



## E4e-manager Newsletter October 2012

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Dear Deb,

Welcome to the October edition of the Green Achiever Technical Newsletter.

This month's newsletter brings you information about Defra's legal definition of waste and the mandatory carbon reporting for the companies listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange as well as our usual round up of environmental prosecutions.

Mandy Stoker

### *Mandatory carbon reporting April 2013*

From April 2013, all companies listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange will be required to report their levels of greenhouse gas emissions. Businesses will need to include emissions data in their annual reports. This will enable investors to see which companies are effectively managing the hidden long-term costs of greenhouse gas emissions.

The emission of greenhouse gases such as methane, carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide are causing increases in global temperatures, sea level rises and changes in patterns of flooding and drought.

Carbon reporting is often the first step in helping companies reduce the levels of greenhouse gases emitted.

Further information about greenhouse gas reporting can be found at -

[www.defra.gov.uk/environment/economy/business-efficiency/reporting/](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/economy/business-efficiency/reporting/)

### *Legal definition of waste guidance*

Defra have published guidance on the legal definitions of waste. It is aimed at businesses and organisations that make decisions about whether something is waste or not. In most cases the decision as to whether something is waste or not is relatively straight forward. However, the decision can sometimes be more difficult, for example, if the object or substance has a value and can be further used). The guidelines give more details about how to make the decision.

To view the guidance, please see -  
[http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2012/08/20/pb13813-legal-def-waste/?dm\\_i=2WX,ZJIU,2ZE6O0,2ZO90,1](http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2012/08/20/pb13813-legal-def-waste/?dm_i=2WX,ZJIU,2ZE6O0,2ZO90,1)



## PROSECUTIONS



**Waste drying site ordered to pay £48,000** A Northamptonshire waste bio drying company has been fined £33,000 and ordered to pay £15,000 in costs for failing to stop smells from the site and for failing to remove illegally buried waste.

Think Environmental operated the waste bio drying site until it burnt down in 2011. It had an environmental permit to keep and treat non-hazardous biodegradable waste, which it shredded, dried and stored ready for a pyrolysis facility which was never built.

Within a two year period, the Environment Agency received 345 complaints about smells around the site. Nearby residents were forced to stay indoors and could not make use of their gardens.

The emission of odours was a breach of the permit and odour plans submitted by the company were inadequate. The company had failed to follow advice and had taken on more waste, thus making the problem worse. Ten formal warnings had been issued to the company prior to being summonsed to court.

In 2009, the company had illegally buried 3,000 tonnes of waste from the site in a nearby field, raising the level of the land by metres. They were ordered to remove the waste but failed to do so.

After the hearing, investigating Environment Agency officer Dawn Hambrook said, "As a regulator we always try to work with businesses, giving them advice and guidance to enable them to comply with the law and protect the environment. We took several steps to encourage Think Environmental

to control the smells and to remove the waste but it failed to follow that advice.

"Unfortunately the company left us with no option other than enforcement action. We have a duty to protect the environment and those affected by environmental offences such as the local community and we will do this through robust, effective enforcement where necessary."

### **Illegal timber business boss faces fines**

Leicestershire man, Leslie George Collins, was ordered to pay £6,000 in costs with £750 fines and a £15 victim surcharge for operating an illegal waste site at his home without an environmental permit.

Since 2010, Leslie Collins ran a timber business from his home address in Whitwick. Large quantities of wood, such as pallets and wood off cuts would be broken up and sold as fuel or made into bird boxes or hutches. The wood was often stored on his driveway.

In operating his business from his home address, his neighbours experienced significant noise, mess and disruption.

Mr Collins was made subject to the additional terms of an Anti-Social Behaviour Disorder. This ordered him to stop breaking up wood at his home and to cease storing wood on his driveway for more than two hours.

He was then issued with a letter from the Environment Agency advising him that he did not have the appropriate permit in place to operate such a business at his home. Despite these warnings, Mr Collins continued to operate the facility.

Speaking after the case, an Environment Agency officer in charge of the investigation said: "At no point did Mr Collins make any attempt to obtain the correct permit or exemption, and nor did he cease activity at his home address despite receiving a formal warning from the Environment Agency. This was a blatant disregard for the law and we do not hesitate to prosecute in circumstances like these."

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