

Local stakeholder update – May – June 2019

Below is a summary of the work that has taken place over the last month, and the work planned for the following month.

MAY

- Food waste was introduced into the Anaerobic Digestion facility, marking the start of hot commissioning. The process started with 20 tonnes food waste per day, increasing to 40 tonnes per day by the end of the month.
- At the same time as the introduction of food waste, the digestion tanks were seeded with activated sludge containing the microbes that break down the food waste.
- As part of the commissioning process for the Anaerobic Digestion process, the pasteurisation process was successfully tested by a veterinarian from the Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA), through sampling the sludge prior to it entering the digestion tanks. This is a requirement of the Animal By-Products regulation.
- In the gasification unit, the refractory dry out was successfully completed.
- Steam blowing was also successfully completed, ready for the start of hot commissioning.
- Work started on commissioning the bunker in the gasification facility. The bunker is used to store the refuse derived fuel, after the mechanical pre-treatment process but before it enters the gasification unit.
- The application for planning consent for the Eco Park entrance sign was declined by Spelthorne Borough Council. SUEZ plans to appeal.

JUNE

- Hot commissioning on the AD facility will continue through the month, with the amount of food waste gradually being increased, up to capacity. The first electricity will be generated from food waste in the middle of the month, via the combined heat and power engines. The electricity generated is used to power the facility, with the excess going into the National Grid.
- Work will continue commissioning the bunker in the gasification unit.
- The steam turbine will be commissioned ready to be synchronised to the National Grid in early July.
- Work will continue to complete the admin building.