

# 4.0

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## Methodology



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### 4.1 Overview

This Environmental Statement (ES) has been prepared to document the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which has been undertaken to determine the potential extent of any environmental impacts, both beneficial and adverse, with regard to the proposed development by Egnedol of the BtEf and Eco Park development at Blackbridge and Waterston.

Where adverse impacts have been identified, the ES goes on to identify measures to mitigate the effects. The mitigation measures are designed to ensure that impacts are reduced or remedied entirely. If impacts cannot be entirely mitigated, the ES identifies the residual effects. Monitoring may be recommended in some cases to ensure that the development is operating in compliance with the performance criteria identified in this ES.

### 4.2 Environmental Impact Assessment Project Team / Partners

This EIA has been prepared on behalf of Egnedol Ltd. It has been conducted using the best practices developed and recommended by the Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (IEMA).

In preparing this EIA, Egnedol commissioned work from several specialist consultancies and agencies. The results of their assessments and advice have been incorporated into the EIA.

### 4.3 Assessment of Environmental Impacts and their Significance

The purpose of an EIA is to determine the impact on the environment resulting from a development. The EIA process also helps to shape the project design and to ensure that, wherever possible, adverse environmental impacts are minimised or mitigated and whilst opportunities for environmental enhancement are identified and maximised.

Central to any EIA process is the establishment of the prevailing baseline environmental conditions. This allows the impacts to be considered in the proper context, and permits the most appropriate mitigation strategy to be developed to minimise any adverse impacts caused by the project.

To assist the evaluation of the project impacts on the environment, significance criteria are identified to ensure that the impacts are within acceptable limits. Such criteria are routinely developed to reflect the specific impact under consideration and, where possible, should be based on recognised methodologies by regulatory and advisory bodies.

Each chapter within the assessment section of this EIA includes the following principal sections where appropriate: -

- Introduction – Details the key issues with regard to the specific impact under consideration;
- Key Policies, Legislation or Drivers – Outlines the relevant policies, legislation or drivers associated with the impact under consideration;
- Assessment Methodology – Details how the assessment has been conducted to develop the EIA. It also demonstrates how the assessment reflects the relevant guidelines and legislative standards. It also details the significance criteria to be used to quantify the extent of the environmental impact of the project;
- Baseline Environmental Conditions – Identifies the existing environmental context against which impacts of the project are assessed;
- Potential Impacts – Details the findings of the individual EIA studies are discussed in this section. Both quantitative and qualitative evaluations are employed to varying degrees depending on the specific nature and criteria of the impact being assessed;
- Mitigating Measures and or Monitoring Programmes – Any mitigation measures deemed necessary to limit or negate an environmental impact are outlined in this section. Monitoring is included where appropriate to ensure that the project operates within the defined limits or that the mitigation measures are effective at reducing the negative impact associated with the project.

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#### **4.4 Monitoring and Mitigation Philosophy**

Full consideration has been given to potential mitigation techniques to ensure that the environmental impact of the development is minimised.

The facility will be subject to an Environmental Permit (EP) that will be issued by NRW. In order to obtain the EP, the developer will need to follow best available technology and will be continuously monitored with respect to environmental performance.

It is anticipated that the EP will stipulate monitoring of: -

- Feedstock;
- Residues;
- Emissions;
- Outputs;
- Environmental performance.

In order to comply with the EP, it will be necessary to submit formal reports to NRW on a regular basis. Review processes will ensure that the facility complies with all regulatory requirements.

The Eco Park will produce food products and consequently will be monitored by the Local Authority Environmental Health Department.