

Statement In Response To Comments Raised By EH Officer

Application For Portal Frame Wood/Machinery Store, 4No External Biomass Boilers & 2No. Steel Drying Skips,
The Woodyard, Off Draycott Cross Road, Brook Houses, Cheadle,
For UK Renewable Energy Ltd.

In response to comments raised by the EH Officer following the submission of the Air Quality Impact Assessment prepared by Dr Amanda Owen, the applicant would like to confirm the following points :

It is agreed that the boilers will not all be running at the same time but the batch fed boilers will be controlled on site by qualified operatives fully trained in the lighting and operating procedures. Furthermore they will only be fuelled using BSL & Woodsure accredited timber with a very low moisture content. This ensures the gasification state is reached very quickly at which point no smoke is emitted. Once the boilers are running at their optimum temperature, the on-board control unit automatically takes over the burning process monitoring and adjusting the oxygen levels to achieve a clean, efficient smokeless burn.

During the summer season when the ambient air temperature is higher and moisture content is lower, a large percentage of the biomass fuel can be air dried instead of force dried. This results in a significant reduction in the boilers operational time allowing for all annual servicing, maintenance and repairs to be carried out ready for maximum operation during the winter season when there is peak demand.

The current owners have a long proven track record in the biomass boiler industry and successfully operate this style of business at several other sites, and are understandably registered with BSL [Biomass Suppliers List] and Woodsure which are the governing bodies to ensure only the correct grade of fuel is used to fire the boilers and that they are operated correctly.

As such, they are spot checked on a regular basis by the governing bodies and must submit a full audit every 2 months. In addition, the boilers must be fully serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's specification every 12 months and reported to OFGEM.