



HOWNSGILL ENERGY CENTRE



We fully understand that there will be many questions regarding plans for Hownsgill Energy Centre, especially as we've been unable to hold a public consultation due to Covid restrictions. This has led to incorrect statements being circulated on social media. Until we are able to meet residents face-to-face, we will continue to answer questions via our website: www.hownsgillenergycentre.co.uk

UNTRUE

"Toxic smoke plumes and harmful emissions will be emitted from the stack, and be a health risk."



TRUE

The visible plume will primarily be water vapour (steam). Due to advanced filtration technologies, any toxins will be destroyed PRIOR TO entering the stack.



"There will be a bad smell coming from the plant."



The fuel DOES NOT contain food waste. It is wrapped in fully sealed bales for transport, meaning there will be no odour issues.



"Hazardous materials will be used."



Materials will be non-hazardous commercial waste which CANNOT be recycled or reused. This will be sorted, pre-shredded and baled at local transfer sites that meet strict standards and environmental criteria.



Hownsgill Energy Centre is an energy from waste facility not an incinerator plant. It is akin to a biomass plant and whilst it does have a furnace, the term 'incinerator' is very misleading. Instead of burning the waste in an unregulated way for no reason other than to dispose of it, the facility will instead recover renewable heat and power via an incineration process.

LOCAL BUSINESSES GENERATE 000's OF TONNES OF WASTE TOO!



General household waste



Black bag (green bin) waste generated by Consett residents goes to Teesside facilities



Local business waste (commercial/industrial) is not dealt with by Durham County Council

Appointed contractors collect waste items

Only non-hazardous waste material is collected

All recyclable materials are removed for reuse



Remaining non-hazardous items are classed as refuse derived fuel (RDF) and suitable for Hownsgill Energy Centre.



Example of how the fuel bales will look ready for transportation.

EXAMPLES OF NON-HAZARDOUS AND NON-RECYCLABLE WASTE TO BE USED

- Non-recyclable wood fragments
- Non-recyclable paper and cardboard
- Non-recyclable fabrics
- Redundant furniture, carpet and underlay
- Non-recyclable packaging
- Non-recyclable plastic
- Non-recyclable business waste

WHERE WILL THIS COMMERCIAL WASTE COME FROM?

- Local factories
- Local schools
- Local offices
- Local shops
- Items from domestic skip hire (eg home improvement waste)

All from within a 10 mile radius of Hownsgill Energy Centre.

WE NEED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR AND OWNERSHIP OF OUR OWN WASTE

There is a serious problem in County Durham and we need to significantly reduce the waste going into landfill, buried for generations to come, as well as exported abroad. We need to take ownership and responsibility now for the waste we produce on a local community level. We cannot continue to turn a blind eye, not knowing or caring how our waste is disposed of.

We have the opportunity now to instead, turn our own waste into renewable energy, generating green heat and power for the local Consett community.



HOWNSGILL ENERGY CENTRE

Our plan is for a small-scale, community-focused energy recovery facility which will help solve this problem. It will make Consett an exemplar to other towns and communities, and enable businesses to manage their waste responsibly whilst reducing carbon emissions.

THE ENERGY FROM WASTE PROCESS >>>



Materials will be processed at external waste management centres, not at Hownsgill.



NO EVENING OR WEEKEND DELIVERIES

Fully contained/sealed vehicles will transport during working hours only (9am-5pm Mon-Fri).



Vehicles will unload when inside, once roller shutters are fully closed.



Fuel is burned at extreme temperatures to generate heat to a steam boiler driving a steam turbine, producing clean renewable energy.



Water vapour (steam) will be seen from the plume AND NOT harmful emissions. This will dissipate within 20 metres of the facility.



Local residents will benefit from cheaper power supplies via a new community energy provider.

After considering all evidence re: the proposed facility, The EA has stated it has 'assessed the supporting information' and can confirm it has 'no objections to the planning application as submitted.'

ADVANCED FILTRATION TECHNOLOGIES

State-of-the-art furnace, flue and gas technologies ensure renewable heat, power and steam are generated with the lowest possible emissions (negligible levels). This highly controlled process is designed to handle high ash loads at extreme temperatures, with three stages of filtration ensuring all unwanted elements are destroyed or safely collected and disposed of accordingly.



ARTISTS IMPRESSION OF WHAT THE COMMUNITY WILL SEE (VIEW POINTS)



Howngsill Energy Centre will address two of society's problems head-on; i) taking ownership of the waste that our own community produces and preventing millions of tonnes going to landfill or exported abroad, ii) providing a solution to help local people use greener, cleaner renewable energy.

- This £30 million facility will be the investment catalyst for a larger Howngsill renewable energy project including a 7MW solar farm and battery storage facility providing more green power.
- Up to 60 new green jobs during construction, within the supply chain and operational thereafter.
- A new Consett community energy company offering discounted heat and power to local homes and businesses (approximately savings of up to 25% per year on utility bills).
- Much-needed reinforcement of the ageing 'grid' infrastructure to support increased electricity demand (eg electric vehicle charging) and to prevent power outages.
- Encouraging further regeneration and wider investment initiatives for Consett with Project Genesis Ltd helping to deliver new developments (a district hospital, care village and housing), as well as jobs.
- Up to 100 vehicle, green electric charging points for the community.