TO: JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD 28 MARCH 2007

WORKS DELIVERY PROGRESS REPORT (Report by the Project Director)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Waste Disposal Board of progress since the last meeting of the Board on 10 January 2007.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 That Members note progress made in the areas of the EPC Contract and Planning since the last meeting on 10 January 2007.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To ensure the Board is aware of the Project's progress.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 None – no formal decisions are sought.

5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 5.1 The Joint Waste PFI Contract was signed with WRG on 31 October 2006. After a short mobilisation period, the service commenced on 4 December 2006, when WRG took on the management of the two Key Project Facilities in Bracknell and Reading and the Bring Banks within each of the three councils.
- 5.2 The Monthly EPC Progress Reports for January and February are appended to this report for information.

EPC and Planning

- 5.3 The EPC Contract, for the design and construction of the Key Project Facilities, is being undertaken via a joint venture (JV) between Earthtech and Clugston. There are monthly project meetings between the EPCJV and WRG to which the Project Team are invited and contribute. This has established a good working relationship between the 3 teams.
- 5.4 Since the last Board meeting, the JV have made significant progress in the construction of the Smallmead Facility in Reading. Many of the significant stages of construction are now taking detailed shape. Precast piling layouts are agreed and piling will commence in the next week or so. Detailed designs are in the process of being finalised for foul/surface water and road drainage, reinforced concrete works and the methane protection system.

5.5 The following subcontractors have been appointed to work on the Smallmead development:

Earthmoving: Killoughery

Sheet Piling: Stent

Pre-cast Concrete Piling: Stent

Structural Steel: SCWS

Civil and Concreting: Scanmoor

- 5.6 In each case the JV have carried out a process of checking a number of subcontractors and then sought the approval of the Client to appoint. In following months, the subcontractors for Pile Cropping and Cladding will be approved and appointed.
- 5.7 The power requirements, for each phase of the development is being reviewed but, following a request from the councils, the Material Reclamation Facility (MRF) will be metered separately in order that process efficiency can be monitored. We feel this will help to ensure the processes are efficient and add some depth to monitoring the carbon footprint of our waste processes. It is proposed to procure the works power supply (electricity) from Scottish and Southern although this has yet to be approved.
- 5.8 The programme for completion of the first phase of the Smallmead facility, which includes the Waste Transfer Station, is currently the end of 2007, ahead of the milestone of 31 March 2008, when the adjacent landfill facility is due to close. All members of the project team are working hard to ensure that the transfer station is in place ahead of the milestone and thus avoid the need to invoice the contingency arrangements.
- 5.9 The JV are planning to drill some investigative boreholes at Longshot Lane. To this end they have carried out a site visit and have ascertained that the drilling rig can operate at each planned borehole point without access problems.

Planning

- 5.10 A Planning application for the redevelopment of Longshot Lane was submitted to Bracknell Forest Borough Council and was due to go to Committee on 22 March.
- 5.11 However, there were a number of areas (traffic management, site drainage and the impact of the redevelopment on existing trees) in which WRG had failed to take full account of comments from the Project Team and BFBC Officers.
- 5.12 As a result the Project Team requested that further design work be carried out. This has resulted in the application being held in abeyance until it is either worked-up or replaced with a completely satisfactory application.
- 5.13 It is intended that the amended or replacement application will go before BFBC Planning Committee on 21 June (Date to be confirmed).

Background Papers

EPC Progress Reports (appended)

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