

## Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn

Posted by Tom - 22 Dec 2010 08:40

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Full story in the News section

Plans have been unveiled for Europe's biggest plant turning industrial waste into energy at a farm just outside Glasgow.

The £640 million project has been earmarked for 29-hectares on a former farm three miles outside Newton Mearns in a move that is likely to worry locals and environmentalists.

The Lifetime Recycling Village has been designed to process 1.5 million tonnes of commercial rubbish a year and will have the capacity to generate enough electricity to power 100,000 homes.

The backers last night claimed their project would be "bigger than the Commonwealth Games" and hope to get it up and running with a 700-strong workforce by the time the event in Glasgow begins in 2014.

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## Re:Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn

Posted by Sax - 22 Dec 2010 09:57

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1.5 million tonnes means an awful lot of lorries:woohoo:

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## Re:Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn

Posted by Gordon McCaskill - 22 Dec 2010 22:18

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I am a little surprised by this report. This seems to be a massive complex and presumably, based on the report, is so large that it will fall within national planning guidance which appears to mean that the Local Authority are not involved. I'm not even sure if the planned site is in East Renfrewshire.

I would also assume that it will be close to the M77 so whilst there are likely to be a lot of lorries they will be sticking to the motorway up until they reach the site.

My only concern, until I see the actual planes, is the presence of very large chimneys pushing out a lot of smoke in a rural area, but one would assume that the owners have that covered as well.

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## Re:Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn

Posted by smiller - 22 Dec 2010 22:23

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If anyone seen tonight's Panorama, it will give you an insight into the future scale of things.

Perhaps they are calling it a Lifetime facility because any neighbours of the plant will not have a very long life expectancy

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## Re:Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn

Posted by Tom - 23 Dec 2010 08:44

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I refer to the article in the Herald dated 22nd.Dec. and have no hesitation in taking up arms against this preposterous Incineration Plant with what they call the benefits to the community.

It is twenty years since I fought the same type of battle with Pilmuir Quarry but in a lesser scale, but nevertheless I went to Europe and won the case of no toxic waste in Pilmuir.

I intend to do the same again with the help of all you parents of children in Eastwood, I have spoken with Jackson Carlaw and I intend calling a public meeting to discuss the effects that will have on the young and elderly living in such close proximity.

£640 million is quite a sum for East Renfrewshire, £100 million for Glasgow.

Should one ask where was all that loot accumulated from.

One of the Directors was fined for illegal dumping in Ayrshire and only two farms to my knowledge have been sold so I have contacted the owners of land my own family included and we will stand firm and sell no more.

The first farm that was bought was accidentally burned, in those days the scale was smaller, but alas the times they are a changing.

If the Jacobites can rise for the second time so can we in Eastwood.

Ella Rae by E.Mail

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## **Re:Massive recycling complex planned for Newton Mearn**

Posted by Tom - 23 Dec 2010 09:56

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Residents preparing for a battle over waste plant plans

Courtesy Herald Scotland

David Leask, Investigations Reporter

Rival camps were last night mustering for a battle of Newton Mearns after plans emerged for a £640 million waste plant outside the town, near Glasgow.

Locals and environmentalists are already organising to oppose what would be the biggest recycling and energy-from-waste facility in Europe, as The Herald revealed yesterday.

The company behind the scheme, Lifetime Recycling Village, says it aims to process some 1.5 million tonnes of commercial and industrial rubbish at a former farm just off the M77 south of Newton Mearns.

But a newly formed campaign group last night said the sheer scale of the project would mean a truck trundling into the proposed plant every minute of the night and day.

Harry Stewart, of the Loganswell Residents Association, said: "This project will despoil a lovely spot just two minutes from Mearns Cross. We have made it quite clear we do not want this here."

The association, which has backing from Newton Mearns as well as rural areas, has already retained counsel and is well prepared for a fight.

Brian Kilgour, the chief executive of Lifetime Recycling Village, has been on a charm offensive of local and green groups in recent weeks.

His company has insisted it will be adopting a "good neighbour" policy and has offered to buy out nearby properties, including Mr Stewart's, at above market rates. The Herald understands few are likely to accept.

Mr Kilgour aims to open his plant by 2014, just as landfill taxes make it almost impossibly expensive for private and public-sector waste producers to dump their rubbish in the ground.

Some 700 jobs are expected to be created at the facility, which would sort rubbish for recycling and turn what is left into a gas that would be burned to create more than 100 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 100,000 homes.

However, Duncan McLaren, chief executive of Friends of the Earth, whose representatives have met the company, yesterday expressed major concerns.

"We are intensely sceptical of these plans," said Mr McLaren. "At first sight they appear better than a conventional mass-burn incinerator, but in practice could share many of the same problems."

Local MSP Ken McIntosh said he was sceptical about the project, but insisted that he was keeping an open mind.

He said: "My first thought is with my constituents who will have to live near this project."

Green MSP Patrick Harvie's suggestion that the firm may be trying to sell itself as a power plant as a ploy to avoid local planners was denied by Mr Kilgour yesterday.

He said: "From our perspective, the primary business aim of Lifetime Recycling Village is exemplary

waste recycling. But it is the simple truth that the main vehicle for gaining consent is through a Section 36 application under the Electricity Act. By doing this we are in no way attempting to get around the planning process and statutory consultation.”

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