

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This Environmental Statement (ES) has been prepared by RPS on behalf of Redcar Holdings Limited (hereafter referred to as the Applicant). The ES report on the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and accompanies the planning application for the proposed Redcar Energy Centre (REC).
- 1.1.2 The Application Site is located on land that forms part of the Redcar Bulk Terminal and is shown on Figure 1.1: Site Location Plan.
- 1.1.3 The proposed REC would include:
- a Materials Recovery Facility incorporating a Bulk Storage Facility;
 - an Energy Recovery Facility; and
 - an Incinerator Bottom Ash recycling facility.
- 1.1.4 The REC would be capable of generating up to 49.9 Mega Watts of electricity (MWe) from up to 450,000 tonnes per annum of mixed residual Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Commercial and Industrial waste (C&I) and/or Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF).

1.2 Statutory Framework and Purpose of the Environmental Statement

Purpose of EIA

- 1.2.1 EIA is a means of identifying and collating information to inform an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of a project. The findings of the EIA process are reported in an ES in order to inform the relevant planning authority and interested parties as part of the decision-making process.

The EIA Directive

- 1.2.2 The legislative framework for EIA is set by European Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (collectively referred to as the EIA Directive). Directive 2014/52/EU entered into force on 15 May 2014.

The EIA Regulations

- 1.2.3 The requirements of the EIA Directive have been transposed into UK legislation through the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 as amended. These regulations are referred to in this ES as 'the EIA Regulations'.

1.3 Need for EIA

- 1.3.1 Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations identifies development types that always require EIA. Schedule 2 identifies development types that require EIA if they are likely to lead to significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as their nature, size or location. Schedule 2 development is defined within the EIA Regulations as development of a description mentioned in Column 1 of the table in Schedule 2 where:

'a) any part of that development is to be carried out in a sensitive area; or

b) any applicable threshold or criterion in the corresponding part of Column 2 of that table is respectively exceeded or met in relation to that development.'

1.3.2 The proposed development falls within the category 10 of Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations.

'10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment (as defined in Annex I to Directive 2008/98/EC under heading D9) of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day.'

1.3.3 Therefore, the proposed development is classed as an EIA development and an ES must be submitted alongside a planning application.

1.4 Content of the ES

1.4.1 This ES has been prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations. Although there is no statutory provision as to the form of an ES, it must contain the information specified in Regulation 18 and Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, the specified information within Regulation 18 and Schedule 4 is provided in Appendix 1.1 of this ES.

1.4.2 This ES provides all information required under Regulation 18 and Schedule 4. The information supplied within this ES is considered to provide a clear understanding of the main and likely significant effects of the project upon the environment.

1.5 Structure of the ES

1.5.1 The ES has been structured in order to allow relevant environmental information to be easily accessible. This volume of the ES (Volume 1) includes the main text of the ES. The description of the project is provided in Chapter 2. Information relating to the main alternatives considered during the evolution of the project and the reasons for the choices made is found within Chapter 3. Chapter 4 outlines the approach and methodology adopted for the EIA. The remainder of Volume 1 contains topic by topic environmental information as shown in Table 1.1.

1.5.2 Figures and appendices to accompany the text of the ES are provided separately in Volumes 2 and 3. Volume 3 includes specialist reports providing relevant background and technical information. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the ES is available as a separate summary document.

Table 1.1: Structure of ES

Structure of ES	
Non-Technical Summary	Summary of the ES using non-technical terminology
Volume 1: Text	
	Glossary
Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapter 2	Project Description
Chapter 3	Need and Alternatives Considered
Chapter 4	Environmental Assessment Methodology
Chapter 5	Planning Policy
Chapter 6	Landscape and Visual Resources
Chapter 7	Ecology and Nature Conservation
Chapter 8	Hydrology and Flood Risk
Chapter 9	Geology, Hydrogeology and Contamination

Structure of ES

Chapter 10	Traffic and Transport
Chapter 11	Air Quality
Chapter 12	Noise and Vibration
Chapter 13	Other Environmental Effects

Volume 2: Figures

Including all figures and drawings to accompany the text.

Volume 3: Appendices

Including specialist reports forming technical appendices to the main text.

1.6 The Applicant

- 1.6.1 The Applicant for the proposed development is Redcar Holdings Limited, which is a joint venture between PMAC Energy (a waste management company specialising in the supply of waste) and Low Carbon W2E Limited which is an experienced investor and developer of waste to energy facilities in the UK.

1.7 The Assessment Team

- 1.7.1 The EIA has been managed by RPS, taking into account information provided by the Applicant and design team. RPS is a registrant of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Quality Mark. All authors of this ES are senior members of RPS, and a statement setting out how the authors have sufficient expertise to ensure the completeness and quality of the ES is provided in Appendix 1.2.

1.8 Further Information

- 1.8.1 This Environmental Statement has been submitted as part of a planning application for the proposed Redcar Energy Centre. The application has been submitted to Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. The planning application, ES and Non-Technical Summary can be viewed at:

Redcar and Cleveland House

Kirkleatham Street

Redcar

Yorkshire

TS10 1RT

- 1.8.2 Copies of the ES and planning application documents can be viewed on the local planning authority website:

www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/resident/planning-and-building/planning-permission/Pages/Comment-on-a-Planning-Application.aspx.uk

- 1.8.3 Further copies of the ES can be obtained from the following address:

RPS

20 Western Avenue

Milton Park

Abingdon

Oxfordshire

OX14 4SH

- 1.8.4 Electronic copies of the Environmental Statement (on CD) can be purchased from the above address at a cost of £10 (including postage and packaging). Paper copies of the Environmental Statement are also available from the above address, although an administrative charge will be made to cover the cost of copying (£460).
- 1.8.5 All comments on the ES (and planning application) should be issued to Redcar and Borough Council (planning department) at the address stated in paragraph 1.18.