

How did you hear about the Information events: *News programme*

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Appears to be well researched and thought through from all aspects including impact on skyline.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Info query on primary routes to + from site.

DAY 3

ANTRIM

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

I am excited about this new project and would like to find out more about job opportunities and the recruitment of staff as my background is in HR Management and Apprenticeship training programmes.
I am also a local resident who will live close to the site and am therefore keen to ~~see~~ reap the benefits of the new project (eg electricity output).

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other Brochure through door.

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time



Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details:

Telephone: [Redacted Telephone]

Email: [Redacted Email]

Address:

Address [Redacted Address]
Postcode [Redacted Postcode]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

I UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR FACILITIES OF THIS KIND BUT I DO THINK THAT THOSE WHO LIVE WITHIN THE VICINITY SHOULD BENEFIT SOMEHOW FOR THE INCONVENIENCE OVER THOSE AT THE EXTREMITIES OF THE REGION.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

[Signature]

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

**If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.*

Thank you for your time

Name

[REDACTED] (inc Title if applicable)

**Contact
Details:**

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Address:

Address [REDACTED]
Postcode [REDACTED]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PROJECT WHICH
SHOULD BRING GOOD BENEFIT TO THE
AREA.

I TRUST OUR COMPANY CAN GET INVOLVED
WITH THE TECHNOLOGY.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name (Inc Title if applicable)

Contact Details: Telephone:

Email:

Address: Address
Postcode

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

VERY INFORMATIVE.
MORE INFORMATION PLEASE.

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

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Thank you for your time

Name

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Email:

Address:

Address ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
Postcode ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

- Unhappy about long movements.
- Concerned about name of Quarry ->
- Boghill would be more correct
- need map bases showing land take
for road
- need to be kept informed
-

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

*If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.

Thank you for your time



Mallusk
Sports Club

Feedback Form

11th May

Name

[Redacted Name] (inc Title if applicable)

Contact
Details:

Telephone: [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

Address:

Address [Redacted]
Postcode [Redacted]

Comments/Feedback: (Please use the reverse of this sheet if more space needed)

Very informative. My questions re traffic answered comprehensively.
Thank you. Mackey

How did you hear about the Information events:

Newspaper Website Word Of Mouth Local Council Other MAIL SHOT

Would you like to be kept up to date with progress on the Becon project and other related news? *

Yes No

*If provided, your email address will be added to the Becon project mailing list (and will not be provided to third parties). If you do not wish to receive further information from Becon, please opt out.

Thank you for your time

Appendix 3 – Project Website Queries and Responses

Website and Telephone Queries Received

	Questions	Response/Source of Info
	12th March	
1	<p>I was interested to read about the energy from waste facility proposals.</p> <p>I am a journalist in the European Parliament. Are you planning to bid for European funding or talk with the Northern Ireland MEPs?</p> <p>If so, it would be great to know.</p> <p>Many thanks.</p>	<p>Telephone conversation – no further response required.</p>
2	<p>Dear Becon,</p> <p>As a local resident I use the Hydepark Road on a regular basis. With no footpath, and a single lane for quite a large part of the road, I would be concerned that the proposed plans do not go far enough to redevelop the road to facilitate the heavy traffic that the facility would bring. Where could I see more detailed plans for the road network?</p> <p>Since I moved to the area, over a decade ago, there have been multiple fatalities and many more accidents on that stretch of road. This is before the heavy residential expansion in the area. What securities is Beacon giving in respect of the Hydepark Road?? I believe that the focus on the development of the Boghill Road is very much misguided as that road does not currently facilitate a heavy flow of traffic.</p> <p>In addition, the views provided in the mocked up photographs provide the perspective from Mallusk Playing Fields and the entrance to Blackrock, but this is not where the majority of people will see the facility. Is it possible to see a mock view of the site from the junction of the Hightown Road and Hydepark Road?</p> <p>I look forward to hearing from you.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 15th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project. We note you have two main queries re traffic concerns and views of the site. We will address each in turn.</p> <p><u>Traffic Queries</u></p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network.</p> <p>The proposals do however include the upgrade of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from Hydepark Road and substantial improvements at the Hydepark Road/Boghill Road junction. Please see Page 41 of Chapter 3 of the Environmental Statement available in the download section of our website for further details.</p> <p>Importantly, the junction of Hydepark Road/Upper Hightown Road/Hightown Road has been assessed and will operate within capacity when the development is fully operational.</p> <p>You can find the full details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>Follow the links through to Chapter 12 of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>Specifically we would also draw your attention to a review of roads safety and accident data which is included at Table 5.1, page 11 of the Transport Assessment chapter 12.</p> <p><u>Site Views</u></p> <p>In relation to the Site views you mention – in the gallery section of our website we have only focused on a small number of site views.</p>

		<p>We have provided a number of photomontage views from Hydepark Road, Boghill Road and Flush Road elsewhere on the website within the draft Environmental Statement. These will show the current view and the proposed view should the project be built.</p> <p>Please see Chapter 10 of the Environmental Statement available in the download section of our website for further details.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>We hope these answers address your questions.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team.</p>
3	<p>Dear Becon,</p> <p>I've just read the news story on BBC NI's site about your proposed facility at the Hightown Quarry near Mallusk. Whilst I welcome new renewable technologies, I do have a few questions, most centred around the environmental impact on the area since there are a number of newly built housing developments in the area, particularly along the Hyde Park road.</p> <p>Firstly, I'd like to know more about any impact to air quality by this facility. Are the smoke and waste gases collected or filtered or simply expelled into the atmosphere? Given that some of the EfW material may contain substances would could produce toxic fumes from combustion, you can understand my concern.</p> <p>Secondly, where and how is the waste stored prior to processing and combustion? I currently work near Duncrue just outside Belfast which has a waste treatment facility. Depending on wind direction, the smell on a warm day can be quite unpleasant. Is it likely that waste will be stored outdoors allowing a smell to carry on the wind?</p> <p>Many thanks for listening to my concerns and I look forward to your reply,</p>	<p>Response: Sent 15th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project. We note you have two main queries re air quality concerns and possible odours. We will address each in turn.</p> <p><u>Air Quality</u></p> <p>As you would imagine we have undertaken a great deal of Air Quality Assessment in the preparation of our draft Environmental Statement. This is available on our project website at the following link: http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>You can see the full Air Quality Assessment in Chapter 14 of the Environmental Statement document.</p> <p>As you will see, the gases produced during the combustion stage of the EfW will be treated in a state of the art Flue Gas Treatment plant. The proposed plant will not emit smoke, with any visible plume being colourless steam which will be invisible, except in very cold and dry weather conditions when some condensation vapour may be visible. All emissions from the facility will be tightly controlled and monitored 24 hours a day, and will go through a complex cleaning process to ensure there is no unacceptable impact on the environment or air quality.</p> <p><u>Odour Concerns</u></p> <p>One of the permit requirements will be that there is no noticeable odour and frequent checks will be carried out to ensure this is strictly enforced. A number of measures will be employed to ensure that odours are contained within the facilities, including ventilation, negative air pressure and bio-filter systems. All waste will be handled inside fully contained buildings and vehicles bringing waste to site will be covered to prevent odours escaping.</p> <p>The waste and Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) generated in the MBT will be stored in the MBT Reception Hall, MBT Bio-Drying Tunnels, EfW Bunker and RDF store. Therefore no waste will be stored outside.</p> <p>The MBT reception hall will be fully ventilated and kept under negative air pressure to prevent odour escaping. In addition to this each delivery bay will be equipped with high speed doors coupled</p>

		<p>with air curtain systems. The exhaust air will be used in the bio-drying tunnels before undergoing treatment through an ammonia removal stage and finally passing through a bio-filter.</p> <p>The EfW tipping hall and bunker will operate under negative pressure and the air within the bunker will be drawn into the furnace as combustion air.</p> <p>During the annual EfW downtime the RDF generated in the MBT will be baled and wrapped within the MBT Reception Hall and stored in the RDF Bale Store.</p> <p>Hopefully this addresses your queries.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
4	<p>Dear Becon,</p> <p>Can you please confirm if any trees will be affected by the proposed development and the extent of any proposed tree planting to compliment the scheme.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 15th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We can confirm that there will be some tree loss to facilitate the widening of the Boghill Road. As part of the planned widening there will however be extensive planting along this enhanced road corridor.</p> <p>I would refer you to Chapter 10 of the Environmental Statement available on our project website which provides further details.</p> <p>Please follow the link to http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>Hopefully this addresses your query.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	13th March	
6	<p>Dear Becon,</p> <p>On paper a perfect site- but the roads are a nightmare- whether it is the final bit of road from Glengormley or from the Horse shoe Bend in North Belfast. These are already busy roads through built up residential areas. Is there any plan to upgrade these roads?</p>	<p>Response: Sent 15th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network.</p> <p>The proposals do however include the upgrade of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from Hydepark Road and substantial improvements at the Hydepark Road/Boghill Road.</p> <p>Importantly, the junction of Hydepark Road/Upper Hightown Road/Hightown Road has been assessed and will operate within capacity when the development is fully operational.</p> <p>You can find the details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p>

		<p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>Follow the links through to Chapter 12 of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>We hope this addresses your question.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
7	<p>Dear Becon, being a resident in Mallusk I am disgusted with your plans. The accompanying dirt and filth will add to an already poor environment due to existing land fill, asbestos plant and scrap metal plant. Concerns for residents does not seem to been in your plans or we would have been asked for an opinion. I am 100% against this proposal as i feel will the majority of other Mallusk residents and dwellers.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 14th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We understand that you may have concerns about this proposal and we would welcome the opportunity to listen to your views.</p> <p>We would like to point out that we are just at the start of our public consultation programme and very much want to hear the views of the residents of Mallusk and other neighbours over the next 12 weeks, in advance of a formal planning application being made in the autumn.</p> <p>Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project this is especially the case since many will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology that we are proposing.</p> <p>You may be aware that we therefore have decided to put a comprehensive amount of information into the public domain via our website www.becon.co.uk to allow the public to see the details of our proposals and the various environmental and community concerns that we have already considered. We are told that this level of information being made available in advance of a planning application of this scale is unprecedented in NI planning history.</p> <p>We are however keen hear from local residents when they have had time to consider the information that has been provided. To that end we are holding a number of community drop-in sessions in the coming weeks. Here you can come along, meet the Becon Team and ask any questions about the proposals. These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:</p> <p>20th March / 21st March 11am-7pm Museum, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA</p> <p>25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL</p> <p>27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</p> <p>We hope that you will be able to come along to one of these events and find the information provided via the website helpful. There will also be information brochures distributed next week to all addresses within a 2 mile radius of the site via Royal Mail. Hopefully you will receive one.</p> <p>We hope that through these channels we might give you the information required to address your concerns.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>

		The Becon Project Team
8	<p>I am co-patentee of an alternative proven low-cost technology that also generates energy having a much lower capital and operating cost.</p> <p>Is there an opportunity to discuss this technology with some-one under an NDA either by e-mail or phone?</p>	<p>Response Sent – 13th March 2013</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project. Unfortunately we are too far down the design and planning process to consider alternative technology at this stage and our supply partners have already been engaged.</p> <p>We wish you well with your endeavours.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	14th March	
9	<p>Dear sir/madam,</p> <p>We are absolutely opposed to this incinerator in such proximity to a very large set of residential developments. We live in Blackrock and do not want this plant in the area for many reasons.</p> <p>I have lobbied MLAs for their support. This is an initial email to express our disapproval.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 14th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We understand that you may have concerns about this proposal and we would welcome the opportunity to listen to your views in more detail.</p> <p>We would like to point out that we are just at the start of our public consultation programme and very much want to hear the views of the residents of Mallusk and other neighbours over the next 12 weeks, in advance of a formal planning application being made in the autumn.</p> <p>Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project, this is especially the case since many will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology that we are proposing.</p> <p>You may be aware that we therefore have decided to put a comprehensive amount of information into the public domain via our website www.becon.co.uk to allow the public to see the details of our proposals and the various environmental and community concerns that we have already considered. We are told that this level of information being made available in advance of a planning application of this scale is unprecedented in NI planning history.</p> <p>We are however very keen hear from local residents when they have had time to consider the information that has been provided. To that end we are holding a number of community drop-in sessions in the coming weeks. Here you can come along, meet the Becon Team and ask any questions about the proposals. These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:</p> <p>20th March / 21st March 11am-7pm Museum, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA</p> <p>25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL</p> <p>27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</p> <p>We would invite you to come along to one of these events where we could better understand your concerns.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>

10	<p>What information/advice/help will you give to residents who will have to deal with very heavy plant traffic both during construction and after the plant becomes operational?</p>	<p>Response: Sent 15th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>You can find the details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>Follow the links through to Chapter 12 of the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>The impact on the local road network has been assessed using data available from each of the existing Council waste depots and existing Cottonmount landfill facility. This has allowed accurate predictions on vehicle generation to and from the site to be made. Weighbridge data from the operational Hightown Quarry has also been examined in order to understand previous and predicted traffic movements thereby enabling an assessment to be made of any net changes in traffic movements using the current road network.</p> <p>Historically, quarry operations at Hightown have generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development. Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic still remains with little prospect of road improvements.</p> <p>With the Becon project however, a number of important road improvements will take place. The proposals include the upgrade of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from Hyde Park Road and substantial improvements at the Hyde Park Road/Boghill Road.</p> <p>Importantly, the junction of Hyde Park Road/Upper Hightown Road/Hightown Road has been assessed and will operate within capacity when the development is fully operational.</p> <p>Whilst there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site compared to traffic levels today, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>While road enhancements are being undertaken, temporary traffic management procedures will be put in place for a period of four to six weeks designed to minimise inconvenience to local road users and land owners. At this stage clear communication will be given to local residents to minimise any disruption.</p> <p>On these various issues, we will be keen to talk them over with local residents and any representative groups to listen to concerns and consider how we can improve our proposals. You may wish to attend one of our drop in sessions in the next few weeks to discuss this in more detail.</p> <p>These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:</p> <p>20th March / 21st March 11am-7pm Museum, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA</p> <p>25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm Holiday Inn Express,</p>
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		<p>Antrim, BT41 4LL 27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</p> <p>In the meantime, we hope this addresses your questions.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	19th March	
12	<p>I need to speak to someone immediately regarding the proposed inc at the quarry at Boghill road mallusk. What a worry to give to people living here. Where is the road to service these lorries? What size, capacity, fumes, dust, dirt, noise etc, etc.24 hours a day, seven days a week... What a nightmare. We live right on the roadside and need answers immediately. We have lived here for over 35 years, building up a beautiful home in the countryside only to perhaps have it all ruined and have our property rendered worthless. There is no way the residents of Boghill road will ever agree or accept this, so we need a representative to actually stand on our property to fully realise the impact this is going to have on our lives & property. Therefore we need an immediate response.</p>	<p>Thanks you for contacting the Becon Project. As per our telephone conversation we look forward to meeting you in person at the Drop In sessions. The details of all the events are below.</p> <p>We are very keen hear from local residents and answer any questions you may have. You may wish to acquaint yourself with the details of the project via our website. www.becon.co.uk in advance of the drop in sessions. Here you will see all of the background information about the project as well as a number of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and all of the detailed draft Environmental statements and documents. At these events you can come along, meet the Becon Team and ask any specific questions about the proposals.</p> <p>These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:</p> <p>20th March and 21st March 11am-7pm Museum, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA</p> <p>25th March and 26th March 11am-7pm Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL</p> <p>27th March and 28th March 11am-7pm Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</p> <p>We look forward to seeing you there.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
13	<p>Hello again,</p> <p>I have a query about the OS Map being used, it is very out of date and is a misrepresentation to anyone looking over the material. Mayfield, Blackrock, Aylesbury etc are not on it. I am sure many interested parties will look at the non-technical summary and I feel that this misses out on the huge population close to your proposed site.</p> <p>Could you provide the public with a more representative map to ensure that people not familiar with the area get a full picture</p>	<p>Response:</p> <p>Acknowledged and maps updated on website and on exhibition using google maps.</p>

	from your material?	
14	<p>Dear sir/madam</p> <p>With reference to your recent advertisement in the press please send to the address below, a copy of the introductory brochure.</p> <p>As a medium sized construction company based in N Ireland we would also request that you place us on your list of potential future contractors, to kept informed of project developments as a whole and eventual opportunities from initial site works through to major construction.</p>	<p>Response: Brochure sent and added to list.</p>
16	<p>Message: Please confirm how this public consultation process is being run?</p> <p>I can confirm that neither I or any of my neighbours have received a letter regarding this consolation and we live less than 2 miles from the proposed site (BT36), a friend who lives over 7 miles away, in Templepatrick, has received a letter. This seems a little too convenient that you are only consulting those that this site will have minimal impact on.</p> <p>Will you be holding an open forum for residence to voice their concerns to the democratically elected representatives of Newtownabbey, or will you be posting more letters to people who actually live near this site?</p>	<p>Response: Sent 19th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We would like to point out that we are just at the start of our public consultation programme and very much want to hear the views of the residents of Mallusk and other neighbours over the next 12 weeks, in advance of a formal planning application being made in the autumn.</p> <p>Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project, this is especially the case since many will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology that we are proposing.</p> <p>We have therefore decided to put a comprehensive amount of information into the public domain via our website www.becon.co.uk to allow the public to see the details of our proposals and the various environmental and community concerns that we have already considered. We are told that this level of information being made available in advance of a planning application of this scale is unprecedented in NI planning history.</p> <p>This week will also see the distribution of up to 30,000 introductory brochures to residents within a two mile radius of the site. We are using Royal Mail deliveries who clearly regularly deliver to all homes and businesses in the area. They have planned the distribution and have assured us they should reach all the homes and businesses within the specified radius by the end of this week. You should therefore receive an information brochure and cover letter at some stage this week. If for some reason you don't please contact us again with your address and we will gladly post another directly to you.</p> <p>You may also be interested to know that we have also met appointed representatives from a number of local community and residents groups in the area last week and have given them a commitment to continually communicate and engage in the weeks and months ahead.</p> <p>We are also very keen hear from local residents when they have had time to consider the information that has been provided. To that end we are holding a number of community drop-in sessions in the coming weeks. Here you can come along, meet the Becon</p>

		<p>Team and ask any questions about the proposals. These sessions will be held on the following dates at the following venues:</p> <p>20th March / 21st March 11am-7pm Museum, Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, BT36 5QA 25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL 27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</p> <p>We would invite you to come along to one of these events where we could better understand any concerns you may have. You can also provide feedback via the website, email or post.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS - DONE ON 15th April</p>
17	<p>Telephone Call – checking location of site – wanted to know was it in Boyd's Quarry beside Cottonmount. Wasn't sure of location of Hightown Quarry.</p>	<p>Response: 19th March</p> <p>Telephoned back to inform resident of location of site. Seemed to be worried about additional traffic on Mallusk Rd and response confirmed that majority of traffic would be diverted from Cottonmount to this site.</p> <p>Will phone back if any other queries.</p>
18	<p>Message: I do not wish for a call back, I just wish to air my views as I live in Mayfield. And do not want this site, I am against it in every way. Please find another site that will not disrupt decent people who maybe someday would like to be able to sell their home. Because once this goes ahead it will severely damage are property value and traffic and clean air etc. etc. I will be joining with my neighbours to dispute against this proposed site.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 19th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We understand that you may have concerns about this proposal and we would welcome the opportunity to listen to your views in more detail.</p> <p>We would like to point out that we are just at the start of our public consultation programme and very much want to hear the views of the residents of Mallusk and other neighbours over the next 12 weeks, in advance of a formal planning application being made in the autumn.</p> <p>Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project, this is especially the case since we expect many will not be familiar with the tried and tested technology that we are proposing.</p> <p>You may be aware that we therefore have decided to put a comprehensive amount of information into the public domain via our website www.becon.co.uk to allow the public to see the details of our proposals and the various environmental and community concerns that we have already considered. We are told that this level of information being made available in advance of a planning application of this scale is unprecedented in NI planning history.</p> <p>We are however very keen hear from local residents when they have had time to consider the information that has been provided. To that end we are holding a number of community drop-in</p>

	<p>concept, in fact I proposed the sale of Belfast Land some years ago, for MBT and EFW use, and had an agreement , but on the night I was defeated by Sinn Fein whose policy (illogical) is anti “incineration”, it can all be done by MBT, Biological digestion, and reduce, reuse and recycle</p> <p>SDLP didn't like the way they were spoken to, so voted against (That's true!). DUP and UUP some voted for, some against Alliance voted for Several Belfast Councillors have visited European plants and have all been favourably impressed(but the voted against)</p> <p>No doubt there will be an issue with Roads Service, They are notoriously slow and bureaucratic to the point of gross stupidity on occasions.</p> <p>My one issue might be the height/visibility of the chimney. At the last discussions EU regs. defined the height as X metres, but local planners wanted it to be considerably higher. Possibly because of the Belfast valley which was the preferred site.</p> <p>I wanted it to be lower, can it be reversed into the ground? Why make people think that there is pollutant?</p>	
21	<p>Message: Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>After reading your brochure posted through my door, I would like someone to share with me any health risks/dangers this new site may present to my family, the impact this site may have on our environment and the jobs you mentioned - are they being created for local (NI) people?</p>	<p>Response Sent – 20th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting The Becon Project</p> <p>This project delivers a necessary solution for waste management within the overall arc21 area which will divert residual waste (the remaining waste which can't be recycled or reused) from landfill. This will help NI achieve its environmental obligations on waste management and in the process help avoid landfill tax and potential fines from EU for failing to meet our targets.</p> <p>We note you have a number of specific queries and will deal with each one separately. We would however also encourage you to visit our website www.becon.co.uk where you will find more information and a range of Frequently Asked Questions as well as copies of all the draft Environmental Statement documentation (See Downloads section) which will provide greater details in relation to your specific queries.</p> <p>Health Concerns</p> <p>There are no health concerns related to this project. It is based on tried and tested technology that is commonly used across Europe and will operate to the highest health and safety standards. The UK Health Protection Agency's position is that modern, well run</p>

	<p>Energy from Waste facilities such as ours present a negligible impact on local air quality and no measurable risk to health.</p> <p>In addition to the Environmental Impact Assessment (available on our website at http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads)set to protect the environment and health, we are undertaking a voluntary Health Impact Assessment (HIA) which has been commissioned to draw from and build upon the regulatory assessment to further investigate and address any specific local community concerns. The scope and focus of the HIA has already been discussed with the Public Health Agency and Environmental Health Officers ,and will be further refined through the issues and opportunities raised by local communities through the comprehensive consultation exercise.</p> <p>Environmental Concerns</p> <p>Allied to the health considerations, to be allowed to operate, the EfW facility will require an Environmental Permit which is only issued if the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) is satisfied that people and the environment are protected.</p> <p>Once operational the proposed plants will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and will comply with the strict emission limits set under the Environmental Permit and the Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU). The emissions from the EfW will be constantly monitored to ensure that the plant always operates within the limits set out in the Environmental Permit.</p> <p>The proposed plant will not emit smoke, with any visible plume being colourless steam which will be invisible, except in very cold and dry weather conditions when some condensation vapour may be visible. All emissions from the facility will be tightly controlled and monitored 24 hours a day, and will go through a state of the art cleaning process to ensure there is no unacceptable impact on the environment or air quality. A detailed Air Quality Impact Assessment is being submitted as part of the planning application which will outline all air quality considerations.</p> <p>Again you can view details of these assessments on the downloads link on our website under the draft Environmental Statement Chapters. Here you can also find copies of all of the various environmental considerations and assessments that have been made in relation to traffic, ecology, water, visual impact etc</p> <p>Employment</p> <p>This project will also bring £240m investment into Northern Ireland at a time when it is much needed. The local area will benefit from 455 construction jobs at the peak of the on-site construction activities and create/sustain approximately 340 direct and indirect jobs annually during operation.</p> <p>Wherever possible the suppliers and sub-contractors under consideration for contract awards will be drawn from the locality of the Hightown Quarry site in the first instance and Northern Ireland in general in accordance with the Project's commitment to equality and sustainable development. There will also be opportunities for young people from the local area to take part in apprentice training schemes.</p> <p>The Becon Consortium also aims to source substantial quantities of construction materials such as concrete, steel and metal</p>
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		<p>cladding from local suppliers. A minimum of 25% of the specialist materials required for the EfW plant will be sourced locally, and 50% of the materials required for the construction of the MBT plant.</p> <p>The Consortium proposes to deliver a long-term sustainable solution designed to maximise the value from waste and the intent is that the Project will therefore become an integral part of the local community. The Consortium will be fully committed to playing its part in supporting the local community.</p> <p>We hope these responses adequately address your queries. If however following a review of the additional information available on our website, you still have specific queries, please don't hesitate to email us back.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
22	<p>Message: Will the one of the proposed routes for the site traffic be the Mayfield link road?</p>	<p>Response sent 20th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>At present the Mayfield Link isn't complete and our traffic assessments for the proposals have assumed the use of the existing road network. You can find out more about our proposals and the traffic assessment on our website- www.becon.co.uk particularly within the downloads section.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	<p>Telephone Call to check on dates for further local events</p>	<p>NEED TO EMAIL WHEN NEW DROP IN DATES AGREED - DONE ON 15th April</p>
24	<p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>I'm a resident of Glengormley in Newtownabbey and having received an information booklet today would like to ask a few questions as I will be unable to attend the public consultations in my area.</p> <p>1. May I ask which other locations were looked at before deciding to locate at the site in Newtownabbey?</p> <p>2. The brochure on page 5 makes mention of the 'topography lends itself well', would the noise shielding remain the same no matter what the wind direction or wind speed?</p> <p>3. Again the brochure on page 5 mentions future potential heat supply. Would this be (in terms of domestic use) a District Heating Scheme? How would this be managed and by whom?</p>	<p>Response Sent 21st March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We note you have a number of specific questions and will address each one separately. We would also urge you to visit our website www.becon.co.uk where you will find more details in our FAQs section and all of the draft Environmental Statement documents within the downloads section.</p> <p>1.Site selection</p> <p>In terms of site selection the Consortium was free to choose a suitable site against a range of key criteria within the arc21 region, either from a list of available sites provided by arc21 or using its own alternative. You can read more about this site selection process here http://www.becon.co.uk/assets/pdfs/Environmental/Chapter%204%20-%20Assessment%20of%20Main%20Alternatives.pdf</p> <p>Following this comprehensive site selection process the Hightown quarry site was chosen because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Co-locating an MBT and EfW on the quarry site reduces transport of waste between sites, increases efficiencies and improves * It is a brownfield site and available for development

<p>4. Page 8 refers to exporting 14MW electricity to the National Grid. Is this an annual figure? What will the National Grid pay your company for this export?</p> <p>5. The Visitor Centre. Page 9 makes mention of it being a facility that can be used by the local community. Does this mean an appointment only system will be in place or are the public free to enter at opening hours?</p> <p>Thank you in anticipation of your assistance, I look forward to your reply.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * It is home to an operational quarry which provides opportunities to integrate new buildings within the varying quarry landform in a sensitive manner * The topography of the quarry site lends itself well to visual screening and noise shielding * It is a site which has unrestricted planning permission for quarrying operations and which has a construction waste/recycling planning history * It is a suitable size and shape for the proposed facilities * The proposed development is consistent with planning policy * It is well placed in relation to the road network and the national electricity grid * It is near to existing waste landfill facilities, enabling current waste traffic to be easily redirected to the quarry site * value for money to the benefit of the arc21 councils and their ratepayers * It offers future potential for businesses/communities to avail of heat produced by the new facilities - supporting future commercial or domestic developments in the local area <p>2. Noise</p> <p>The design of the facility will minimise noise impacts and any equipment with the potential to be noisy will be located within acoustically insulated buildings. Wind direction or speed will not have any material impact on noise levels.</p> <p>A noise impact assessment has been undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement (See Chapter 13 of Environmental Statement on our website) and demonstrates that the site will operate to satisfactory levels. The removal of blasting, crushing and quarrying activity will improve the baseline noise levels in the area.</p> <p>3.Heat off-take</p> <p>The heat produced in the EfW will be used primarily to generate electricity but will also be used to supply a number of heat requirements on the site such as the MBT biological treatment.</p> <p>Up to 10MWTH of heat, in addition to electricity export, could be available for potential heat off-take which can be used to support a variety of local industrial/commercial or residential uses. How this will be used is currently not known and will depend on the interest from third parties who may wish to avail of the heat off take opportunities. In other parts of Europe the excess heat is often used for district heating schemes or various industrial or commercial purposes.</p> <p>4.Electricity Generation</p> <p>The 14MW referred to is the output from the electricity generation process which will go to the electricity grid and will supply approximately 100,000 MWh to the grid per annum- enough to power around 30,000 homes. It is too early in the process to know the dynamics of the likely electricity pricing as it will be entirely subject to power negotiation contracts much closer to the end of the construction period which could be 4-5 years away.</p> <p>5. Visitor Centre</p> <p>In relation to the Visitor Centre it will be made available as a resource for the local community and school groups. Due to health</p>
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		<p>and safety requirements and the need to have visits escorted through this otherwise industrial location visits will be managed by appointment.</p> <p>While primarily being used to facilitate educational visits we are also hoping to make it available to local groups for meetings/exhibitions etc. These too will need to be made on a pre-arranged basis and will be subject to availability.</p> <p>We hope we have addressed your queries adequately. Please visit the detailed parts of our website if you require more detailed information and feel free to contact us again if there is anything else we can help you with.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
28	<p>Thank you for your response. When the Mayfield link road is complete do you propose to use that road for your site traffic?</p>	<p>Response Sent: 22nd March</p> <p>As per the previous response, it is not within our current planning as it is not clear when and if the junction will be opened. We therefore have focused our traffic assessments on the existing road network, and on the request of the Roads Service only made some sensitivity test assessments about the possibility of this junction coming on stream at some point down the line. You can find the detailed Traffic Assessment data on our website within Chapter 12 of the Environmental Statement. See link...</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/assets/pdfs/Environmental/Chapter%2012%20%E2%80%93%20Transport.pdf</p> <p>Hopefully this addresses your query.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
29	<p>Thank you for such a prompt and in-depth response I appreciate it</p>	<p>Response – Email Noted</p>
	<p>Friday 22nd March</p>	
30	<p>Hi</p> <p>I am currently in the process of purchasing property on the hydepark road and would like to know exactly where the proposed traffic route would be for the vehicles coming to and from the site.</p>	<p>Response Sent 22nd March:</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>The potential traffic impacts associated with this development have been assessed in great detail and are deemed not significant as well as being localised in their area of influence. Currently a lot of the waste traffic is already in the area going to Cottonmount landfill in Mallusk and therefore will simply be redirected to this site on the Boghill Road. If approved, this project will also remove all existing quarry traffic which historically, has at times generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development.</p> <p>Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic still remains with little prospect of road improvements. With this project however, a number of important road improvements will take place - most notably the widening of the Boghill Road and the development of the Boghill Road/Hydepark Road junction. Whilst there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site based on current traffic levels, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the</p>

		<p>local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>Unlike the current unrestricted quarry traffic we will also have full control over the traffic movements to and from the site, both in terms of routes and timings. For example, the majority of arc21 waste is expected to be delivered from 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and from 8am to 2pm on Saturdays, whereas quarry traffic could operate at any time of the day or night.</p> <p>At the moment our traffic planning assessments are suggesting that over 82% of the anticipated site traffic (which will be a mixture of lorries and cars) will come off the motorway at Sandyknowes and at Mallusk junction turn left towards the Hightown Road. From the Hightown Road it will turn right onto the Hydepark Road and take an immediate left onto the Boghill Road. It is anticipated that the remaining traffic will follow this same route but instead of originating from the motorway network will come from the Mallusk Road itself.</p> <p>You can find more details about the traffic assessments and plans on our website and in particular within Chapter 12 of the draft Environmental Statement at the following link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/assets/pdfs/Environmental/Chapter%2012%20%E2%80%93%20Transport.pdf</p> <p>We hope this addresses your question.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
31	<p>Message: I received your letter and pamphlet through my door last night telling me of a community "drop in" session to be held in my area on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March. Obviously this is completely unacceptable and this invitation should have been issued weeks in advance not AFTER the event.</p>	<p>Response Sent 22nd March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We are just at the start of our public consultation phase and while we will have more drop in events planned next week in Antrim and Belfast it is our intention to organise more in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area after Easter. Our brochures have been distributed by Royal Mail to houses and businesses in the local area all during this week, which was the earliest point we could do so since we launched our plans last week. Rather than only rely on that distribution to inform people about the first series of events, we also pre-promoted them in both the daily and regional press over the last two weeks. A large number of local residents were able to attend and we have plans to do more such events after the Easter break.</p> <p>If either of the scheduled events and venues next week don't suit you, hopefully those after Easter will. As well as advertising them in the local press, we will happily email you when we have confirmed the details of the next drop ins near you.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS - DONE ON 15th April</p>
32	<p>Sir. I strongly oppose the siting of such a project on the Boghill Rd.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 22nd March</p>

<p>The roads in the area are unsuitable I have had several close encounters with heavy vehicles using the quarry. The bridge and bend in particular can be dangerous.</p> <p>2 The noise from such a facility will carry to my house. I was able to hear the quarry working.</p> <p>3 What are the risks involved in regard to dioxins.</p> <p>4 What are the plans should dioxins get released.</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We note you have a number of specific concerns and we will address each one in turn. You may also find our website useful – www.becon.co.uk particularly are Frequently Asked Questions section and our Downloads section where you can find all the relevant chapters from the draft Environmental Statement relating to your specific queries.</p> <p><u>Traffic Concerns</u></p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network and will involve the diversion of much of the traffic currently making its way to Cottonmount Landfill.</p> <p>Historically, quarry operations at Hightown have at times also generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development. Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic at any time of the day still remains with little prospect of road improvements.</p> <p>With this project however, a number of important road improvements will take place and the timing and routes used will be controlled by arc21. The proposals include the upgrade and widening of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from Hyde Park Road and substantial improvements at the Hyde Park Road/Boghill Road junction to provide improved visibility to assist the turning of larger vehicles. It will also involve the replacement and widening of a number of bridges.</p> <p>Whilst our assessments show there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>While road enhancements are being undertaken, over a 4-6 week period temporary traffic management procedures will be put in place to minimise inconvenience to local road users and land owners.</p> <p>You can find the details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p><u>Noise Concerns</u></p> <p>The design of the facility will minimise noise impacts and any equipment with the potential to be noisy will be located within acoustically insulated buildings.</p> <p>A noise impact assessment has been undertaken as part of the Environmental Statement (See Chapter 13 of Environmental Statement on our website) and demonstrates that the site will operate to satisfactory levels. The removal of blasting, crushing and quarrying activity will in fact improve the baseline noise levels in the area.</p> <p><u>Dioxins/Emissions</u></p>
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	25th March 2013	
33	<p>Message: Can you advise how many lorries per hour you estimate will be using the Old Coach Road in Templepatrick as they travel to and from the site</p>	<p>Response: Sent 25th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p>

	<p>Thank you</p>	<p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network with over 82% of anticipated traffic originating from there. The proposals will involve the diversion of much of the waste traffic currently making its way to Cottonmount Landfill to the Hightown Quarry site. We therefore don't anticipate any noticeable change in the level of waste related traffic currently coming from the Old Coach Road/Mallusk Road direction as a result of our proposals.</p> <p>You can find the details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>				
34	<p>As a local resident I was interested to receive your brochure about the proposed waste management infrastructure on the Boghill Road. In your letter you state that you are keen to communicate with those living closest to the site. Unfortunately, the letter and brochure only arrived at my house on Thursday 20th March at about 1 pm. I had therefore missed the first consultation in Mossley Mill which was on Thursday and was keen to attend the Friday 21st consultation. As the roads in the Mossley, Hightown and Mallusk areas were practically impassable on Friday I was not able to attend that one either. Will there be another consultation in the Newtownabbey area to accommodate the residents who were unable to attend on Thursday 20th or Friday 21st through no fault of their own? My main concern with this project would be the access roads to be used to transport all the waste to the proposed location. I look forward to hearing from you.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 25th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss your concerns regarding traffic and to give you the full details of our detailed traffic impact assessments, which may help allay your concerns. In the meantime you can find out more on our project website www.becon.co.uk especially within the downloads section where all the detailed draft Environmental Assessments are available.</p> <p>We can also confirm that while we have a number of drop in events this week in Antrim and Belfast (details below), we are planning more information events in the Mallusk/Newtownabbey Area after Easter which may be more suitable for you to attend. Keep an eye on our website and the local press for more details. If you like we can also email you directly when we have dates and venues confirmed. We are currently liaising with local residents groups to agree the best venues and dates/times.</p> <p>In the meantime if they are of any use to you, the confirmed drop in events this week are as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm</td> <td>Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm</td> <td>Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD</td> </tr> </table> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>	25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm	Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL	27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm	Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD
25th March / 26th March 11am-7pm	Holiday Inn Express, Antrim, BT41 4LL					
27th March / 28th March 11am-7pm	Ramada Encore, St. Anne's Square, Belfast, BT1 2LD					
35	<p>Message: We recently received a letter and brochure regarding the Becon Incinerator proposal for Boghill Road. The map used in the brochure appears to be very out of date.</p> <p>For example the following residential developments are all excluded from the Becon Brochure Map:</p> <p>A: Rogan Wood</p>	<p>Response: Sent 28th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We are aware that you have also contacted Belfast City Council who forwarded your request to the relative waste authority, arc21, who in turn have asked us to respond to your queries as essentially they are the same.</p> <p>We can confirm that we have used a number of different maps throughout our draft documentation and public information and have done so for different purposes.</p> <p>The map you have highlighted from our information brochure is</p>				

	<p>B: Blackrock C: Aylesbury D: Mayfield Manor E: Thornberry F: Mill Valley</p> <p>These are all substantial developments that are home to thousands of residents yet have been excluded from the Brochure Map. These homes are very close to the site for the proposed incinerator (within 2.5 miles). Indeed the developments at Blackrock, Aylesbury and Mayfield Manor would be particularly impacted by the 100 lorries delivering rubbish to the incinerator every day of the year – yet E.On have used an out of date map that excludes these developments and the thousands of residents living there. I know the development at Mill Valley for example is close to 10 years old.</p> <p>I would be grateful if you would provide a response to the following queries:</p> <p>1) What is the publication date of the map used in the Becon Brochure?</p> <p>2) Why was this map used when it excludes so many residential developments within the vicinity of the proposed incinerator?</p> <p>3) When will E.On issue an up-to-date map to residents in the affected area?</p> <p>I have sent an email to Belfast City Council on this matter and asked them for comment.</p>	<p>only one of a number we have used and made widely available via our website and public exhibitions. In this case this map was used simply to show the site's general location in view of the main road network.</p> <p>To avoid any confusion however we have subsequently replaced this map on our website with the most up to date Ordnance Survey map currently available – a map that we have also already been using at our Public Exhibition.</p> <p>Elsewhere on our website, and public exhibition materials we have used other mapping as part of various detailed assessments and to aid public understanding. In keeping with normal planning practice, this includes the latest Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping available to us at the time of starting our various environmental and transport studies. We have since checked with OS that these remain the most current versions on their systems. We can also assure you that if and when any new OS maps come on stream we will then use these as the basis for any future mapping requirements.</p> <p>While we have been assured by OS that we are using the most recent official mapping available, we know that sometimes the mapping authorities take a while to catch up with new housing and developments such as those in Blackrock and neighbouring housing areas. It is important to note however that our traffic and other environmental assessments do not rely solely on mapping and typically involve a combination of on the ground research and photography. When you view all the mapping material and assessments undertaken you can be assured that all our proposals have fully considered the new housing developments you have mentioned and therefore meet all the requirements of a robust Environmental Impact assessment.</p> <p>By way of illustration, throughout our Draft Environmental Statement documentation which is available for download on our website –www.becon.co.uk most of these locations are clearly referenced as important residential visual receptors in the Visual Effects table within Chapter 10 (with Associated Appendices) of the Environmental Statements. As another example of our desire to share all the necessary information with the public, the gates of Blackrock are visible in various photomontages, again available on our website Chapter 10 – Appendix 10.1) and at the exhibitions, to illustrate how important we view this and other receptor locations to be.</p> <p>To supplement the public information exercise we have also used the latest google maps/satellite imagery which are more reflective of the current area and highlight some of the newer developments you mention(although even these don't fully reflect completed housing developments in some instances as their imagery has been taken some time ago). You may be interested to know that these additional images have been made available on our website and in the public exhibitions for all to view.</p> <p>We hope this clarifies the position and thank you again for bringing these concerns to our attention.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
36	<p>Message: As a concerned resident in Dermont I'm worried that this site is going to create an extensive smell over the</p>	<p>Response: Sent 25th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss your concerns in person and hope that you may be able to attend one of our community drop in sessions</p>

	<p>residential areas.</p> <p>Also it'll create an increase in traffic around the area. I've lived here for 7/8 years and it appealed to us with its semi-rural location still close enough to commute to work in Belfast. Looks like we're going to end up being surrounded by industries/businesses thus making our properties become less valuable.</p>	<p>this week or after Easter.</p> <p>As well as holding two sessions last week in Newtownabbey we are holding more drop in events this week in Antrim (25/26th March 11am-7pm – Holiday Inn Express Antrim) and Belfast (27th/28th March 11am-7pm - Ramada Encore, St Annes Square, Belfast). It is then our intention to organise more in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area after Easter. We are currently in discussions with local residents groups as to the best venues and dates/times for further information sessions and will confirm the details on our website and in local press after Easter.</p> <p>In the meantime we note you have a number of specific concerns and we will address each one in turn. You may also find our website useful – www.becon.co.uk particularly are Frequently Asked Questions section and our Downloads section where you can find all the relevant chapters from the draft Environmental Statement relating to your specific queries.</p> <p><u>Odour Concerns</u></p> <p>There will be no noticeable odour problems associated with this project and indeed this solution is considered a major step forward from current waste handling in exposed landfill operations nearby.</p> <p>One of the permit requirements for the project will be that there is no noticeable odour and frequent checks will be carried out to ensure this is strictly enforced. A number of measures will be employed to ensure that odours are totally contained within the facilities, including ventilation, negative air pressure and bio-filter systems. All waste will be handled inside fully contained buildings and vehicles bringing waste to site will be covered to prevent odours escaping. There will therefore be no waste stored outside.</p> <p>The MBT reception hall will be fully ventilated and kept under negative air pressure to prevent odour escaping. In addition to this each delivery bay will be equipped with high speed doors coupled with air curtain systems. The exhaust air will be used in the bio-drying tunnels before undergoing treatment through an ammonia removal stage and finally passing through a bio-filter.</p> <p>The EfW tipping hall and bunker will operate under negative pressure and the air within the bunker will be drawn into the furnace as combustion air.</p> <p><u>Traffic Concerns</u></p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network and will simply involve the diversion of much of the traffic currently making its way to Cottonmount Landfill to the High town Quarry</p> <p>Historically, quarry operations at Hightown have at times also generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development. Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic at any time of the day still remains with little prospect of road improvements.</p> <p>With this project however, a number of important road improvements will take place and the timing and routes used will</p>
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		<p>be controlled by arc21. The proposals include the upgrade and widening of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from HydePark Road and substantial improvements at the HydePark Road/Boghill Road junction to provide improved visibility to assist the turning of larger vehicles. It will also involve the replacement and widening of a number of bridges.</p> <p>Whilst our assessments show there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>While road enhancements are being undertaken, over a 4-6 week period temporary traffic management procedures will be put in place to minimise inconvenience to local road users and land owners.</p> <p>You can find the details of that Traffic Assessment on our project website – www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>Hopefully this addresses your queries and we hope you may be able to attend one of our information events in the future.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS - DONE ON 15th April</p>
37	<p>Message: I note with concern the proposed development of a waste plant in my neighbourhood. It does not auger well for the future when the literature apprising me of the consultation round arrives too late to attend.....</p> <p>Happy to discuss this and other matters.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 25th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We are just at the start of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss any concerns you may have regarding the project. We are holding more drop in events this week in Antrim (25/26th March 11am-7pm – Holiday Inn Express Antrim) and Belfast (27th/28th March 11am-7pm - Ramada Encore, St Annes Square, Belfast) and then it is our intention to organise more in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area after Easter. We are currently in discussions with local residents groups as to the best venues and dates/times for further information sessions.</p> <p>Our brochures have been distributed by Royal Mail to houses and businesses in the local area last week, which was the earliest point we could do so since we launched our plans the previous week. Rather than only rely on that distribution to inform people about the first series of information events, we also prepromoted them in both the daily and regional press over the previous two weeks. A large number of local residents were able to attend and found them valuable and we therefore have plans to do more such events after the Easter break.</p> <p>If either of the scheduled events and venues this week don't suit you, hopefully those after Easter will. As well as promoting them on our website and advertising them in the local press, we will happily email you when we have confirmed the details of the next drop ins near you.</p> <p>Regards</p>

		<p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS- DONE ON 15th April</p>
	27th March	
38	<p>Thank you. I would be grateful if you would e mail me with future dates and venues in the Newtownabbey area. I have had a look at your website but my question regarding access roads/volume of traffic remains unanswered.</p>	<p>Response: EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS- DONE ON 15th April</p>
39	<p>Message: Hello,</p> <p>We got the information document through the post and we just wanted to let you know that we think it is a great idea.</p> <p>It's about time that we started caring for the environment and disposed of waste in a way which will actually create energy going forward.</p> <p>Our planet and global ecosystem is rapidly changing, and we need to concentrate our efforts on creating sustainable and renewable energy sources otherwise our children and grandchildren will not have a planet to live on.</p> <p>It's a great venture that you are proposing, well done - if only it were mandatory for the entire world.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 27th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project and for your support for our proposals.</p> <p>We believe it offers a 21st Century solution for an age old problem and hope that we can convince everyone that this project offers a more sustainable and environmentally friendly way to deal with our waste - while maximizing the value we can extract from it for the benefit of the local community.</p> <p>We fully appreciate that while this technology has been commonly used across Europe for over 20 years and in all of the most environmentally progressive countries, that it is new to Northern Ireland. We therefore hope that people will take time, like you clearly have, to understand the proposals and technology and see it as a positive step forward in how we manage our waste.</p> <p>Thank you again!</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
40	<p>Your correspondence regarding your consultation programme was received with thanks. However, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that I received this correspondence on March 23rd - after the date of the Newtownabbey based consultation.</p> <p>I appreciate the importance of consultation and wanted to make you aware of this fact.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 27th</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We would like to assure you that we are just at the start of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss any queries or concerns you may have regarding the project. We have held more events this week in Antrim (25/26th March) and Belfast (27th/28th March 11am-7pm - Ramada Encore, St Annes Square, Belfast) and then it is our intention to organise more in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area after Easter. We are currently in discussions with local residents groups as to the best venues and dates/times for further information sessions.</p> <p>Our brochures have been distributed by Royal Mail to houses and businesses in the local area last week, which was the earliest point we could do so since we launched our plans the previous week. Rather than only rely on that distribution to inform people about the first series of information events, we also prepromoted them in both the daily and regional press over the previous two weeks. A large number of local residents were able to attend the</p>

		<p>Newtownabbey events and found them valuable. We are therefore planning more such events after the Easter break.</p> <p>Hopefully these will suit you to attend. As well as promoting them on our website and advertising them in the local press, we will happily email you when we have confirmed the details of the next drop ins near you.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS-DONE ON 15th April</p>
	28th March	
41	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>With reference to proposed waste investment project.</p> <p>I purchased a new house in Aylesbury Road in February 2009. I was a first time buyer at the age of 30 and it was a hard struggle to even buy this house in the first place (having taken loans from all who could lend me money). I was so pleased with the area of my house. Large, spacious area with young families of around the same age as myself. I was looking forward to setting up my home.</p> <p>IN the last few years, the house has lost considerable value given the current economic crisis and with the planned proposals the value of my property will undoubtedly be reduced further. An evaluation in August 2012 stated it should go on the market for £130,000. This was £15000 less than what I paid for it. Given the amount of mortgage I have to repay back every month, and loans I need to pay back there is NO way I can afford to sell this house for less than what I paid for it. Unfortunately the planned waste site will reduce the price of my home and indeed the other homes in the area. Given the area of Mallusk there is surely other sites around that would not cause as much impact to home owners?</p> <p>I think it is a disgrace that (1) it is hard enough for young people to get on the property ladder (2) if and when we do proceed with buying a home, some new venture like this puts a spanner in the works for us all and will result in a</p>	<p>Response: Sent 28th March</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We note your concerns expressed and would offer you some observations. We would start by stating that house prices are influenced by a wide variety of factors, the most important of those over recent times being a depressed economic climate, which you yourself have noted.</p> <p>While we fully appreciate that you may have concerns about the potential impact of our project on house prices in the area, our experience tells us that these fears are often based on a lack of knowledge and understanding about the tried and tested technology that we are proposing. With over 20 years' experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe we are not aware of any evidence that the development or presence of well managed waste facilities such as those we are proposing has any measurable or lasting impact on house prices or the saleability of homes in nearby areas. In fact some evidence suggests that in many cases their presence gives a benefit to the local community in terms of local investment and jobs and providing affordable district heating systems and electricity.</p> <p>Our experience also tells us however that where there is a lack of understanding about these types of facilities that it is vitally important to share as much information with people to allow them to become more familiar with the proposals and the technologies, therefore addressing their concerns.</p> <p>There have been a number of independent studies carried out across the UK and Ireland which have assessed the potential impact of similar facilities on house prices, and which draw on European experience. You may find them useful if you have any concerns about the potential impact on property prices in the area.</p> <p>One UK study suggests that energy from waste plants/incinerators do not lead to decreased property values. Research in Hampshire, before and after the construction of three incinerators in the last seven years, found that there was "no noticeable or lasting adverse affect on the property markets in those locations due to the presence of the incinerators". You can find the report here - http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/cluttons_report_house_prices.pdf</p> <p>The report authors said; "In all three locations values have continued to rise in line with other areas in their local markets. In addition there has been substantial investment/development in both the residential and commercial sectors in the areas around the plants in the periods following grant of planning consent and construction. This has continued once the plants have become</p>

	<p>great deal of negative equity.</p> <p>I hope my views have been made clear.</p>	<p>operational". - Cluttons Surveyors</p> <p>Independent research was also carried out into the potential impact of the Poolbeg Thermal Treatment Plant in Dublin on local property values. This study also focused on available evidence elsewhere across Europe where these facilities exist in many urban area near local housing.</p> <p>The research carried out indicated that 'there appears to be have been no impact on house prices or the volume of properties being offered for sale in the vicinity of Poolbeg since it was announced in 2001.' The full report can be found at http://www.dublinwastetoenergy.ie/uploads/archive/files/briefs-of-evidence/marie-hunt.pdf</p> <p>Hopefully you might find these reports helpful in understanding the implications of the project.</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	28th March	
42	<p>Thank you for the detailed response.</p> <p>This is very helpful and much appreciated.</p>	Response: Noted
	29th March	
43	<p>Message: Having received a copy of your proposal booklet I wish to express my horror at the idea of building something like this on the mountain side above Belfast and Newtownabbey.</p> <p>There is a perfect location already in existence at Duncrue street which would not impact on scenery or existing dwellings.</p> <p>I do not live in the immediate area and do not wish to be contacted by your company.</p> <p>I shall raise my objections with my local politicians and the planning authority should it ever get to that stage, which hopefully it never will.</p>	No response required.
	Easter weekend – 30/31 March	
44	<p>Telephone call from resident in the Springvale Area. Did not receive his brochure or invitation until the 30th March. This makes our consultation "invalid" and will be contacting the media about this. Expects to be called back as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Telephone call on 3 April to explain the upcoming information sessions.</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS-DONE ON 15th April</p>
45	Phone message to enquire as to	Response

<p>the route traffic for the site will be using. Will that be via HydePark Road or through the Mayfield estate? She would also like to know how many trucks per day and what tonnage of trucks are predicted to use these routes.</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network and will simply involve the diversion of much of the traffic currently making its way to Cottonmount Landfill to the Hightown Quarry.</p> <p>Historically, quarry operations at Hightown have at times also generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development. Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic at any time of the day still remains with little prospect of road improvements.</p> <p>With this project however, a number of important road improvements will take place and the timing and routes used will be controlled by arc21. The proposals include the upgrade and widening of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from HydePark Road and substantial improvements at the HydePark Road/Boghill Road junction to provide improved visibility to assist the turning of larger vehicles. It will also involve the replacement and widening of a number of bridges.</p> <p>Whilst our assessments show there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>While road enhancements are being undertaken, over a 4-6 week period temporary traffic management procedures will be put in place to minimise inconvenience to local road users and land owners.</p> <p>Detailed traffic studies and planning has indicated that on average there will be a total of 199 vehicles arriving and 199 vehicles departing the site per day. The vehicle mix is made up of 118 HGV movements and 81 car movements. The average flow will total 11 vehicles arriving (7 HGV trips & 4 car trips) and 11 vehicles departing (7 HGV trips & 4 car trips) per hour when the site is operational.</p> <p>It is anticipated that over 82% of site vehicles (HGVs and cars) will access the site from the Sandyknowes/ M2 junction with over 67% originating from the M2 itself. On entering the Mallusk area we are proposing that this traffic will turn left towards the Hightown Road and then turn right onto the Hightown Road. At the top of the Hightown Road it will turn right onto HydePark Road and then immediate left on the Boghill Road, where it will make its way to the site.</p> <p>It is anticipated that around 17.5 % of the vehicles will continue to use the Mallusk Road and then follow the same route above to access the Boghill Road site entrance.</p> <p>You can find further questions and answers on traffic at http://www.becon.co.uk/faqs/</p> <p>You can also find the details of the Traffic Assessment at www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link:</p>
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		<p>http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads</p> <p>If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	3 April	
46	<p>Message: I am in favour of this development in principle and would have welcomed an opportunity to attend one of the drop-in sessions however the information pack did not arrive in the post until yesterday, 2nd April 2013. Will there be further sessions?</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We would like to assure you that we are in the early stages of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the project in more detail. It is our intention to organise more drop in events in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area in April. We are currently in discussions with local residents groups as to the best venues and dates/times for further information sessions.</p> <p>We will be promoting these further sessions on our website and advertising them in the local press, and we will also email you when we have confirmed the details of the next drop ins near you.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS - DONE ON 15th April</p>
	4 April	
47	<p>I wish to register a complaint as a local resident, the letter sent with all the meetings on it, was not delivered to our property until the 3rd of April and all the consultations were in March.</p>	<p>Response:</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We would like to assure you that we are in the early stages of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the project in more detail. It is our intention to organise more drop in events in the Newtownabbey/Mallusk area in April and May. We are currently in discussions with local residents groups as to the best venues and dates/times for further information sessions.</p> <p>We will be promoting these further sessions on our website and advertising them in the local press, and we will also email you when we have confirmed the details of the next drop ins near you.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>EMAIL WHEN FURTHER DATES AGREED RE DROP INS - DONE ON 15th April</p>
48	<p>Do becon propose employment for local people? What skills, education and requirements are necessary to secure a job? Could you reply with a list of job opportunities and descriptions of work. Thank you</p>	<p>Response:</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>This project will also bring £240m investment into Northern Ireland at a time when it is much needed. The local area will benefit from 455 construction jobs at the peak of the on-site construction activities and create/sustain approximately 340 direct and indirect jobs annually during operation.</p> <p>Wherever possible the suppliers and sub-contractors under consideration for contract awards will be drawn from the locality of</p>

		<p>the Hightown Quarry site in the first instance and Northern Ireland in general in accordance with the Project's commitment to equality and sustainable development. There will also be opportunities for young people from the local area to take part in apprentice training schemes.</p> <p>The Becon Consortium also aims to source substantial quantities of construction materials such as concrete, steel and metal cladding from local suppliers. A minimum of 25% of the specialist materials required for the EfW plant will be sourced locally, and 50% of the materials required for the construction of the MBT plant.</p> <p>Whilst we don't currently have specific details of job opportunities and skills required, these will be provided on our website and through advertisements in local media whenever they become available.</p> <p>The project is subject to planning permission, so it is difficult to say at this stage when construction will commence. What we can say is that from receipt of planning permission we would aim to have the site constructed and in full operation within four years.</p> <p>If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	8 th April	
50	<p>Message: I am fully in support of the proposal. My one point would be that it is important that you develop and consult on the road access strategy. The commitment to upgrade the access road to the site is positive and welcome. It is also important that you publish a wider road access plan that designates the routes to the site, avoiding unsuitable roads such as the Printshop Road, between Seven Mile Straight and Bernice Road and B95 Old Coach Road through Templepatrick with a low bridge.</p>	<p>Response: Sent 8th April</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon project and for your support for our proposals. We also note your observations on the road access strategy and can assure you that we are looking at this part of our proposals very carefully. We have already invested a great deal of effort in undertaking detailed road traffic assessments as well as consulting with the relevant authorities and the local communities. You may be interested in reading more about our draft transport assessments at www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link in Chapter 12 of the draft Environmental Statement:</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/assets/pdfs/Environmental/Chapter%2012%20%E2%80%93%20Transport.pdf</p> <p>If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	15 th April	
52	<p>Hi I received your brochure yesterday 11th April 2013 and to my dismay the dates for the drop in sessions have now passed the last being 27th/28 March 13.</p> <p>Are we at Blackrock/Aylesbury Place outside the area to receive information?</p>	<p>Response sent 15th April</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project</p> <p>We would like to assure you that we are still in the early stages of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the project in more detail. To that end we have another series of information events planned in the weeks ahead which hopefully you may be</p>

	<p>I have had a look at your new website online and find it very informative although we would have liked to have been able to avail of a face to face chat at one of the listed venues.</p> <p>Why did we not get the Brochure on time?</p> <p>I await your response.</p>	<p>able to attend. Here you can meet the various members and experts from the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals or discuss any concerns you may have.</p> <p>The details are as follows:</p> <p>Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm Corrs Corner Hotel Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm</p> <p>Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk</p> <p>Saturday 11th May – 10am-4pm</p> <p>These dates and venues have been agreed in consultation with local resident groups' representatives.</p> <p>We have been made aware of some delays in the Royal Mail distribution of our brochures to a number of postcode areas. We had arranged for approximately 29,000 brochures to be issued to all houses and businesses within a 2-3 mile radius of the site at the earliest possible time following the launch of the project and were assured by Royal Mail that they would be largely completed by 23rd March with one or two postcode areas receiving theirs the following week. We have since complained that some distribution appears to have taken place outside these timescales and Royal Mail is currently investigating the matter.</p> <p>We can also assure you that rather than only rely on that distribution to inform people about the first series of information events, we also pre-promoted them in both the daily and regional press over the previous two weeks.</p> <p>We will also be promoting these upcoming drop in information events sessions in the same way and on our website. We hope that you will be able to attend one of the sessions.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
53	<p>Blackrock Resident telephoned – not happy that a waste dump is being built near his home and wanted to speak to someone to find out how and when it got permission. Also wanted to attend next series of events.</p>	<p>Response: Telephoned and agreed he would like to attend next events – will send us an email so we can reply with the details.</p> <p>NEED TO RESPOND WITH NEW DATES WHEN EMAIL ARRIVES</p>
54	<p>I am contacting you regarding the proposals to site a waste incinerator at the hightown quarry. This is extremely close to a residential area, with thousands of residents in the mallusk area living within less than a mile of the proposed plant. The health risks of incinerators have not been properly quantified, but what evidence that currently exists suggests a higher rate of certain cancers, birth defects cardiorespiratory disease in the areas close to incinerators. Given that the proposed plant is sited to the southwest of the residential areas close by and</p>	<p>Response: 19th April</p> <p>Thank you for your letter detailing your concerns about the proposed Mechanical Biological Treatment Facility (MBT) and Energy from Waste (EFW) facility at the existing Hightown Quarry site.</p> <p>We greatly appreciate your input at such an early stage of the project, and have provided a response to the key concerns you have expressed, but have also provided some additional information on how your input will be applied to refine the scope and focus of the subsequent technical assessments, on-going community engagement and the refinement of mitigation and community support initiatives.</p> <p>We hope this letter will address such concerns, however, should you have any residual issues or opportunities you would like us to explore, please feel free to contact us or attend the next series of</p>

<p>that the prevailing winds are from the southwest, pollutants are also more likely to cause a health risk in the local area. Any proposed incinerator would be better planned in an industrial area which would pose minimal risk to adults and children. The proposals if passed would breach our human right to clean air free from pollutants. In addition incineration of waste is not the best way of dealing with the problem of sending waste to landfill. Recycling and addressing the problem of non recyclable waste at source would be much more sensible.</p> <p>I am completely opposed to the plans.</p>	<p>drop in sessions where you can also meet a representative from the Health Impact Assessment team.</p> <p><u>Key Concerns</u></p> <p>Given the various points you have raised we have taken each point one by one, and provided a response with links to additional information where appropriate.</p> <p>1) <u><i>This is extremely close to a residential area, with thousands of residents in the Mallusk area living within less than a mile of the proposed plant.</i></u></p> <p>Such facilities are designed and operated to the most stringent environmental standards of any sector. As a consequence, they are typically located far closer to residential areas and within city centres with no tangible impact on local air quality and no measurable health outcome.</p> <p>The following responses provide the justification behind this statement. However, I thought it might be useful to also summarise and cross reference to the site selection process.</p> <p>The Consortium was free to choose a suitable site anywhere in the arc21 region, either from a list of available sites provided by arc21 or using its own alternative.</p> <p>Following a comprehensive site selection process the Hightown quarry site was chosen because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a brownfield site and available for development • It is home to an operational quarry which provides opportunities to integrate new buildings within the varying quarry landform in a sensitive manner • The topography of the quarry site lends itself well to visual screening and noise shielding • It is a site which has unrestricted planning permission for quarrying operations and which has a construction waste/recycling planning history • It is a suitable size and shape for the proposed facilities • The proposed development is consistent with planning policy • It is well placed in relation to the road network and the national electricity grid • It is near to existing waste landfill facilities, enabling current waste traffic to be easily redirected to the quarry site • Co-locating an MBT and EfW on the quarry site reduces transport of waste between sites, increases efficiencies and improves value for money to the benefit of the arc21 councils and their ratepayers • It offers future potential for businesses/communities to avail of heat produced by the new facilities – supporting future commercial or domestic developments in the local area <p>2) <u><i>The health risks of incinerators have not been properly quantified</i></u></p> <p>The waste management health evidence base is extensive, with no waste management option as well researched as that of the thermal treatment of municipal waste (i.e. incineration). As a consequence, the potential hazards associated with such facilities are primarily addressed through design, such that potential risks to the environment and health are fully managed and removed.</p>
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Such a robust health evidence base also forms the basis to the most stringent environmental regulations of any sector inherently set to protect health, and is further governed by the Environment Agency during the lifespan of the facility through continual monitoring (as per the requirements of the licence to operate).

In regards to the specific quantification of health risk, please note that although a planning submission has not been entered yet, a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been performed and an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted as part of the pre-application consultation strategy. You can see the full draft ES on our website <http://www.becon.co.uk/project/#downloads>

Please note that the ES covers a multitude of technical disciplines intended to protect the environment and local community health (noise, transport, socio-economic, visual, odour, access and accessibility etc). However, it is the air quality section in this instance that is the most relevant to your concern. As detailed in the Air Quality Section, and in keeping with UK Health Protection Agency Position, the assessment demonstrates that the proposed facility will remain well within all of the conservative air quality standards set to protect health.

It is appreciated however, that while the ES is sufficient to meet the regulatory planning and permitting requirements, it is a very technical document geared more for specialists rather than the general public, and may not effectively address local community concerns.

For this reason, and in keeping with best practice, a voluntary Health Impact Assessment (HIA) has also been commissioned and is currently underway. The aim of the HIA is to build upon and complement the outputs of the ES to more effectively investigate and address any local community concerns, but to also investigate and maximise the uptake of any potential opportunities.

To date, the scope and focus of the HIA has been initially discussed and refined with the Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSCT), the Public Health Agency (PHA) and appropriate Environmental Health officers, and is currently being further refined through engagement with local communities. On the above basis, the level of regulatory and voluntary assessment at such an early stage is unprecedented within Northern Ireland and demonstrates best practice.

3) *What evidence that currently exists suggests a higher rate of certain cancers, birth defects cardiorespiratory disease in the areas close to incinerators*

Cancer

Several epidemiological studies have suggested a possible association between waste facility emissions and a variety of cancers including stomach, colo-rectal and liver cancers; larynx and lung cancers; childhood cancers and soft tissue sarcomas and non-Hodgkin's lymphomas. However, the review carried out by Defra in 2004 concluded that there is no consistent or convincing evidence of a link between cancer and thermal waste treatment facilities.

In the UK, the large epidemiological studies from the Small Area Health Statistics Unit (SAHSU) examined an aggregate population of 14 million people living within 7.5 km of 72 municipal solid waste incinerators. This included all incineration plants irrespective of age up to 1987. Despite the inclusion of incinerators with

emissions much higher than would occur from modern thermal waste treatment facilities, both the Defra and SAHSU studies were unable to convincingly demonstrate an excess of cancers.

Following these studies, the Department of Health's Committee on Carcinogenicity published a statement in March 2000 evaluating the evidence linking cancer with proximity to municipal solid waste incinerators in the UK. The committee specifically examined the results of these studies and concluded that:

“any potential risk of cancer due to residency (for periods in excess of ten year) near to municipal solid waste incinerators was exceedingly low and probably not measurable by the most modern techniques”.

In March 2009, The Department of Health's Committee on Carcinogenicity updated their 2000 position paper on cancer incidence in proximity to municipal solid waste incinerators in the UK. The update undertook a further review of recent epidemiological studies on cancer incidence near municipal solid waste incinerators. They concluded that there is insufficient evidence to suggest that well managed and regulated thermal waste treatment facilities present a significant risk to health.

Noting that emissions from modern thermal waste treatment facilities (such as the one we are proposing) are orders of magnitude lower than from older incinerators, it may be concluded with some confidence that any impact on cancer rates in local people are small or non-existent and unlikely to be quantified through epidemiology (Defra 2004).

Birth defects and Infant mortality

Risk of increased birth defects and infant mortality as a consequence of emissions from thermal waste treatment facilities is a frequently raised issue by concerned communities. However, there is no evidence publicised in the scientific literature to suggest that modern thermal waste treatment facilities present such a risk.

There are a number of websites that publish material relating to excess birth defects and infant mortality near incinerators. This material does not however appear in peer reviewed scientific literature and cannot therefore be accepted as credible without further clarification of the evidence applied.

The UK Health Protection Agency (HPA) stands by its current position that well run and regulated modern Municipal Waste Incinerators are not a significant risk to public health. However, given the level of community concern on this subject, a new study was approved by the HPA (24 January 2012) to extend the evidence base and to provide further information to the public on this subject.

The HPA will be funding the Small Area Health Statistics Unit, Imperial College London, and the Environmental Research Group, King's College London, both part of the MRC-HPA Centre for Environment and Health, to carry out the study. For a distance of up to 10 – 15 kilometres from Municipal Waste Incinerators operating in England and Wales, scientists will research whether there is a potential link between the emissions from Municipal Waste Incinerators and health outcomes, including: low birth weight, still births and infant deaths.

It is important to note however, that HPA chief executive Justin McCracken states that:

"It is important to stress that our current position on the potential health effects of well run and regulated modern Municipal Waste Incinerators remains valid. This is that while it is not possible to rule out adverse health effects from modern, well regulated municipal waste incinerators with complete certainty, any potential damage to the health of those living close-by is likely to be very small, if detectable. This view is based on detailed assessments of the effects of air pollutants on health and on the fact that modern and well managed municipal waste incinerators make only a very small contribution to local concentrations of air pollutants.

"However, we recognise that there are public concerns about this issue and this study will provide valuable new evidence. HPA continually seeks to review and extend the evidence base on which it bases its advice. We are therefore delighted to support this new study with researchers from the MRC-HPA Centre for Environment and Health."

Cardiorespiratory disease in the areas close to incinerators

Available studies have typically examined respiratory and cardiovascular health around the older generation of incinerators, which were subject to less stringent levels of control than the modern plants regulated under the WID (2000). Overall, there is little evidence to suggest that thermal waste treatment facilities are associated with increased prevalence of respiratory or cardiovascular symptoms in the surrounding population.

This is consistent with emissions and ambient air quality monitoring in the vicinity of thermal waste treatment facilities, which indicate that modern, well managed facilities make a very small contribution to background levels of air pollutants and are not a significant contributor to local air pollution.

The Defra Study concluded that modern thermal waste treatment facilities simply do not generate sufficient concentrations of emissions to quantify any change in health outcome (Defra 2004). A review of research by the Health Protection Agency (2009) further concluded that:

"The Health Protection Agency has reviewed research undertaken to examine the suggested links between emissions from municipal waste incinerators and effects on health. While it is not possible to rule out adverse health effects from modern, well regulated municipal waste incinerators with complete certainty, any potential damage to the health of those living close-by is likely to be very small, if detectable. This view is based on detailed assessments of the effects of air pollutants on health and on the fact that modern and well managed municipal waste incinerators make only a very small contribution to local concentrations of air pollutants."

In summary, the scientific evidence base indicates that there is limited evidence to suggest that well managed and regulated thermal waste treatment facilities present a risk to community health. This conclusion is consistent with the Position Statements issued by the Environment Agency, UK Health Protection Agency and the Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management.

Given your concern, and potentially the need for further

authoritative information on the subject, we recommend you visit the UK HPA website, and review their position paper on the subject that draws from decades of robust, peer reviewed scientific studies.

http://www.hpa.org.uk/webc/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1266228112244

- 4) Given that the proposed plant is sited to the southwest of the residential areas close by and that the prevailing winds are from the southwest, pollutants are also more likely to cause a health risk in the local area.

Although the ES has demonstrated that the proposed facility will remain within all air quality standards set to protect health, the voluntarily commissioned HIA will be testing the scientific evidence base and the HPA Position through a detailed exposure response assessment. This will account for local topography, meteorology, residential areas and relative sensitivity and apply worst case emission scenarios.

- 5) Any proposed incinerator would be better planned in an industrial area which would pose minimal risk to adults and children. The proposals if passed would breach our human right to clean air free from pollutants.

As mentioned above, such facilities are subject to the most stringent regulations inherently set to protect the environment and health, such that they can be located within city centres with no tangible impact on the environment or health, while recovering significant energy, and reducing the level of waste sent to landfill. Across Europe these facilities are often sited in city centre locations – including Vienna and Paris.

On the above basis, the proposed facility is designed to prevent impacts upon the environment and health, will be regulated by the Environment Agency of whom will have the authority to close the facility should any risk exist during the lifetime of the facility, and will not breach any human right.

- 6) incineration of waste is not the best way of dealing with the problem of sending waste to landfill. Recycling and addressing the problem of non recyclable waste at source would be much more sensible.

The proposed MBT and EfW facility is but one component of the wider arc21 Waste Management Strategy intended to deliver the principles of the established waste hierarchy. This facility will indeed increase arc21's constituent councils' overall recycling rates by up to 10% through the extraction of plastics, metals, aggregates and other valuable materials. It is a reality however that there will always be some waste which cannot be recycled and currently this is going to landfill. It is considered best practice to try and extract value from this remaining residual waste through the recovery of energy in the form of electricity and heat. This solution proposes an end to end solution to extract as much value from our waste as possible while also diverting it from landfill, which European Directives say is no longer possible.

A key feature that you may not be aware of is the visitor centre, the purpose of the visitor centre is to both raise awareness as to more environmentally conscientious waste management practice, but to also improve transparency at such facilities. In regards to

	<p>the latter, local communities and the general public will be able to visit and observe key stages of recycling and energy recovery on site. Such transparency and the use of the visitor centre as a community resource has been well received.</p> <p>I would encourage you to view the short video clip available on the project website, as this provides a summary of the drivers behind the need for the MBT and EFW facility, why 11 councils have come together to form a more effective waste management process, but also includes an informative fly through outlining the recycling and energy recovery stages at the proposed site.</p> <p>http://www.becon.co.uk/</p> <p>How will your input be applied?</p> <p>Your concerns have been entered into the Statement of Consultation which will initially be applied to inform and refine the proposed planning application, but will also refine the scope and focus of the final Environmental Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment to inform the final decision making process.</p> <p>We hope that this response addresses your key concerns, however please feel free to contact us should you wish to discuss further. Equally, please feel free to visit the next series of drop in sessions where the HIA team would be more than happy to discuss any wider issues or opportunities you would like us to explore. The dates for these next events are as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="662 1048 1377 1294"> <tr> <td>Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm</td> <td>Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm</td> <td>Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm</td> <td>Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday 11th May – 10am-4pm</td> <td>Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk</td> </tr> </table> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>	Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm	Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey	Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm	Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey	Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm	Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk	Saturday 11th May – 10am-4pm	Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk
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	<p>Response sent to all those indicated re New Dates for Drop Ins</p> <p>Further to our previous email response, we are now pleased to confirm details of the next series of 'drop in' information events about the Becon Project.</p> <p>We hope that you will be able to attend one of these events where you can meet the various experts from the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals or discuss any concerns you may have.</p> <p>The drop in details are as follows:</p> <table data-bbox="662 1877 1377 2036"> <tr> <td>Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm</td> <td>Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm</td> <td>Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm</td> <td>Academy Sports Club,</td> </tr> </table>	Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm	Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey	Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm	Corrs Corner Hotel, Ballyclare Rd, Newtownabbey	Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm	Academy Sports Club,		
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		<p>Hydepark Road, Mallusk Saturday 11th May – 10am-4pm Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk</p> <p>These dates and venues have been agreed in consultation with local resident groups' representatives.</p> <p>Most of those who attended the exhibition and drop in sessions to date have told us they have left much better informed about our proposals and we hope the next sessions prove equally helpful for you.</p> <p>Our experience of delivering and operating 19 similar facilities across Europe, tells us that it is vitally important to share as much information with people in advance of any planning application. We believe this is critical, so that local residents have time to understand the nature of the proposals and have their specific concerns addressed. For this project this is especially the case since many here will not be familiar with the proposed tried and tested technology that has been common practice across Europe for over 20 years.</p> <p>Throughout this consultation programme we are committed to informing people fully about our plans and answering as many questions as possible. We are also keen to listen to the views of local residents and will use their feedback to inform our planning application later in the year.</p> <p>We therefore hope you will be able to come along to one of the above sessions</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	16 th April	
55	Got brochure late and missed the drop ins – keen to find out if there are more planned.	<p>Response: Sent 16th April</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We couldn't make out the number from your message as the phonenumber quality was bad - hence the email.</p> <p>We would like to assure you that we are still in the early stages of our 12 week public consultation phase and would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the project in more detail. To that end we have another series of information events planned in the weeks ahead which hopefully you may be able to attend. Here you can meet the various experts from the Becon team and ask questions about the proposals or discuss any concerns you may have.</p> <p>The details are as follows:</p> <p>Friday 26th April – 11am-8pm Corrs Corner Hotel Saturday 27th April – 10am-4pm Corrs Corner Hotel</p> <p>Friday 10th May 4pm-8pm Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk Saturday 11th May – 10am-4pm Academy Sports Club, Hydepark Road, Mallusk</p>

		<p>These dates and venues have been agreed in consultation with local resident groups' representatives.</p> <p>We have been made aware of some delays in the Royal Mail distribution of our brochures to a number of postcode areas. We had arranged for approximately 29,000 brochures to be issued to all houses and businesses within a 2-3 mile radius of the site at the earliest possible time following the launch of the project on 12th March and were assured by Royal Mail that they would be largely completed by 23rd March with one postcode area receiving theirs the following week. We have since complained that some distribution appears to have taken place outside these timescales and Royal Mail is currently investigating the matter.</p> <p>We can however assure you that rather than only rely on that distribution to inform people about the first series of information events, we also pre-promoted them in both the daily and regional press over the previous two weeks.</p> <p>We will also be promoting these upcoming drop in information events sessions in the same way and the details are also in the News section on our website. We hope that you will be able to attend one of the sessions, as most people who have done so to date has told us they have found them very useful in better understanding the proposals.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	17th April	
57	<p>Lives in area and generally keen on the solution proposed as a big improvement on landfill operations and believes it is a good location choice as well. Thought the brochure was excellent!</p> <p>Keen to attend the next information sessions and find out more both as a resident and as an employee of local engineering firm. Keen to understand potential local sourcing opportunities.</p>	<p>Telephoned back on 17th April and gave details of the next events – will attend the Corrs Corner events on 26th/27th April.</p>
	13th May	
58	<p>Telephone Call</p> <p>Issues around the smells from the site if the wind picks up and seeking a guarantee on the route traffic will take to the site.</p>	<p>Rang back on 14th May. Listed concerns re smell and traffic. Also referred to value of houses and would there be benefits for local people e.g. jobs etc.</p> <p>Promised to send a letter with information on smells and traffic. He will contact us again if he has any further queries.</p> <p>Letter posted 15th May.</p>
	21st May	
59	<p>I am the Chairman of the Antrim and District Angling Association and my support Executive Committee has asked me to write to you with regard to the Mallusk Waste Management Facility. A range of members have been to your presentations and also reviewed the literature etc.</p> <p>Following a debate on the subject the Association believes the project in its present form is</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We are currently carrying out an extensive public consultation which will enable us to listen to your views and answer any questions you may have. We will then take your views into account when preparing our planning application.</p> <p>This project will deliver a necessary solution for waste management within the overall arc21 area which will divert residual waste (the remaining waste which can't be recycled or reused) from landfill. This will help NI achieve its environmental obligations on waste management and in the process help avoid landfill tax and potential fines from the European Union for failing</p>

	<p>contrary to European law and amongst the areas there is major concern about is the environment, planning and the rights of communities and individuals. The Association is therefore totally opposed to this proposed development.</p> <p>Please acknowledge that you have received this email by return email and letter.</p>	<p>to meet our targets – additional costs which would have to be borne by local ratepayers.</p> <p>These types of facilities are commonplace across Europe and are designed and operate to the most stringent environmental standards of any sector. The proposed facility is designed to prevent impacts upon the environment and health and will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.</p> <p>If you would like further information please contact us on 0800 542 3268 or email info@becon.co.uk</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	5 July	
60	Emails directly to HIA Consultant	<p>Thank you for your enquiry. Please use the email address 'info@becon.co.uk' for future enquiries, rather than emailing the HIA consultant directly. This will enable us to keep a record of any correspondence and ensure that we can provide you with the appropriate technical information. We will respond to any previous queries re bag filtration once we have the relevant information.</p> <p>In relation to the health proof attached to your previous email – please see response below.</p> <p>The health proof of evidence attached was used at a Public Inquiry intended to inform an expert board on a specific planning decision.</p> <p>What is clear and important to note is that this health proof was not the reason for the project's refusal. The board's four grounds for refusal on that particular project included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the board was not satisfied that the development would be compatible with the Waste Management Strategy for the region; • the site was too small; • road flood risk; and • coastal erosion. <p>The comments I would have on this particular proof mirror those provided in a previous email regarding The Chemical Hazards and Poisons Division of the Health Protection Agency (HPA) review of the BSEM report i.e. that modern, well run facilities (such as the proposed Becon project) present a negligible impact on local air quality and no measurable risk to health. As was emphasised at the meeting, any potential risks from such facilities are fully managed through design, environmental permitting and continuous monitoring that preclude any potential adverse health outcome.</p> <p>The health proof:-</p> <p>does not provide a systematic review of the literature (failing to include comprehensive and authoritative studies) and there is no critical assessment of the quality or relevance of the studies included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presents a selective and limited use of the scientific literature; • misinterprets the concept of hazard and risk;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• several of the claims regarding health risks are not supported by appropriate scientific references;• the authors fail to recognise the current legislative regime which minimises the potential for public exposure to emissions (managing potential hazards to prevent risk);• there are misleading statements on health issues such as carcinogenicity; and• the report misinterprets the 'precautionary principle'. <p>Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities are among the most tightly regulated industrial processes and the important thing to remember is that the UK Health Protection Agency's position remains that modern, well run facilities present a negligible impact on local air quality and no measurable risk to health.</p>
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61	<p>5 July – response sent 22 July</p> <p>Thanks. Any details on the exact filtration system specifications as requested at the meeting with the HIA consultant?</p> <p>Are Becon thus refuting that the plant would have any direct or indirect health impacts on the residents in the area?</p>	<p>The facilities will be subject to extremely stringent environmental regulations inherently set to protect health, and will be governed by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency during the lifespan of the facility through continual monitoring (as per the requirements of the licence to operate).</p> <p>The flue gas cleaning unit will be designed as a dry or semi-dry flue gas system to comply with standards required by the Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EC). The equipment involved in this process is supplier dependent and is not finally confirmed at this stage.</p> <p>To comply with the permitted target emission levels, the flue gas is treated in a reactor by hydrated lime (Ca (OH)₂) to separate the acid components (SO₂ and HCl) and carbon additive to separate dioxins/furans and heavy metals (mercury). To meet the limiting value for NO_x an SNCR-system is proposed comprising an ammonia water injection system.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
62	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>when will the application be formally submitted. Do you already have a reference number that I can use with the planning office?</p>	<p>Response sent 25 July</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>We are currently working towards a submission date of the end of September. The planning application will be allocated a reference number once submitted.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
63	<p>29 July</p> <p>I have a question concerning the noise associated with the development, working my way through it. Can I have a copy of the noise survey I would like to check the data collection techniques verses the British Standard. There is reported information required as per the standard that aren't included in your summary, calibrations etc. Can you also confirm that you utilised the most current BS. Can you confirm gusts greater than 5m/s are still in compliance. Also, can you please send me the reference that you have used to predict the noise cited as 3 Model D Jan 2013 freefield. There is no journal</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>The noise assessment has been prepared in accordance with prevailing standards. In relation to your specific queries on noise, we can provide you with more detail week beginning August 12th.</p> <p>The draft Environmental Statement (ES) has been the subject of review and feedback from Environmental Health officers in each of the three related Council areas and is presently being refined in advance of the full planning application submission scheduled before the end of September.</p> <p>In terms of 24 hour working the existent planning permission for quarrying activities on the site does not impose restrictions on hours of operation.</p> <p>The updated noise chapter and wider ES and application documentation will be available for public review and advertised for comment after the application is formally made and any representations that members of the public may wish to make can be done so during this time.</p> <p>Regards</p>

	<p>and the author doesn't appear in Science Direct. Can you also confirm that the reference data that you have cited for the Quarry, was the data also gathered by the British Standard.</p> <p>In terms of the Quarry you note that it had 24 hours of operation from a licence standpoint, can you provide data to support that it operated 24 hours a day, and for how long was the case if it did indeed ever operate 24 hours. The 24 hours I refer to quarrying operation (consistent with common understanding) and not ancillary activities such as security etc.</p>	<p>The Becon Project Team</p> <p>Please find attached Chapter 13 which relates to the noise assessment. Please note this document is a draft only and is currently being reviewed and updated prior to planning application submission. We can advise whenever the final document is available.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
64	<p>To the Beacon Project.</p> <p>How long will the application be available for comment? When you say before the end of September do you have a date when this filing is going in? Can you please confirm that you will notify me with the date it was submitted and reference number? Will you be informing other residents that it has been submitted?</p>	<p>The planning application will be advertised in the local press by DoE Strategic Projects team. Such advertisements provide four weeks from the date of the advertisement notice for public representations. In addition to this all property owners within 90 metres of the planning application site will be neighbour notified by DoE.</p> <p>When the application has been submitted an update will be placed on the Becon website and it can be followed by monitoring the DoE application system online. We do not have a fixed date yet for the application submission and the target remains to lodge this before the end of September. When that date is fixed we will update the website accordingly.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	8 th August	
65	<p>Message: Could you highlight the exact model and specification of the filtration system to be used and offer evidence on its effectiveness?</p> <p>Also what is the exact route taken by fly ash and the projected tonnages as a percentage of the overall waste taken in to the proposed plant?</p> <p>Thanks</p>	<p>Response sent: 14th August</p> <p>Thank you for your latest enquiry.</p> <p>As per previous emails the exact equipment specification for flue gas treatment involved in this project is supplier dependent and is not finally confirmed at this stage. It will however be designed as a dry or semi-dry flue gas system to comply with standards required by the European Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EC) and will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency during the lifespan of the facility through continual monitoring (as per the requirements of the licence to operate).</p> <p>In relation to fly ash it will be collected on site and stored in the APCr (Air Pollution Control residues) silo. The fly ash and ACP_r will be at various intervals be transported (via hermetically-sealed tankers) to an appropriate hazardous waste facility for disposal. As there is no appropriate facility in Northern Ireland, the current plan is to send it to a hazardous facility in mainland UK.</p>

		<p>Based on anticipated waste streams, we are anticipating generating up to 10,000 tonnes per annum of APCr and fly ash.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	13 th August	
66	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'm concerned regarding the potential pollution of the groundwater at the planned incinerator site. Given its vulnerability level 5. How are you assuring that the waste water from the quenching the ash which will extremely toxic doesn't reach the ground water and run-off to the local area. I understand that you have settlement ponds and a so called SDS, however it's unclear to me how the dissolved toxins will be removed from the water. The prevention of waste water and run-off getting into the ground water via cracks in the quarry floor remains a concern as this has the potential to reach the ground water before ever reaching the SDS. once into the ground water its difficult to both detect and treat, how will this be approached?</p> <p>Look forward to your response.</p>	<p>Response sent – 16th August</p> <p>Thank you for your most recent query re potential pollution of ground water at the proposed site.</p> <p>We can assure that due to the design of the plant there will be no impact on surface or ground water bodies from process water/leachate from the planned operations at the site.</p> <p>In all instances the IBA will be handled and stored within enclosed structures which will be constructed from liquid-tight concrete and/or asphalt, and with no connection to the external drainage systems.</p> <p>Any surplus water which will be generated from the bottom ash within the EfW Bottom Ash Bunker will be collected and pumped back into the quenching system for reuse. This will take place in a fully enclosed system and will not be connected to the external drainage system.</p> <p>Any surplus water which will be generated at the IBA (Incinerator Bottom Ash) Treatment facility will occur within the fully enclosed building and will be collected and deposited on the IBA during the initial maturing process (required for the hydration process). This will also take place in an enclosed system with no connection to the external drainage system.</p> <p>Where there may be excess waste water which cannot be disposed of within the facility using the processes indicated above, this will be transported offsite to an appropriate waste treatment facility for disposal.</p> <p>The only water to be treated on site is foul water which will pass through package sewage treatment plants prior to joining the storm system. This is necessary due to the fact that there are no foul water sewers in the vicinity of the site.</p> <p>The SuDS system you refer too will only treat storm water from within the site. Process water used in the operational activities will not be permitted to enter the storm system or enter the storm catchment due to the design of the drainage system and the enclosed nature of the operations.</p> <p>We hope this helps address your concerns.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	27 th August	
	<p>Message: What are the plans for the road access? Hydepark Road is not suitable for heavy traffic</p>	<p>Response sent 28 August</p> <p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p>

	<p>250,000 tonnes of waste per annum will create at 30t per load equals 8333 loads over 50 weeks at 8 hrs per day equals 4 loads per hour plus 4 empty return vehicles equals a HGV every 7or 8 mins.</p> <p>What will be the environmental impact on the neighbourhood, reduced house prices and smell, if not from the plant, the waste vehicles on their way.</p> <p>We have heard these promises before but still have to put up with the smell from Biffa</p>	<p><u>Traffic Concerns</u></p> <p>As part of our proposals we have undertaken very detailed Traffic Assessments using professional traffic assessment consultants.</p> <p>The Traffic Assessment shows that operational traffic for the proposed Becon site is largely concentrated on accessing and using the motorway network and will simply involve the diversion of much of the traffic currently making its way to Cottonmount Landfill to the Hightown Quarry.</p> <p>Historically, quarry operations at Hightown have at times also generated substantially more HGV traffic than the proposed development. Given the unrestricted nature of the quarry planning permission, the potential to generate high volumes of quarry traffic at any time of the day still remains with little prospect of road improvements.</p> <p>With this project however, a number of important road improvements will take place and the timing and routes used will be controlled by arc21. The proposals include the upgrade and widening of the Boghill Road along its 1.2km length from HydePark Road and substantial improvements at the HydePark Road/Boghill Road junction to provide improved visibility to assist the turning of larger vehicles. It will also involve the replacement and widening of a number of bridges.</p> <p>Whilst our assessments show there will be a modest increase in operational traffic to and from the site, our assessment has demonstrated that proposed site access and key junctions on the local road network will operate satisfactorily throughout the predicted lifespan of the waste facilities.</p> <p>While road enhancements are being undertaken, over a 4-6 week period temporary traffic management procedures will be put in place to minimise inconvenience to local road users and land owners.</p> <p>Detailed traffic studies and planning has indicated that on average there will be a total of 199 vehicles arriving and 199 vehicles departing the site per day. The vehicle mix is made up of 118 HGV movements and 81 car movements. The average flow will total 11 vehicles arriving (7 HGV trips & 4 car trips) and 11 vehicles departing (7 HGV trips & 4 car trips) per hour when the site is operational.</p> <p>It is anticipated that over 82% of site vehicles (HGVs and cars) will access the site from the Sandyknowles/ M2 junction with over 67% originating from the M2 itself. On entering the Mallusk area we are proposing that this traffic will turn left towards the Hightown Road and then turn right onto the Hightown Road. At the top of the Hightown Road it will turn right onto HydePark Road and then immediate left on the Boghill Road, where it will make its way to the site. It is anticipated that around 17.5 % of the vehicles will continue to use the Mallusk Road and then follow the same route above to access the Boghill Road site entrance.</p> <p>You can find further questions and answers on traffic at http://www.becon.co.uk/faqs/</p> <p>You can also find the details of the Traffic Assessment at</p>
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www.becon.co.uk under the following Downloads link:

<http://www.becon.co.uk/project/index.php#downloads>

Odour Concerns

One of the permit requirements will be that there is no noticeable odour and frequent checks will be carried out to ensure this is strictly enforced. A number of measures will be employed to ensure that odours are contained within the facilities, including ventilation, negative air pressure and bio-filter systems. All waste will be handled inside fully contained buildings and vehicles bringing waste to site will be covered to prevent odours escaping.

The waste and Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) generated in the MBT will be stored in the MBT Reception Hall, MBT Bio-Drying Tunnels, EfW Bunker and RDF store. Therefore no waste will be stored outside.

The MBT reception hall will be fully ventilated and kept under negative air pressure to prevent odour escaping. In addition to this each delivery bay will be equipped with high speed doors coupled with air curtain systems. The exhaust air will be used in the bio-drying tunnels before undergoing treatment through an ammonia removal stage and finally passing through a bio-filter.

The EfW tipping hall and bunker will operate under negative pressure and the air within the bunker will be drawn into the furnace as combustion air.

During the annual EfW downtime the RDF generated in the MBT will be baled and wrapped within the MBT Reception Hall and stored in the RDF Bale Store.

House Prices

There have been a number of independent studies carried out across the UK and Ireland which have assessed the potential impact of similar facilities on house prices, and which draw on European experience. You may find them useful if you have any concerns about the potential impact on property prices in the area.

One UK study suggests that energy from waste plants/incinerators do not lead to decreased property values. Research in Hampshire, before and after the construction of three incinerators in the last seven years, found that there was "no noticeable or lasting adverse affect on the property markets in those locations due to the presence of the incinerators". You can find the report here - http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/cluttons_report_house_prices.pdf

The report authors said; "In all three locations values have continued to rise in line with other areas in their local markets. In addition there has been substantial investment/development in both the residential and commercial sectors in the areas around the plants in the periods following grant of planning consent and construction. This has continued once the plants have become operational". - Cluttons Surveyors

Independent research was also carried out into the potential impact of the Poolbeg Thermal Treatment Plant in Dublin on local property values. This study also focused on available

		<p>evidence elsewhere across Europe where these facilities exist in many urban area near local housing.</p> <p>The research carried out indicated that 'there appears to be have been no impact on house prices or the volume of properties being offered for sale in the vicinity of Poolbeg since it was announced in 2001.' The full report can be found at http://www.dublinwastetoenergy.ie/uploads/archive/files/briefs-of-evidence/marie-hunt.pdf</p> <p><u>Environmental Concerns</u></p> <p>The EfW facility will require an Environmental Permit to operate which will only be issued if the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) is satisfied that people and the environment are protected.</p> <p>Once operational the proposed plants will be regulated by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and will comply with the strict emission limits set under the Environmental Permit and the Industrial Emissions Directive (Directive 2010/75/EU). The emissions from the EfW will be constantly monitored to ensure that the plant always operates within the limits set out in the Environmental Permit.</p> <p>The proposed plant will not emit smoke, with any visible plume being colourless steam which will be invisible, except in very cold and dry weather conditions when some condensation vapour may be visible. All emissions from the facility will be tightly controlled and monitored 24 hours a day, and will go through a state of the art cleaning process to ensure there is no unacceptable impact on the environment or air quality. A detailed Air Quality Impact Assessment is being submitted as part of the planning application which will outline all air quality considerations.</p> <p>If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>
	<p>The Becon Project Team, Thank you for your reply.</p> <p>I would just mention the following points,</p> <p>"replacement and widening of a number of bridges" are these just on the Boghill Road? And if so would come under the upgrading of the Boghill Road. The much more difficult and dangerous junction is that from the Mallusk Road turning right onto the Hightown Road and to a lesser degree from the Hightown Road onto the</p>	<p>Thank you for contacting the Becon Project.</p> <p>Yes, the replacement and widening of a number of bridges are on the Boghill Road.</p> <p>At present the Mayfield Link isn't complete and our traffic assessments for the proposals have assumed the use of the existing road network. You can find out more about our proposals and the traffic assessment on our website- www.becon.co.uk particularly within the downloads section.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>The Becon Project Team</p>

	<p>Hydepark Road. What has happened to the continuation of the road straight up from Sandyknowes into the Mayfield complex? The continuation of that road straight across into the Boghill Road would be a much better solution.</p> <p>On your video you show refuse lorries unloading large clean uncrushed black bags, looks much too good to be true!</p> <p>The air you extract to keep a negative pressure in the building has to go somewhere and the smell along with it.</p>	
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