

Horton Landfill Update on Site Restoration

Dear Resident

I am writing to you on behalf of Viridor to update you on the on-going environmental management and restoration works at our closed Horton Landfill site.

Leachate Treatment Plant

The leachate treatment plant has been successfully commissioned and has been providing the necessary treatment of leachate for discharge into the River Adur. Following feedback received at the local liaison group meeting, modifications to the discharge point were undertaken by Viridor to allow the discharge to be more visible from the river bank, addressing the wishes of the local community to see the consented discharge to the river. An application to vary the Environmental Permit to reflect the post commissioning effluent quality of our discharge was approved on the 3rd June 2013. As part of the application process, a comprehensive and detailed risk assessment was undertaken, in accordance with Environment Agency guidelines, which concluded the discharge of treated leachate from Horton would continue to have an acceptable impact on the water quality in the River Adur. Not with standing this, the Environment Agency has requested that Viridor continue to seek improvements (where possible) in the treatment processes at the site which we are committed to do.

Capping and Restoration



As you will be aware the importation of soils on to the site ceased in March 2012. Works have continued to place and ameliorate the soils across the site last year. During this time nine hectares of the site were successfully restored and seeded and a further six hectares were partially restored in this time. From the end of June 2012, the exceptional levels of rainfall prevented further soil movement on the site, required to achieve the soil profile, as there was a real risk of causing excessive soil compaction that would result in poor draining restoration soils.



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Viridor continued with the other aspects of the restoration scheme and successfully planted 2,050 trees along the southern and eastern flanks and 530 metres of hedgerow across the site in December and January.

With the improvement in weather since Spring 2013, we have been able to complete of the restoration across the remaining six hectares of the site. All soils are now placed to the restoration profile, with all the remaining soil stockpiles removed. This was completed in the first week in July and now waits the seeding of these areas which will be undertaken before the end of September.



To complete the restoration scheme the remaining 500 metres of hedgerow is programmed to be planted in November along with the tree planting on the flanks of the landfill adjacent to the site office.

Sustainable Solution for the Management of the Geological SSSI



Following several years of discussions with Natural England concerning the most appropriate method of protecting the Gault Clay exposure within the site which has been historically classified as having a "Site of Special Scientific Interest" (SSSI) status, an agreement has been reached with Natural England that the infilling of the feature with inert material is the most sustainable method to protect the land from

continued erosion of the clay exposure, and also to provide the necessary stability required for the area. With this agreement, Viridor has been in active discussions with West Sussex County Council in lead up to a preparation for a planning application for this activity. Viridor will be appointing a consultant imminently to begin this piece of work. Following the appointment of the consultant Viridor wishes to engage with the community to discuss this application in order that your concerns and viewpoints can be incorporated into the application and help Viridor minimise the impact on your community. A further communication will follow detailing how this consultation, prior to the submission of the planning application, will take place.

If you have any questions or would like to contact us, please call the Laurie Read, Viridor's Landfill Aftercare Manager on 07872 131128 or email lread@viridor.co.uk.

To report an incident out of working hours, please ring 0800 975 3029.

Yours sincerely

Victor Perez-Mares
Communications Manager