
Questions and Answers

Q: Does Prosiect Gwyrdd have a preferred option?

No, the procurement for this project was advertised as technology neutral. The Pre Qualification Questionnaire analysed the ability of interested companies to deliver residual waste treatment services on the basis of their previous experience and not on any technology solution. No details of their proposed solution for Prosiect Gwyrdd were requested or provided.

Subsequently, all bids are, and will continue to be, assessed against agreed criteria for the competitive dialogue process which were approved by the Joint Committee on 10th March 2010.

Q: Why was Energy from Waste chosen as the technology for the Outline Business Case?

The Project had to produce an Outline Business Case (OBC) to assess that there was at least one deliverable solution to the authority's requirements and for financial benchmarking purposes, to check whether the Project was affordable. The Outline Business Case was also required as a submission to bid for WAG funding. A WRATE assessment was carried out at the time of the OBC for the purposes of the options appraisal and Energy from Waste was chosen as the reference technology.

Q: What is a WRATE assessment?

WRATE stands for 'Waste and Resources Assessment Tool for the Environment'. The assessment compares the environmental impacts of different municipal waste management systems. WRATE uses life cycle assessment to include the resources used, waste transportation and operation of a whole range of waste management processes with their environmental costs and benefits.

Q: What will stop local authorities sending all their waste for treatment?

Each local authority has been set challenging recycling and composting targets by the Welsh Assembly Government and it remains each of the partners' priority to meet these targets. Prosiect Gwyrdd will deliver the infrastructure to treat the remaining waste, after recycling and composting and in line with the Welsh Assembly Government targets and funding agreements for the project. The funding from WAG for this project does have strict criteria associated with the terms and conditions.

Q: How long will the contract be?

The contract with the preferred bidder is expected to be for 25 years, with a possible 5 year extension.

Prosiect Gwyrdd has stated that approximately 200 000 tonnes of waste will remain, after recycling and composting has been maximised. What happens if the amount of waste reduces?

Prosiect Gwyrdd has and will continue to monitor waste flows through the lifetime of the procurement. This includes analysing the recycling and composting performance of partner authorities, predicting further recycling and composting rates and analysing housing growth in each partner authority. The contract will prescribe a lower and upper tonnage range that the contractor will be required to treat.

Q: Does a 25 year contract restrict flexibility?

Inevitably a long-term contract restricts flexibility. However, the contract will include a detailed variations schedule setting out how changes can be requested and made to the services, whether proposed by the local authorities or the contractor, or as a result of legislative changes. In addition, the contractor will have to supply services that are in accordance with an output specification, (stating the authorities' requirements), throughout the contract period,. The ability of solutions to deal with variations in the composition and quantity of residual waste throughout the contract term, will be an important element of the evaluation process.

Q: Why is a 25 year contract period necessary?

The level of investment required by the successful contractor is significant, which means that for affordability reasons, a 25 year contract term is the industry norm for procurements of this nature.

Q: The WAG recycling and composting target for 2025 is 70% which will mean that 30% will remain for treatment. Why is Prosiect Gwyrdd stating that 30% to 35% will be sent for treatment?

Each of the partners is striving to meet the challenging recycling and composting targets, with partner authorities aiming towards a 65% combined rate from each local authority area. Further material can also be recovered for recycling through residual waste treatment technologies and the project expects at least a further 5% through the residual waste treatment solution.

Q: What criteria were evaluated at the 'Outline Solution' stage?

Specific emphasis was on technical assessment, service delivery and deliverability and integrity of proposed solutions.

Q: What community engagement will be carried out around sites?

Community engagement will take place by both the private company that submit a planning application and by the Prosiect Gwyrdd' Project Team. These two processes are separate from each other.

The partnership will be carrying out stakeholder mapping exercises within an agreed radius around the last two/three proposals identifying domestic, commercial and public properties that surround the identified sites. Information will be targeted to these areas, providing relevant information through events such as; roadshows/drop in sessions, residents meetings and direct mail. Stakeholder events will be advertised so information is accessible.

Q: Are we pleased with the interest from the market place, for this contract?

Yes. Thirty six companies downloaded the PQQ with fourteen submitting their questionnaire to the partnership. Five 'Outline Solutions' were received following the Invitation to Participate in Dialogue (ITPD) five solutions were evaluated at the 'Outline Solution' stage and four solutions have been invited to submit 'detailed solutions'.

Q: How long will it take until a preferred bidder is selected?

Under the current procurement timeline, the preferred bidder is expected to be announced in Summer 2012.

Q: When is the planned service commencement date?

The planned service commencement date is April 1st 2016.

Q: Why is the procurement process confidential?

The procurement is being conducted in accordance with the Competitive Dialogue Procedure under the EU Public Sector Procurement Directive (2004/18/EC), implemented into UK law via the Public Contracts Regulations SI 2006/5 with effect from 31 January 2006.

The Guiding Principles outlined in the Public Contract Regulations SI 2006/5 are:

Confidentiality;

Non-discrimination;

Equality of treatment of all bidders; and

Transparency in the procurement process.

Following completion of each stage of the procurement process the evaluation methodology utilised for the specific stage will be published via www.prosiectgwyrdd.co.uk. This will allow stakeholders and the public to gain an understanding on how all Solutions have been evaluated against the pre-determined methodology. However in accordance with the above principles, specific information in relation to the Participants Solutions will not be released by the project at any stage.

Q: How can the public contact the partnership?

All up to date information will be published on www.prosiectgwyrdd.co.uk and the partnership can be contacted via phone or email. We ask the public to email info@prosiectgwyrdd.co.uk or phone 02920 717523.

Q: Who regulates Energy from Waste facilities?

The Environment Agency regulates all Energy from Waste facilities larger than 1 tonne an hour (non hazardous waste and all hazardous waste incinerators)
All waste facilities, including incineration are regulated to prevent or minimise any risks to the environment or health.

These facilities are subject to the EU Integrated Pollution Control (IPPC) regime which aims to prevent, reduce or eliminate pollution at source. For all information on regulation, visit www.environment-agency.co.uk

Q: What is the Waste Incineration Directive?

All waste processes which involve burning have to comply with the Waste Incineration Directive (WID). This law sets stringent controls on emissions of all types of Energy from Waste technologies, including Pyrolysis, Gasification and Energy from Waste with Combined Heat and Power (Incineration). These technologies are required to monitor emissions to ensure that they comply, as a minimum, with the limits in the EU Waste Incineration Directive (2000/76/EC) which sets strict emissions controls for pollutants. The Directive has been implemented in England and Wales by the Environmental Permitting (EP) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007. From April 2008 these replaced the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) (England and Wales) Regulations 2000. The guidance on this legislation can be viewed through the following link: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/policy/permits/documents/wid-guidance.pdf>.

Q: How do I get specific questions and answers on Energy from Waste facilities?

The Environment Agency has an extensive questions and answers briefing sheet on Energy from Waste. To access these questions and answers, visit:

[http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Information_Pack_-_QA_\(2\).pdf](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Information_Pack_-_QA_(2).pdf)

Q: Historically, there has been concern that energy from waste facilities are damaging to human health, is this true?

The Health Protection Agency has published a report in September 2009, addressing the concerns that have been raised. The report can be accessed through the following link, http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1251473372218