

Roxby Landfill Site – March 2020

Introduction

This is the second in a series of updates which will provide residents with the latest information about our regulation of Roxby Landfill Site. We are sorry to hear that residents are experiencing problems with odour in the local area. Please be assured that we are working with the operator, Biffa Waste Services Ltd, to resolve these issues.

Background

We regulate the Environmental Permit held by Biffa Waste Services Ltd for Roxby Landfill Site. The environmental permit contains conditions relating to site operations, which includes the waste types allowed, the handling of them and any relevant emissions standards and monitoring requirements.

Our Commitment

As part of our regulation of the site we continue to carry out air quality/odour assessments during routine visits to the site which include both announced and unannounced visits.

Our officers are working closely with Biffa Waste Services Ltd. to make sure that improvements are made and odour nuisance is reduced to a minimum.

Latest news

There has been an increase in odour reports in the last few months and we believe the majority of these are linked to landfill gas odours from the site.

Following these reports, the site operator (Biffa Waste Services Ltd) agreed a voluntary action plan with ourselves which identifies a number of improvements that could potentially reduce odour nuisance. Due to the inclement weather, including Storm Ciara and Dennis, there has been a delay in completing the proposed 40,000m² capping programme. On 6th March, we were informed 29,000m² had been laid; on 20th March, Biffa confirmed 34,500m² of capping material had been laid.

The Environment Agency has agreed an extension to the voluntary action plan and anticipate the planned 40,000m² of capping will be completed by 27th March 2020.

Following the meeting on 6th March, Biffa has committed to cap an additional 40,000m² area comprising of the current operational area. Works are expected to begin in the week commencing 23rd March. Biffa will progress landfilling operations into Phase 12 which is at a much lower level and not visible from the A1077.

We have begun a formal investigation which will ultimately inform our enforcement response. All decisions relating to enforcement action are made in line with our enforcement and sanctions policy. We aim to make sure our enforcement response is proportionate and appropriate to each situation. Enforcement can range from giving advice and guidance, issuing warnings, through to considering criminal proceedings. If you

customer service line
03708 506 506

incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

floodline
03459 88 11 88

would like to read more about our policy, it is available on our website at www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-enforcement-and-sanctions-policy.

Roxby Community Liaison Group

The Environment Agency meets regularly with members of the Roxby Community Liaison Group. The latest meeting was held on 6th March 2020 with representatives from North Lincolnshire Council, Winterton Town Council, Roxby-cum-Risby Parish Council, Biffa, residents and your local MP – Andrew Percy.

If you would like to receive our newsletter, please email LNenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk and we will add you to our mailing list. We will continue to provide updates via our newsletter and through regular contact with your local representatives. Biffa will continue to issue weekly updates to the group to share with the community.

Your odour reports

We want to hear from you if you have an environmental incident or concern, including any odour concerns.

To do this, call our free 24 hour incident hotline on:

0800 80 70 60

Please do not try to contact our officers directly - we cannot guarantee that your call will be logged and dealt with in a timely manner unless it is made through the incident hotline.

When reporting odour incidents to us, we will ask you to assess the strength of the odour on a scale of 0 to 6. To help with your assessment, an explanation of this scale is as follows:

0 – No odour

1 – Very faint odour (need to inhale into the wind to smell anything)

2 – Faint odour (you can detect an odour when you inhale normally)

3 – Distinct odour (there is clearly an odour in the air as you leave your car or enter the area)

4 – Strong odour (a bearable odour but strong, you could stay in the area for some time)

5 – Very strong odour (unpleasantly strong, you will want to leave the area quickly)

6 – Extremely strong odour (likely to cause nausea and a strong need to remove yourself from the odour immediately)

Our Feedback to You

Often you will ask us for feedback following your report. We will endeavour to report back directly where we can but this may not always be possible. We recognise the importance of providing feedback and will do this through the Roxby liaison group and updates such as this one.

Next update

We will provide our next update in mid-April 2020. If you would like to provide feedback on how useful you found this update please email LNenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

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