



LONGRIDGE RD

ENERGY CENTRE

**Introducing the Proposals for Longridge Road Energy Centre**

February 2019

## Our proposals

Longridge Road Energy Centre is a new, privately funded £200 million Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) proposed for Red Scar Industrial Estate (RSIE) on the edge of Preston to be developed by Miller Turner.

The Energy Centre will generate up to 40 Megawatts (MW) of low carbon electricity (and potentially heat) for distribution to businesses and other end users nearby. Distribution will be via the electricity grid, or a direct connection to businesses and other energy users – known as a 'private wire'.

Longridge Road Energy Centre can produce dependable, local energy at lower prices, reducing costs for businesses in the area, helping to sustain existing employment in Lancashire and potentially attracting new employers.

Longridge Road Energy Centre will use the waste from households and businesses that remains after recyclable materials have been removed. In the UK, such leftover material, known as residual waste, is either landfilled, exported, or has energy recovered from it. By taking this leftover waste and using it to generate electricity, the Energy Centre can reduce waste going to landfill and reduce the region's carbon footprint.

### Who we are

Longridge Road Energy Centre will be delivered by Miller Turner, a team with a track record of developing green energy plants in the ERF, biomass, wind and solar power sectors – including the 40MW Tilbury Docks wood-fuelled electricity generating station in East London.

### Location

Longridge Road Energy Centre is being proposed on the southern part of RSIE, formerly the location of part of the Courtaulds factory (PR2 5NE). The site is approximately 18 acres (7.3 ha) of undeveloped brownfield land. The closest site boundary is 300-350 metres east of the M6 motorway. The main buildings will be about 500 metres from the motorway at their closest.

The Energy Centre site is part of the currently un-redeveloped southern parts of the RSIE allocated for employment development in the Preston Local Plan. The RSIE, including the site of the proposed development, is also allocated for strategic waste management facilities, including energy from waste.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> According to the Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Site Allocation and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (Sept 2013).

Image courtesy of google earth.



## Key benefits



### Energy

- Produces enough electricity to power up to **89,000** homes
- Low carbon energy
- Dependable source, generated locally
- Potential to offer lower cost electricity via 'private wire'



### Employment

- Up to **500** people employed during construction
- **40** permanent jobs
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Potential to preserve or attract hundreds of new jobs by providing cheaper electricity



### Financial

- **£200 million** of investment
- Requires no public subsidy
- Significant additional business rates per year for Local Authorities



### Waste Management

- Converts residual waste, destined for landfill, into power
- Capacity to process up to **395,000** tonnes of residual waste per year
- Reduces waste going to landfill in Lancashire

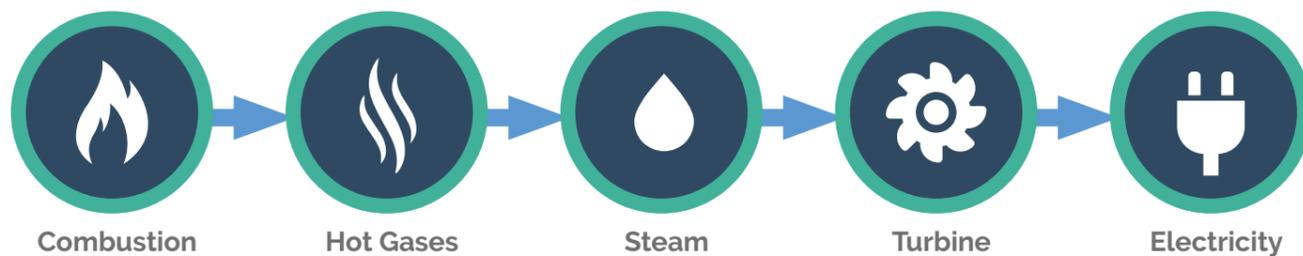
## How energy recovery from waste works

Longridge Road Energy Centre will take residual waste to use as a fuel to produce energy. Around 60% of the waste is biomass, making the energy that is generated from it low carbon.

The Energy Centre will use proven 'moving grate' technology in operation at a similar scale at hundreds of plants across the world, including about 40 in the UK. The combustion process creates heat, which is used to generate steam. This then drives a turbine to generate electricity and recover the energy from the waste.

The electricity is then sold to the electricity grid, or to customers in the local area via a 'private wire' direct connection.

## Energy recovery process



Longridge Road Energy Centre, as with other modern ERFs, will operate within a closely monitored, strictly regulated environment. The Energy Centre will offer numerous energy and environmental benefits such as:

- Reducing our reliance on coal and gas for energy – helping to cut down our carbon emissions
- Contributing positively to tackling climate change
- Combined with recycling, contributing to minimising landfill and its harmful methane emissions
- Reducing reliance on energy imports from abroad
- Providing a dependable baseload electricity supply
- Preventing odour emissions associated with uncontrolled waste-handling and treatment
- Providing energy to local businesses at low and stable prices

## Design

**We are working closely with expert architects to ensure that the building's layout and design reflects its proposed setting.**

The design process for the building's exterior will be iterative and will develop through consultation with Lancashire County Council, the public, and other stakeholders during the pre-application period. This includes seeking comments on areas external to the buildings, which will be landscaped and screened where appropriate.

Key features to ensure that the facility is sustainable, modern and responds to its environmental setting include:

- Bespoke buildings to fully enclose operations
- Gas cleaning and emission-control equipment
- Traffic management and noise abatement
- Surface water management

## The local environment

### The Environmental Impact Assessment process

A full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be undertaken to ensure that all matters relating to the environment are considered when developing Longridge Road Energy Centre. The EIA will be presented in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will accompany the planning application. A wide range of environmental subjects will be taken into consideration including air quality, traffic, landscape and ecology.

Content from the ES will be made available on the project website and updated information will be shared regularly.

### Air quality and odour control

Longridge Road Energy Centre will be constructed to the highest standards and will be the subject of strict environmental regulations. These regulations will be embodied in an Environment Agency (EA) operating permit. The permit is issued after close scrutiny of a detailed application. The permit will require comprehensive environmental monitoring to be undertaken throughout the operational life of the Energy Centre. Monitoring results will be reported to the EA, who have the power to modify or halt operations if necessary.

All waste deliveries will be unloaded within the plant and lorries will be either enclosed or covered to prevent dust and litter. Any odours will be completely contained within the plant by maintaining negative air pressure in the waste reception building and feeding that air to the combustion chamber where odours are destroyed.

### Traffic and access

The Energy Centre will have excellent road connections. RSIE can be accessed directly from Junction 31a of the M6 motorway and the B6242 Bluebell Way as well as the B6243 Longridge Road, avoiding the need for traffic to be routed through residential areas.

Access within RSIE is via existing, purpose-built industrial estate roads right to the boundary of the site.

### Visual

As part of the EIA process, a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will be undertaken and explained in the ES in accordance with a methodology compliant with Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment Guidelines.

Although the design of the building is not yet finalised, the proposed development will include a building of up to approximately 35 to 40 metres in height, 120 metres in length and 60 metres in width. There will be either one or two chimney stacks of 85 to 100 metres in height and up to three metres in diameter.

### Ecology

We are carrying out a comprehensive investigation of the ecological and biological features of the site and the surrounding areas. Longridge Road Energy Centre's site is former industrial land that has been cleared and prepared for redevelopment. The design of the facility will include measures to enhance local biodiversity.



## What happens next?

We will be running a pre-application public consultation for a period of six weeks from **Friday 15 February to Friday 29 March 2019**.

During this period, we will engage with members of the public and key stakeholders in a number of ways:



### Consultation drop-in sessions

We will be holding two public drop-in sessions to provide stakeholders and members of the public an opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the project team on **Wednesday 13 March** and **Thursday 14 March 2019**. This will include one daytime session and one evening session (details overleaf).



### Briefing Pack

Copies of this Briefing Pack will be distributed to stakeholders, including elected members, to make them aware of the consultation and how they can submit feedback on the proposals if they wish.



### Consultation Postcard

A Consultation Postcard will be distributed to over 5,500 residential and business properties in the local area.

The postcard will provide information about where to view more information on the proposals and our consultation events, as well as details of how to provide feedback, ask questions and access further information.



### Consultation website

A dedicated website ([www.longridgeroadenergy.com](http://www.longridgeroadenergy.com)) will be launched for the start of the consultation. This website will provide information about the proposals for Longridge Road Energy Centre and associated consultation activities, as well as provide downloadable electronic versions of our consultation materials.



### Communication lines

Members of the public will be able to ask questions and submit their comments through a dedicated project email address, freephone telephone information line, and Freepost address. Details of these can be seen overleaf.

**Miller Turner intends to be in a position to submit a planning application to the Local Planning Authority at Lancashire County Council in the spring of 2019.**

**If approved, it is hoped that construction could begin in 2020 and run for two to three years before becoming operational.**

## Contact us

The pre-application consultation is scheduled to run from **Friday 15 February to Friday 29 March 2019**. All feedback received during this period will be considered on an ongoing basis by the project team and suggestions will be incorporated into the finalisation of the scheme where possible.

We will be holding two drop-in sessions for all members of the public on the following dates:

Date	Location
Wednesday 13 March 2019, 4pm - 8pm	Norman Jepson Beefeater, Bluebell Way, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 5PZ
Thursday 14 March 2019, 10am - 2.30pm	Norman Jepson Beefeater, Bluebell Way, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 5PZ

To find out more or to contact the Consultation Team for Longridge Road Energy Centre you can:

- Call us on **0800 032 1880**
- Email us at [info@longridgeroadenergy.com](mailto:info@longridgeroadenergy.com)
- Write to us at **Freepost LONGRIDGE ROAD ENERGY CENTRE**
- Visit our website at [www.longridgeroadenergy.com](http://www.longridgeroadenergy.com)

## Anticipated timeline

January 2019	Environmental Impact Assessment begins
Early February 2019*	Scoping Opinion received from Lancashire County Council
15 February 2019	Pre-application consultation begins
13-14 March 2019	Consultation events held
Spring 2019*	Environmental Statement published
29 March 2019	Pre-application consultation ends
Spring 2019*	Planning application submitted to Lancashire County Council
Autumn 2019*	Planning application decision anticipated

\*All dates are indicative and subject to change



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