

Press Release 19 July 2010

PLANNING PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO SALFORD CITY COUNCIL FOR PIONEERING WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

**Multi-million pound recycling and renewable energy facility will
create over 60 jobs**

Plans for a multi-million pound state-of-the-art facility to recycle business waste and generate renewable energy have been submitted by Sky Properties.

The **Green Lane Eco Park** would be constructed on disused industrial land off Green Lane, Salford, to contribute to sustainable waste management in Greater Manchester and create more than 60 full-time jobs, and potentially provide energy to heat and power 15,000 homes and businesses.

The facility would incorporate unique gasification technology from ENERGOS, a division of Salford-based award-winning sustainable energy business ENER-G.

If Salford City Council grants planning permission for the Eco Park it will treat and manage about 240,000 tonnes of local business waste each year via a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), an Anaerobic Digestion (AD) plant and a Gasification plant.

The plans have been the subject of a number of public consultations with a detailed information programme being delivered to 14,000 residents and organisations in Salford. A three day exhibition in December, attended by 117 people, was followed by a community meeting in January, attended by over 130 local residents and local MP Hazel Blears.

Sky Properties has also offered to establish a Community Liaison Group to discuss detailed aspects of the proposals including potential community benefits such as local improvements to road infrastructure.

Anthony Hirsch of Sky Properties says: “Our engagement has been full and transparent. It’s been a very open process and right from the start our team of experienced professionals have been made available to answer any questions.

The Green Lane Eco Park offers the opportunity to regenerate disused employment land through an investment of £70 million in the local community, creating jobs and training placements and supporting local businesses by offering a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly way of managing local business waste.”

The pioneering development is required because:

- Landfill is an expensive and unsustainable waste management option - European Union and UK waste disposal targets mean that as much waste as possible must be diverted from landfill for financial and environmental reasons;
- It is vital that we treat waste as a resource by maximising recycling and recovering value from the remaining waste we produce, rather than throwing these materials into landfill sites;
- The UK has to meet renewable energy targets and diversify its energy sources - energy generated from waste that can’t be recycled can help local areas like Monton to become more self-sufficient in producing its own energy;
- Managing waste in the ways offered by the Eco Park will support local businesses and providing direct employment for more than 60 people once operational and many more indirectly.

The applications can be viewed at Emerson House, Albert Street, Eccles, M30 0TE and online at

http://publicaccess.salford.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx

The planning application reference numbers are **10/59092/FULEIA** (full application for the gasification proposals) and outline application for the anaerobic digestion and recycling proposals: **10/59093/OUTEIA**.

For further information, residents can go to www.greenlaneecopark.com or leave a message for the Green Lane Eco Park team on 0800 107 1020.

Anthony Hirsch of Sky Properties is available for interview. Please contact Justin Strong or Andrew Spinoza at SKV Communications on 0161 838 7770.

Notes to editors - information on Green Lane Eco Park

The MRF would have a capacity of up to 100,000 tonnes per annum to sort and extract dry recyclable materials including paper, cardboard, glass and cans ready to reprocess into new products.

The AD plant would be capable of processing up to 60,000 tonnes of food and other biodegradable waste to generate renewable energy.

The ENERGOS Gasification plant, with a capacity of about 80,000 tonnes per year, would convert residual, non-recyclable waste into renewable energy in the form of heat and power.

Subject to planning permission being granted, Sky Properties aims to start construction of the Eco Park in 2011 and it is anticipated that the project would take some two years to complete.

Construction work would be restricted to between the hours of 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays – there would be no work on Sundays or bank holidays.

Site history . Sky Properties has previously sought planning permission for environmentally-friendly houses on the site. In 2006, Salford Council refused planning permission for an application for housing on the Green Lane site, and an appeal to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (then Hazel Blears) was rejected, upholding the Council's decision to protect the site's designation for employment use. Other proposals put forward for the site, including offices, warehousing and leisure uses, were not deemed in accordance with the Council's Unitary Development Plan policy, which seeks to maintain an adequate supply of employment land.

The development of the site for waste uses is in conformity with Salford City Council's development plan and the site was deemed suitable for waste uses in the Greater Manchester Waste Development Plan Document Preferred Options (November 2009).

Considerable work has been carried out by Sky Properties to make the land safe over the past few years, including clearing it of toxic substances, demolishing unsafe structures and making it secure from unwanted attention from travellers and vandals.

Sky acquired the land in 2003 as the former home of the Mitchell & Shackleton engineering company. The company had relocated to Green Lane in 1908, where Ernest Mitchell joined forces with Edwin Shackleton to create a globally-successful crankshaft manufacturing and repair company. The rich

industrial heritage of the area also includes James Nasmyth (inventor of the steam hammer), whose ironworks later became the Royal Ordnance Factory before Green Lane became an industrial park.

At the time of the acquisition 2003, other industrial occupiers Plasticon, North West Forge, Paul Gardner Engineering and Levertch were operational on the site. (h

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