

Energy from Waste Plant (EfW) Potential Impact on the Designated Ramsar Site of the South East Coast of Jersey

Submission to Environment Scrutiny Panel January 2009

- A planning application (PP/2007/0050) for the Energy from Waste (EfW) plant was submitted in January 2007 following a States' debate on 29 June 2006 (P.45/2006) which resolved that any technologies for the final disposal route for the residual waste to replace the existing Bellozanne Plant should be located at La Collette II reclamation site, immediately to the south of the Jersey Electricity Company Power Station subject to Environmental Impact Assessment and Planning approval.
- The planning application was required to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) by virtue of The Planning and Building (Environmental Impact) (Jersey) Order 2006.
- In accordance with the Order the EIA was compiled by a person with the relevant qualifications and experience and also in negotiation with the appropriate regulatory and advisory bodies.
- On receipt of the planning application the relevant statutory and regulatory bodies agreed that the EIA and the mitigation measures therein were wholly commensurate, proportional and appropriate for the potential impacts of the EfW.
- In particular the potential impact of the EfW on the water and atmospheric environments were acceptable and within UK and EU limits and guidelines. In respect of the Ramsar site the EIA identified that the impact on the water environment would be no greater than the current situation and the impact of airborne pollutants would be insignificant. Indeed in respect of the atmospheric environment the EIA demonstrated that the EfW would have a significantly less harmful effect on the Ramsar site and Island as a whole than the current incinerator at Bellozanne.
- The Ramsar designation has been achieved and maintained in the context of the existing operations at Bellozanne. The EfW has far fewer implications for the ecosystem of the Ramsar site than that current operation.
- No representations were received which challenged the methodology, process, science or identified mitigation measures of the EIA during the consideration of the planning application.
- Since the planning permission was granted (October 2007) no correspondence or representations have been received which challenges the EIA. A report compiled by David Cabeldu (6 December 2008) contains a section entitled 'Marine Pollution Threat' which identifies some concerns but makes no reference to the EIA. The EIA addresses the concerns raised particularly in relation to potential leachate hazards and 'air fallout'.
- Background documents are indexed and attached for further information.