

Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility – Deadline

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Anglian Water - Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases (ISH5)

The Anglian Water submission at Deadline 3 [REP3-043] brought the matter of water supply to the attention of the Examining Authority following engagement with the Applicant on the maximum daily demand as identified by the project for water supply. As explained in our representation, the situation has changed through the preparation of our draft Water Resources Management Plan (dWRMP24) which states we will have little available surplus until new supplies are brought online in the 2030s.

Since our last Water Resource Management Plan 2020-2045 (WRMP19) there has been a significant shift in expectations for abstraction licensing required by the Environment Agency, to achieve Water Framework Directive objectives. This takes us to a supply-demand deficit by 2025. These sustainability reductions were not planned for in WRMP19, which means it impacts on our ability to ensure resilient water supplies to customers. It should be noted that demands for non-domestic water are not permitted to jeopardise current and future supplies for domestic purposes, whether to households or non-household premises including water in commercial operations for drinking, washing, sanitary reasons and fire suppression.

The dWRMP24 forecasts a future deficit of water for the region overall of 443 megalitres per day (a megalitre is 1 million litres of water) by 2049/50. The dWRMP24 sets out the strategy to tackle this deficit which includes both strategic supply side options and demand management. However, it will take time for these strategies to take effect. The process for finalising the dWRMP24 will involve setting out our final position on significant demands for non-domestic water supply to non-household developments. The next stage will be the submission of a revised draft WRMP24 by the end of August 2023.

Anglian Water would take this opportunity to clarify that whilst there is an existing water supply connection to the site with the potential technical capability to serve the 5 m³/hour required for the day-to-day operations for the project, the issue in question is having the available water supply to serve the facility owing to existing and future domestic demands and a declining availability of water resources.

Anglian Water will continue to engage proactively with the Applicant to identify potential solutions and aim to provide further information to the Examining Authority through a written representation once we have all the available data required to inform our ability to supply. This includes further technical data from the Applicant establishing the domestic and non-

domestic water requirements in the project and any offsets that can be provided by the existing user of the site. We are also exploring other potential water supply options and understanding the proposed timing and commissioning of the facility in terms of when the operational demand is required and the lifetime of the asset. This will help to refine the data further in terms of potential supply options that might be available.