WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 15th JULY 2013

Question

With regard to the Energy from Waste Plant (incinerator) would the Minister -

- a) update members on the tree screening progress;
- b) advise whether there are problems with the travelling crane and hearth and, if so, give details of the malfunctions.
- c) state whether any monies have been paid to the construction firm and, if so, what percentage of the total,
- d) advise whether he has sought to re-negotiate the contract in view of the number of problems and breakdowns, and,
- e) agree to arrange for a competent firm of engineers (independent of both the Transport and Technical Services Department and the contractor) to prepare a comprehensive report on the incinerator.

Answer

- a. The Deputy may recall from my responses to his questions of the 15 January 2013 and the 19 February 2013 that due to the sites exposure to salt laden winds, this is an extremely hostile site in which to establish trees. The trees are establishing slowly but as I have explained on previous occasions it will take several years before the final screening affect is achieved.
 - My previous offer for the Deputy to visit the site with an Officer from my department to look at the trees remains open.
- b. There are no current problems with the travelling crane or hearth however in recent months the control cabling to the crane did show signs of damage and as a result of this all of the crane cabling was replaced as a precautionary measure. The work and materials are to be paid for in full by the contractor. The plant is large and complex; it is inevitable that it will from time to time suffer from mechanical or electrical breakdowns.
- c. The plant has been successfully processing the Island's waste since December 2010. So far the States of Jersey has paid the contractors 95% of the Civil Works and 95% of the Process Works.
- d. The original contract is still intact and is working very effectively for the States of Jersey.
- e. Competent Engineers (independent of both the Transport and Technical Services department and the contractor) have been working on the project since its inception. The client's team are fully aware of all the residual issues and we have an agreed schedule with the contractor to ensure the plant meets the original performance specification. Third party Engineers would not add any value at this stage of the negotiations.