Chapter Fifteen
CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION

15.1 This ES has explained the process by which EHL formulated its proposals for an Enviroparks development, identified a site at Hirwaun Industrial Estate and subsequently refined its proposals in the light of detailed environmental studies of the site and its surroundings, guided by consultations with the local community, local authorities and statutory agencies including the Environment Agency Wales.

15.2 This final chapter of the ES provides a summary of the mitigation measures that have been identified and an outline of the residual impacts that might remain after taking these into account. A summary of mitigation measures can help the formulation of planning conditions and legal agreements to ensure that the measures described in the ES are implemented, if it is decided that planning permission should be granted.

MITIGATION

15.3 Regulation 21(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 sets out the following requirement:

'Where an EIA application is determined by a local planning authority, the authority shall –

…(1)(c) make available for public inspection at the place where the appropriate register (or relevant section of that register) is kept a statement containing –

i). the content of the decision and any conditions attached thereto;

ii). the main reasons and considerations on which the decision is based; and

iii). a description, where necessary, of the main measures to avoid, reduce and, if possible, offset the major adverse effects of the development.'

15.4 Mitigation included can be categorised as either *inherent* or *additional*. Inherent mitigation is a fundamental part of the scheme design, and is generally included in the application plans. If planning permission is granted for the scheme, it will be subject to planning conditions that ensure development takes place in accordance with these plans. Additional mitigation tends to be more detailed and not always capable of being shown in the scheme description plans. Individual planning conditions and legal agreement clauses can therefore be formulated to ensure implementation.

Inherent mitigation

15.5 The main inherent mitigation conveyed within thematic chapters of this Environmental Statement are summarised below.

Community effects (chapter 7)

15.6 The following inherent mitigation is proposed in the scheme:

- Creation of up to 200 permanent local jobs;
- Support of up to 530 temporary construction workers;
- Secondary benefits to the local economy resulting from increased local expenditure;
- Educational, social and sustainability benefits.

Transport and access (chapter 8)

15.7 The following inherent mitigation is proposed in the scheme:

- Reduction in waste-related traffic movements due to co-location of processes;
- Diversion of a considerable amount of waste-related traffic away from relatively minor roads such as those serving the Bryn Pica landfill site, to which most local waste is currently transported;
- Convenience and accessibility of the site in transport terms for both operational and staff (commuting) journeys.

Air quality (chapter 9)

15.8 The following inherent mitigation is proposed in the scheme:

- Negative pressure ventilation in potentially odorous areas, discharging via the engine air intake or through carbon and / or biofilters.
- All operations that might have an impact on odour generation will be undertaken internally;
- No external feedstock storage;
- An adequate stack height to promote effective dispersion.

Noise and vibration (chapter 10)

15.9 The principal inherent mitigation measures are as follows:

- Enclosure of operations within buildings; minimisation of internal noise generated; attenuation measures.

Ground conditions, drainage and flood risk (chapter 11)

15.10 The key inherent mitigation measures proposed are as follows:

- Effluent treatment and removal during operation;
- Measures to protect landscaped areas and natural features from potential run-off.

Landscape and visual effects (chapter 12)

15.11 The following inherent mitigation is proposed in order to achieve an acceptable development that responds to its setting and enhances the appearance of the Hirwaun Industrial Estate:

- Siting, layout, scale and massing of the development;
- Use of colours and materials in proposed buildings and structures;
- Landscape and planting works on the periphery of the site and within the proposed development.

Ecology (chapter 13)

15.12 The following inherent mitigation is proposed:

- Provision and retention of habitats (grassland and reedbed to south, woodland to north and west) these habitats being designed to enhance the existing;
- Use of a green roof on the visitor centre and administration building;
- Measures to protect species – collection and translocation programme.

Archaeology and cultural heritage (chapter 14)

15.13 The location and nature of the proposals are such that no detriment to cultural heritage and archaeology has been identified.

Additional mitigation

15.14 The main additional mitigation measures identified within the assessment are set out in Table 15.1 overleaf.

Table 15.1: Key additional mitigation measures proposed

Mitigation measure	*Environmental issues*	*Implementing agent(s)*	*Legal instrument*	*Compliance target(s)*	*Implementation timescale*
Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Transport, noise, air quality, community effects, ecology, water quality	Developer, building contractors	Planning condition	Minimal number of complaints, avoidance of statutory nuisance, no adverse health effects, compliance with waste legislation	Before and during construction
Health and Safety Plan	Community effects	Developer, building contractors	Health and safety legislation	To prevent adverse health effects	During construction and operation
Use of a Site Management Plan to control site operations	Transport, noise, air quality, community effects, ecology, water quality.	Developer, Operator	Planning condition	Minimal number of complaints, avoidance of statutory nuisance, no adverse health effects, compliance with waste legislation	During construction
Development of specific vocational training initiatives, Local labour agreements, and Local purchasing initiatives	*Community effects*	*Developer, Operator, local planning authority*	*Not legally enforced*	*Maximisation of social and economic benefits to the Hirwaun and RCT area resulting from the scheme*	During construction and operation

Mitigation measure	*Environmental issues*	*Implementing agent(s)*	*Legal instrument*	*Compliance target(s)*	*Implementation timescale*
Transport Plan to encourage alternative methods of travel	Transport	Developer, Operator, local planning authority	Planning condition	Maximise use of modes of transport other than the private car for employees	During operation
Implementation of a certified environmental management system.	Transport, noise, air quality, community effects, ecology, water quality	Developer, Operator	Planning condition	Minimisation of detrimental environmental impact on the surrounding area	During operation
Odour Management Plan	Air quality	Developer, Operator	Planning condition	Minimisation of odour impact on the surrounding area	During operation
Mitigation Plan with respect to the presence of slow worm within the application site.	Ecology	Developer, building contractors	Planning condition	to ensure that there is no death or harm to individual slow worms during the construction phase	Before and during construction
Develop a Construction Ecological Management Plan	Ecology	Developer, building contractors	Planning condition	To minimise risk to ecology during development.	During construction (once full details and timescales for works are known)

RESIDUAL EFFECTS

15.15 The predicted residual effects of the scheme, following the implementation of mitigation measures to address potential environmental effects are summarised in Table 15.2 below.

Table 15.2: Residual effects of EHL's proposals

Thematic chapter	*Residual effects*	*Significance (by construction/operation stage where applicable)*
Chapter 7 - Community Effects	Employment Education Health	Operational: Major beneficial Moderate beneficial Minor beneficial
Chapter 8 - Transport and Access	Effect upon road network	Operational: Minimal negative
	Driver and pedestrian delay	Operational: Negligible
	Road safety	Operational: Minimal negative
Chapter 9 - Air Quality	Dust emissions	Construction: Low negative Operation: Negligible
	Odour	Construction: Negligible Operation: Medium short-term negative
	Emission to air from process engines	Operational: Medium negative
	Emissions from the traffic movements created	Operational: Negligible
Chapter 10 - Noise and Vibration	Construction Noise and Vehicle Movements	Minor to moderate negative
	Road traffic noise in operation	Neutral
	Operational noise (daytime and night-time)	Neutral
Chapter 11 - Ground Conditions, Drainage and Flood Risk	Flood risk to site	Operational: Medium positive
	Waste effluent	Operational: Low positive to low negative
	Water quality and flood risk in the wider area	Operational: Low negative
Chapter 12 - Landscape and Visual Effects	Landscape impact (see appendix 12.9 for full breakdown by location)	• Temporary (during construction): Significance ranges from minor through to major dependent upon location. • Year 1: Significance ranges from negligible/none through to moderate dependent upon location. • Year 15: Significance ranges from minor beneficial, through negligible/none, to minor dependent upon location.
	Visual impact (see appendix 12.10 for full breakdown by location)	• Temporary (during construction): Significance ranges from none/negligible through to major. • Year 1: Significance ranges from no change through to major dependent

		upon location. • Year 15: Significance ranges from no change through to moderate dependent upon location
Chapter 13 - Ecology	Effects on statutory sites of nature conservation interest	• Construction: Negligible • Operational: Negligible
	Habitats	• Construction: Various dependent upon habitat, minor adverse at worst. • Operational: Various dependent upon habitat, minor adverse at worst.
	Species	• Construction: Various dependent upon species, minor adverse at worst. • Operational: Negligible.
Chapter 14 - Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	None	n/a

OVERALL CONCLUSION

15.16 The overall conclusion of this environmental statement is that there would be few significant adverse environmental effects resulting from implementation of this scheme that cannot be mitigated. On balance, the long term effect of the proposed Enviroparks development at the Hirwaun Industrial Estate is therefore considered to be **positive**, when these residual effects are balanced against the environmental benefits of the scheme, including its contributions to enhanced waste management and resource recovery and the consequential reduction in reliance on landfill, the generation of energy from a renewable source and the substantial investment that the proposals would represent in the local economy, with employment and expenditure benefits. As well as being important to the local environment in their own right, the comprehensive containment and control of resource recovery processes proposed in the Enviroparks development is inherent in EHL's aspiration for the development to be a showcase and an exemplar for future projects elsewhere.