

Overwood Energy Recovery Facility



Community Update

As you may already be aware, Viridor is preparing a planning application for the construction of an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) at Overwood Farm, on the Dovesdale Complex, 2km south-east of the village of Stonehouse in South Lanarkshire.

In February, we launched our pre-application consultation process to inform your community about the proposals and to seek your views.

So far over 1,600 people have visited the Overwood ERF website, with over 350 people attending our first virtual exhibition.

You are receiving this newsletter because you live at a property within a 4km radius of Overwood Farm and may therefore have an interest in our proposals.

Visit our second Virtual Public Exhibition

We are unable to hold a face-to-face event due to the unprecedented circumstances of Covid-19. Instead, we are following Scottish Government advice and hosting a second virtual public exhibition to provide further information on our proposals.

The second virtual exhibition will provide details of the environmental and technical assessments that have been undertaken since February, as well as further information about the design of the ERF.

During the virtual exhibition visitors will have an opportunity to talk directly to members of the project team via two 'live chat' sessions. The first virtual public exhibition and the first newsletter will remain available on the project website.

We still want to hear from you

We are pleased that many of you have already provided feedback on our proposals or got in touch to ask for further information.

Our second exhibition is live from **Thursday 1st April until Thursday 22nd April 2021** and is your opportunity to see how our plans have evolved and how we plan to address any concerns raised with us so far.

Visit our second exhibition at www.overwooderf.com/virtual-exhibition-2

We welcome your feedback, which will help to shape the planning application that will be submitted to South Lanarkshire Council later this year*. The deadline for submitting your comments to us is **5pm on Thursday 22nd April 2021**.

You can also speak to our team at two 'live chat' sessions which can be accessed via our website and will take place on:

- **Thursday 8th April 2021 – 2pm to 6pm**
- **Thursday 15th April 2021 – 4pm to 8pm**

You can request hard copies of the consultation materials by contacting us on the details provided below.

*Any comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the planning authority once a planning application has been submitted.

For more information:

Call 0800 098 8157 (between 9am and 5:30pm)

Email enquiries@overwooderf.com

Visit www.overwooderf.com

Here's an example of some of the key themes that have been raised so far

Why are you consulting during a global pandemic?

The development programme for the Overwood ERF is designed around the facility being operational in time to meet the forthcoming Scottish Government landfill ban from 31 December 2025. Due to the sophisticated nature of a Viridor energy recovery facility, the construction programme alone can be up to three years. Scotland currently lacks the necessary waste management infrastructure capacity to divert waste away from the landfill and this is a major driver for bringing the planning application forward at this time.

The Scottish Government has sought to ensure that the construction and development sector can continue to work to support the national economy throughout the COVID-19 restrictions. This included replacing the requirements for face-to-face public events with online pre-application consultation to avoid unnecessary delays. This has recently been extended until 30th September 2021.

Throughout our pre-application consultation we have gone beyond the requirements of relevant legislation to ensure that all those with an interest in the Overwood ERF proposals are able to participate, with over 1,600 people so far taking part in the process.

Why here?

Should Scotland not develop enough waste treatment facilities in advance of the December 2025 landfill ban, this will result in Scotland's non-recyclable waste either being transported to landfill or into ERFs outside of Scotland, within the UK or on mainland Europe, instead of being used as a national resource and turned into energy.

Overwood is ideally located to become a hub for waste generated within South Lanarkshire and the surrounding local authority areas, such as North Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, East & West Dunbartonshire, Dumfries & Galloway, East Renfrewshire and Glasgow City. The Overwood site was chosen due to its proximity to the strategic road network, nearby waste sources and because planning permission already exists for an Energy Recovery Facility on the Dovesdale Complex approximately 350m to the north of the Overwood site.

Will emissions from the ERF be harmful?

No. Modern plant technology will ensure that emissions from the ERF fall within guidelines stipulated by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and meet air quality standards set by European and UK legislation.

The ERF will require a Pollution Prevention Control (PPC) permit, which is separate to the planning application and is issued and regulated by SEPA. The PPC permit will stipulate operational controls and monitoring requirements and will only be granted if SEPA is satisfied that the operation of the ERF will not result in unacceptable air quality impacts. Without a PPC permit, the ERF will not be able to operate.

How many HGVs will access the ERF?

The planning application for the ERF will include a Transport Assessment that assesses the likely impacts of all traffic movements during the construction and operational phases.

During operation, it is predicted that there will be an average of 85 HGVs arriving and departing the ERF per day. This includes all HGVs delivering non-recyclable waste or essential consumables to the ERF and also the removal of any ash or residues.

All HGVs will access the ERF via the site entrance, located on the B7078 – Carlisle Road, 1.5 miles south of junction 8 of the M74. During both construction and operation, a HGV routing agreement will be strictly enforced by Viridor which will prohibit HGVs from accessing the site through Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill (with the exception of HGVs directly collecting waste from these locations).

Is Overwood ERF similar to the Dunbar ERF?

The Overwood ERF would be very similar to the Dunbar ERF and would use the exact same technology to process up to 330,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of non-recyclable waste. In 2020, Dunbar ERF processed 314,909 tonnes. Dunbar ERF currently exports around 30MW of electricity to the national grid compared to Overwood which would be designed to generate 30.7MW.

The Dunbar ERF has an excellent compliance record and consistently operates well within its permitted emission limit values. The proposed Overwood ERF will be held to the same standards and regulations as the Dunbar ERF, monitored and enforced by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).