

# Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility



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## List of other Consents and Licences

Regulation reference: The Infrastructure  
Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms  
and Procedure) Regulations 2009  
Regulation 5(2)(q)

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# Executive Summary

This document lists the other consents that may be required to enable the construction and/or operation of the Proposed Development.

Regulations 5 and 6 of the APFP Regulations provide the statutory requirement for what must accompany a development consent application. These do not include a requirement to submit this document although the application form guidance at paragraph 45 requires that the Applicant briefly describe and list other consents, licences, permits that it may require to enable the Proposed Development to be constructed and operated where the Secretary of State is not the authorising body.

Paragraph 46 of the same document requires the Applicant to set out whether there are, in principle, any reasons why such consents might not be granted and should include any references received from relevant authorising bodies regarding the likelihood of them being granted.

The Applicant has listed at **Table 2.1 Summary of consents and licences** those consents and licences which will or may be required to construction and/or operate the Proposed Development. It has not submitted applications for these consents and licences but foresees no impediment to their approval.



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Medworth CHP Limited (the Applicant) is applying to the Secretary of State for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct operate and maintain an Energy from Waste (EfW) Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Facility on the industrial estate, Algores Way, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Together with associated Grid Connection, CHP Connection, Water Connections, and Temporary Construction Compound (TCC), these works are the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 The Proposed Development would recover useful energy in the form of electricity and steam from over half a million tonnes of non-recyclable (residual), non-hazardous municipal, commercial and industrial waste each year. The Proposed Development has a generating capacity of over 50 megawatts and the electricity would be exported to the grid. The Proposed Development would also have the capability to export steam and electricity to users on the surrounding industrial estate.
- 1.1.3 The Proposed Development is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under Part 3 Section 14 of the Planning Act 2008 (2008 Act) by virtue of the fact that the generating station is located in England and has a generating capacity of over 50 megawatts (section 15(2) of the 2008 Act). It, therefore, requires an application for a DCO to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) under the 2008 Act. PINS will examine the application for the Proposed Development and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) to grant or refuse consent. On receipt of the report and recommendation from PINS, the SoS will then make the final decision on whether to grant the Medworth EfW CHP Facility DCO.

## 1.2 The Applicant and the project team

- 1.2.1 The Applicant is a wholly owned subsidiary of MVV Environment Limited (MVV). MVV is part of the MVV Energie AG group of companies. MVV Energie AG is one of Germany's leading energy companies, employing approx. 6,500 people with assets of around €5 billion and annual sales of around €4.1 billion. The Proposed Development represents an investment of approximately £450m.
- 1.2.2 The company has over 50-years' experience in constructing, operating, and maintaining EfW CHP facilities in Germany and the UK. MVV Energie's portfolio includes a 700,000 tonnes per annum residual EfW CHP facility in Mannheim, Germany.
- 1.2.3 MVV Energie has a growth strategy to be carbon neutral by 2040 and thereafter carbon negative, i.e., climate positive. Specifically, MVV Energie intends to:
- reduce its direct carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions by over 80% by 2030 compared to 2018;
  - reduce its indirect CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 82% compared to 2018;



- be climate neutral by 2040; and
- be climate positive from 2040.

1.2.4 MVV's UK business retains the overall group ethos of 'belonging' to the communities it serves whilst benefitting from over 50 years' experience gained by its German sister companies.

1.2.5 MVV's largest project in the UK is the Devonport EfW CHP Facility in Plymouth. Since 2015, this modern and efficient facility has been using around 265,000 tonnes of municipal, commercial and industrial residual waste per year to generate electricity and heat, notably for Her Majesty's Naval Base Devonport in Plymouth, and exporting electricity to the grid.

1.2.6 In Dundee, MVV has taken over the existing Baldovie EfW Facility and has developed a new, modern facility alongside the existing facility. Operating from 2021, it uses up to 220,000 tonnes of municipal, commercial and industrial waste each year as fuel for the generation of usable energy.

1.2.7 Biomass is another key focus of MVV's activities in the UK market. The biomass power plant at Ridham Dock, Kent, uses up to 195,000 tonnes of waste and non-recyclable wood per year to generate green electricity and is capable of exporting heat.

1.2.8 To prepare the ES for the Proposed Development, the Applicant has engaged Wood Group UK Limited (Wood). Wood is registered with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)'s Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Quality Mark scheme. The scheme allows organisations that lead the co-ordination of EIAs in the UK to make a commitment to excellence in their EIA activities and have this commitment independently reviewed.

### 1.3 The Proposed Development

1.3.1 The Proposed Development comprises the following key elements:

- The EfW CHP Facility;
- CHP Connection;
- Temporary Construction Compound (TCC);
- Access Improvements;
- Water Connections; and
- Grid Connection.

1.3.2 A summary description of each Proposed Development element is provided below. A more detailed description is provided in **ES Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)** of the ES. A list of terms and abbreviations can be found in **Chapter 1 Introduction, Appendix 1F Terms and Abbreviations (Volume 6.4)**.

- EfW CHP Facility Site: A site of approximately 5.3ha located south-west of Wisbech, located within the administrative areas of Fenland District Council and



Cambridgeshire County Council. The main buildings of the EfW CHP Facility would be located in the area to the north of the Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board (HWIDB) drain bisecting the site and would house many development elements including the tipping hall, waste bunkers, boiler house, turbine hall, air cooled condenser, air pollution control building, chimneys and administration building. The gatehouse, weighbridges, 132kV switching compound and laydown maintenance area would be located in the southern section of the EfW CHP Facility Site.

- CHP Connection: The EfW CHP Facility would be designed to allow the export of steam and electricity from the facility to surrounding business users via dedicated pipelines and private wire cables located along the disused March to Wisbech railway. The pipeline and cables would be located on a raised, steel structure.
- TCC: Located adjacent to the EfW CHP Facility Site, the compound would be used to support the construction of the Proposed Development. The compound would be in place for the duration of construction.
- Access Improvements: includes access improvements on New Bridge Lane (road widening and site access) and Algores Way (relocation of site access 20m to the south).
- Water Connections: A new water main connecting the EfW CHP Facility into the local network will run underground from the EfW CHP Facility Site along New Bridge Lane before crossing underneath the A47 (open cut trenching or horizontal directional drilling (HDD)) to join an existing Anglian Water main. An additional foul sewer connection is required to an existing pumping station operated by Anglian Water located to the northeast of the Algores Way site entrance and into the EfW CHP Facility Site.
- Grid Connection: This comprises a 132kV electrical connection using underground cables. The Grid Connection route begins at the 132kV switching compound in the EfW CHP Facility Site and runs underneath New Bridge Lane, before heading north within the verge of the A47 to the Walsoken Substation on Broadend Road. From this point the cable would be connected underground to the Walsoken DNO Substation.

## 1.4 Purpose of the document

- 1.4.1 This document lists other the consents that may be required to enable the construction and/or operation of the Proposed Development.
- 1.4.2 Regulations 5 and 6 of the APFP Regulations provide the statutory requirement for what must accompany a development consent application. These do not include a requirement to submit this document although the application form guidance at paragraph 45 requires that:

*“Where the proposed development will also require other consents, licences, permits, etc, to enable it to be constructed and/or operational, and for which the [SoS] is not the authorising body, then the applicant must list and briefly describe these in ...the application. Reference should be given to any that have already been*



*applied for, and a copy enclosed of any that the applicant may already be in the possession of.”*

1.4.3

Paragraph 46 of the same document requires the Applicant to set out whether there are, in principle, any reasons why such consents might not be granted and should include any references received from relevant authorising bodies regarding the likelihood of them being granted.



## 2. Consents and licences required

2.1.1 The following consents, licences and permits may be required:

**Table 2.1 Summary of consents and licences**

Interest feature/ activity	Summary of legislative context	Consenting/Licencing body
<b>Environmental Permit</b>	The operation of an Energy from Waste CHP Facility requires an Environmental Permit (EP) under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (SI 2016 No 1154).	Environment Agency via the EP.
<b>Legally protected and controlled species</b>	Many species of animal and plant are protected by law and works that could affect any of these species require special consent. For species protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (SI 2017 No. 1012) (e.g., bats, great crested newt or otter), licences are required from Natural England for any activities that would injure or kill an animal of a protected species or damage or destroy its breeding site or resting place. For European protected species of plants a licence is required for an activity which results in cutting, uprooting or destroying a plant of that species. Under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, a licence is required, from Natural England, for any activity that would disturb badgers or their setts. Works that affect species that are protected solely under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 may require a licence from Natural England. The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 also includes controls over specified non-native species.	Natural England via appropriate licence.
<b>Land drainage (ordinary watercourse)</b>	Certain works that may affect an 'ordinary watercourse' (i.e., a watercourse which is not designated as a main river) require consent under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991.	Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board (IDB) and King's Lynn IDB (under the powers vested in them by Section 66 of the Land Drainage Act 1991).





## 2.2 Record of discussions with Consenting/Licencing bodies.

### Environment Agency

- 2.2.1 Two formal enhanced pre-application meetings have been held with the Environment Agency (26/02/2020 and 02/03/2022). These are discretionary meetings which have been held to clarify specific aspects of the permit application prior to submission to reduce the probability of the permit application not being duly made. The first meeting was more procedural to clarify aspects such as application charges, technical guidance to follow, assessments and other supporting studies required to support the application etc. The second meeting was to discuss and clarify specific aspects of the technical studies, including the approach to chimney height assessment, noise assessment and approach to odour control.
- 2.2.2 It is understood that the Environment Agency will not discuss the likelihood of consent prior to an application being submitted, but instead provides feedback for applicants to consider when developing an application for an EP.

### Internal Drainage Boards

- 2.2.3 The relevant IDBs have been engaged throughout the process of designing the Proposed Development. The requirement for consent under Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 was discussed with the Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board (14 December 2021) and with the Kings Lynn Internal Drainage Board (26 November 2021). No in-principle objections were raised.

### Natural England

- 2.2.4 No legally protected and controlled species have been identified during the course of ecological survey such that it is anticipated that a licence for any activity which might disturb them. Specific discussion with regard to the need or otherwise for licencing have not therefore taken place with Natural England other than through non-statutory and statutory consultation.

