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Welcome to May's Technical Newsletter! This month we bring you information about South West Water's water efficiency advice service and the new national body set up to offer a pool of Green Deal expertise

Mandy Stoker

National body launched to team up Green Deal expertise

A new national body has been launched, in collaboration with DECC, to provide industry with Green Deal expertise and identify energy efficiency opportunities in the UK.

The Energy Efficiency Partnership for Buildings (EPPB) replaces the existing Energy Efficiency Partnership for Homes and aims to offer a network of Green Deal providers, financiers and product and service suppliers. It hopes to facilitate closer working between business, community and government organisations on energy efficiency buildings.

EPPB chairman Dr David Strong, said, "The creation of the EPPB comes at a very significant time.

Organisations across all parts of industry, all parts of the product and delivery sectors, and all parts of the private and public sector are seeking to collaborate and find answers to how we make the most of the new energy efficiency policies coming through from Government."

More information is available at www.eeph.org.uk/

South West Water offers water efficiency advice



A new advice service from South West Water has helped to save businesses across southwest England up to £1m on water and sewerage bills.

More than 500 organisations from Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset have taken advantage of the services offered by Source for Business. The

advisory service has resulted in 15% reduction in water use for those organisations taking part since its launch 12 months ago. Organisations can have a comprehensive audit carried out by experienced water efficiency auditors to identify areas where businesses can reduce costs by using water wisely.

Source for Business' head of business development David Roberts said: "It's a tremendous achievement and clearly demonstrates how making small changes to water efficiency across a business can really save money on the bottom line." www.sourceforbusiness.co.uk/

Also, Campden BRI are running a Water Reduction and Reuse in Food Processing seminar on 3 July at their offices in Gloucestershire. www.campden.co.uk/water-reduction-seminar.htm



LEGISLATION UPDATES

Scotland

Businesses in Scotland will be obligated to separate waste streams for recycling. Paper, card, plastic, metal and glass will need to be sorted for recycling from January 2014. Businesses that generate more than 50kg of food waste per week will also need to separate this for collection. For more information about new waste regulations for Scotland please see - www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/content/new-waste-regulations-scotland



CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on the Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) 2010

Defra is consulting on changes to the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010 (EPR) to transpose Directive 2010/75/EU in Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) into English and Welsh law. The consultation is asking for your views on changes to the EPR that will bring seven directives (covering similar industrial emissions), into one piece of legislation.

The consultation is open until 6 June 2012. For more information, please see - www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2012/03/12/industrial-emissions-1203/?dm_i=2WX,TF26,2ZE6O0,2EKZZ,1



PROSECUTIONS

Wood recycling company to pay £6,000 for dust problem

A company that recycles wood products has been fined £3,000 and ordered to pay costs of £3,000 for allowing wood dust to escape from its premises.

Wellingborough-based Larner Pallets (Recycling) Ltd recycle wood products by chipping them at their site in Finedon Road. Neighbouring businesses had complained over a number of years about wood dust that was so heavy it looked like snow falling. Others said that they could 'taste' the wood in the air and that it caused pain and irritation to the eyes. Dust also covered cars, which was often hard to remove owing to the sap in the wood.

The company have a suppression system but, on several occasions, were seen to not be carrying out work without the suppression system being used. The company had also said in June 2010 that it would erect a building to overcome the dust problem. Despite planning permission being granted in March 2012, the building has not been built.

The company had given their telephone number to neighbouring businesses to report dust escaping. Larner Pallets have now arranged for a high netting fence to be put up.

Environment officer John Jones said, "This prosecution was entirely avoidable and only started when it was apparent that continued advice and guidance was being ignored. Where such advice is

continually ignored to the detriment of the public and surrounding businesses, the Environment Agency will prosecute to bring offenders into compliance."

Illegal waste company fined £4,000

A Shropshire company has been fined £4,000 and ordered to pay £500 costs plus a £15 victim surcharge after operating a regulated waste facility without an environmental permit and failing to ensure that Waste Transfer notes were properly completed.

GR Shorthouse Ltd operates in the Doddington Heights area, which is on the side of Titterstone Clee Hill, parts of which are a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It also lies on the boundary of the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Verbal and written warnings that waste could not be stored on the site were given to Gary Shorthouse, the director of GR Shorthouse. He was advised that any waste present should be removed.

Speaking after the case, the Environment Agency officer in charge of the investigation said: "We take waste crime very seriously as it can have negative effects on the local area and community. For this reason we did not hesitate to take action against the company involved."

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