

# Environment digest

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## Agency calls for climate change preparation

The pace of change to weather systems in the UK is on the increase and the Agency believes it is now time to move from awareness raising about climate change to positive action. Barbara Young, the Agency's Chief Executive commented, "Climate change is a fact of life. It cuts to the heart of strategic planning in almost every aspect of modern society, but day to day pressures can crowd out the longer term perspective."

To date the Agency has focussed on the more apparent risks of climate change such as flooding and pressure on water resources. Climate change though will not limit its impact to these areas. Many other aspects of the environment should now be a cause for concern. Changes in temperature and the flow of water in rivers may impact on the chemistry and dilution of discharges to rivers requiring changes to discharge consents for industry. It is also possible that hard won improvements in

the quality of our environment could be undone as climate change affects the balance between man and nature.

Without significant cuts in greenhouse gas emissions the pace of climate change will quicken. Annual warming of between 0.1°C and 0.5°C a decade has been predicted, a rate of warming six to ten times greater than that experienced in the last century. Increases in winter flooding and summer droughts may occur as the UK experiences milder, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers.

The UK is at the forefront of tackling the climate change problem. In February 2003 the government launched its energy policy white paper, a document that the Agency had lobbied hard to influence. The white paper represents the first attempt by any national government to commit to doing what is necessary to control climate change. It has



placed moving to a low carbon economy with dramatic reductions in carbon emissions as the number one priority for Britain's energy policy.

Stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will mitigate the worst impacts of climate change will require cuts in emissions of 60%. UK energy policy now recognises the enormity of this task and is making a commitment to achieving reductions that go far beyond those required by the Kyoto Protocol. The Agency believes that it is possible to achieve these reductions. This will involve boosting energy efficiency, employing renewable energy sources such as wind, wave and solar power and use of hydrogen as a fuel. Tackling the problem sooner rather than later will make it more manageable and avoid large-scale social and economic disruption.

As a regulator of carbon emitting industries and an organisation with responsibilities for dealing with climate change impacts including flooding, coastal defence and water resources, the Agency will continue to have a key role in the UK's contribution to solving this global problem. The challenge will be one of turning the required emission reductions into reality.

**Nick King**  
Regional Strategic Unit Manager  
Midlands Region



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# Putting wildlife at the Heart of England

The West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership (WMBP) includes voluntary, public and private organisations within the West Midlands Region. It is helping people to look after and enjoy the wildlife that shares their environment by protecting important species and habitats, replacing past losses, supporting survey work, providing advice to landowners and policy makers, and increasing awareness of biodiversity issues.

'Rebuilding Regional Biodiversity,' a major new WMBP project, is now underway thanks to funding from DEFRA and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project aims arise from challenges identified by the West Midlands Biodiversity Audit including:

- filling gaps in survey data
- removing threats to priority species and habitats
- restoring damaged habitats and recovering past species losses
- supporting local biodiversity action plans
- ensuring the region's policies support biodiversity
- communicating biodiversity issues to a wide audience.

Two people will work at the regional level within the project, the Regional Biodiversity Manager and the Regional Promotions Officer. The manager will play a key role in developing the 'Regional Biodiversity Strategy,' and will also develop relationships with important organisations such as the Regional Assembly, NFU, and the Government Office. The



Water Vole - picture courtesy of J. Tucker/Shropshire Wildlife Trust

Promotions Officer will be talking to groups and attending major public events raising awareness and understanding of biodiversity. To help with this the project is developing a website at <http://www.wmbp.org>.

West Midlands wildlife was also put on the agenda at the WMBP's recent Annual Biodiversity Conference. Held at the Shropshire Wildlife Trust in Shrewsbury a wide range of organisations working in nature conservation attended, including DEFRA, RSPB, NFU, Severn Trent Water, the West Midlands Wildlife Trusts and the Agency. Delegates tackled ways to preserve vital habitats and species and also addressed important issues such as building links between conservation work and economic development and how to promote

good conservation practice and raise public awareness.

Staffordshire's Aston Hall Farm was showcased at the conference as a fine example of business and conservation working together. The farm received a DEFRA Countryside Stewardship Scheme grant allowing combination of high yield farming practices with an environmentally friendly approach.

A feasibility study at the farm identified areas suitable for the restoration of the River Trent margin, rehabilitation of floodplain grazing marsh, and creation of a wader-breeding habitat. Provision was also made for public access, suitable areas for wintering farmland birds, creation of field margins, and rotational hedgerow management. Following rehabilitation there has been a marked increase in numbers of breeding and priority bird species, invertebrates and amphibians. Mammal sightings have also increased, with both otters and water voles present at the site.

Commenting on the conference Steve Holliday, Chair of the WMBP and the RSPB's Regional Manager, said, "If we want a healthy, attractive environment, rich in plants and animals, we need strong leadership and action from a range of organisations. The conference was an important step in identifying how the region can work together for a brighter future for wildlife in the West Midlands".

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## Climate change seminar to be held in Leicester

The MRC Institute for Environment and Health will be holding its 10th anniversary open seminar on 16 September 2003. The seminar 'Climate Change in the UK: Impact on Environment and Health' will be held at the University of Leicester. Speakers will cover a range of areas where climate change will have impacts including ecology and biodiversity, agriculture and human health impacts. There will also be an open forum panel discussion involving the UKCIP.

Further details on the seminar can be found at [www.le.ac.uk/ieh/news/climate.html](http://www.le.ac.uk/ieh/news/climate.html), by calling the MRC institute on 0116 223 1611 or e-mailing [ieh@le.ac.uk](mailto:ieh@le.ac.uk).

## Agency launches SuDS consultation

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) offer an alternative approach to the drainage of developed areas, which takes into account water quality, flood risk and amenity. This provides an integrated approach to drainage minimising environmental impacts.

Though the need for sustainable drainage is not disputed, SuDS if not properly designed and maintained can produce a number of problems. The Agency has produced a consultation document on SuDS to provide a set of core standards and agreements between those public organisations with statutory and regulatory responsibilities relating to SuDS.

The consultation provides an opportunity for comment, particularly on difficult matters that have been hampering general acceptance of SuDS in England and Wales. Responses to the consultation documents are requested by 15 August. Details of the consultation and how to respond can be found at

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/youenv/consultations/486641](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/youenv/consultations/486641).



Blythe Valley Park, Shirley, Solihull

## Mance House opened

During April the Agency's Chairman Sir John Harman opened Mance House, the Agency's newest building. The brand new purpose built building replaces the former offices at Hoo Farm, Kidderminster and was named in honour of Dr Geoff Mance, Director of Water Management, who died in 2002, aged 53 years. At the opening a plaque in memory of Dr Mance was unveiled by his widow Mrs Elizabeth Mance.

Mance House has been awarded a BREEAM environment assessment of excellent. Features such as use of rainwater for toilet flushing,

automatic lighting that switches off when not needed and reuse of materials from the previous building's have minimised the building's environmental footprint. The building's energy efficiency features and provision of facilities for staff who cycle to work also represents a step in the right direction in helping to reduce climate change.

A specially constructed hangar at Mance House also houses the region's demountable flood defences ready to be deployed when flooding is predicted.



Mance House, named in honour of Dr Geoff Mance

## Water4All – sustainable groundwater management



The Agency's Midlands based National Groundwater and Contaminated Land Centre has obtained approval for its first joint project proposal submitted to the Interreg IIIB North Sea Region Programme under the European Regional Development Fund.

Water4All is a collaborative project between the Agency, Aalborg Municipality in Denmark (the lead partner), the Provincie Drenthe in the Netherlands and Bezirksregierung Weser-Ems in Germany. It will run until December 2005 and attempt to address issues of sustainable water quality in intensely agricultural catchments. The overall budget for the project is approximately £1 million and the Agency has secured matched funding of £90,000 over the next three years.

The project's primary aim is to integrate water protection and management into local and regional spatial planning. It will also aim to relate these activities to the EU Water Framework Directive and its implementation. All the partners will be sharing and learning from their extensive experience in implementing landuse change and engaging stakeholders.

In four separate pilot projects Water4All will undertake activities that will test and analyse the effects of different landuses on water quality. In the UK the Agency will be working with the University of East Anglia investigating landuse impacts on groundwater quality in the Sleaford catchment, Lincolnshire. The results of these projects will be amalgamated into a guideline handbook. It is hoped this will help influence future decisions on landuse planning in groundwater catchment areas and rivers basins as a whole and change behaviour by involving and informing local and regional authorities, spatial planners, landowners and other stakeholders. The results will be cleaner groundwater and rivers for future generations without the need for unsustainable treatment to remove chemicals and nutrients from water supplies.

A website at [www.water4all](http://www.water4all) will be set up in summer 2003, which will make all the experiences and outputs of the project available.

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## Groundwater in the Midlands and climate change



Aquifers are an important part of the hydrological cycle. They provide a large component of dry weather flows in rivers (baseflow) and are used extensively for drinking water supply. They are recharged by the percolation of rainfall, a process that could be strongly influenced by climate change with implications for future aquifer management.

The Permo-Triassic Sandstones are the most important aquifer in the Midlands, providing a significant part of the region's drinking water supply. The Agency uses mathematical groundwater models to manage this resource. It currently operates models of the Notts-Doncaster and West Midlands-Worfe Permo-Triassic Sandstone aquifers. These account for around 45% of the region's licensed groundwater abstraction.

Severn Trent Water, with permission from the Agency, recently used these models to predict the impact of climate change on groundwater flow. Climatological predictions from the UK Climate Impacts Programme 2002 report were applied with scenarios representing low to high emissions for the 2020 and 2050 periods. Both models predicted reduced groundwater recharge and depletion of baseflow for all scenarios.

These results suggest that a change in aquifer management may be necessary. However, there are significant uncertainties in these predictions and improvement of their reliability is important for the development of new management strategies. Nevertheless, the Permo-Triassic Sandstone aquifers due to their large amount of storage will remain a strategically important source of water this century.

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## Water company price review continues

During mid August water companies will submit their draft business plans to Ofwat. These will contain the first information on potential water bills for the period 2005 to 2010. Defra will consult stakeholders in late September in preparation for publication of ministerial guidance in January 2004.

The Agency, in partnership with English Nature and the Countryside Council for Wales, has developed an environmental improvements programme that water companies are costing into their plans. In developing this programme a set of environmental requirements was produced for each scheme considering the risks of breaching statutory requirements and environmental impacts of the scheme.

In the Midlands 758 water quality and 34 water resource schemes have been identified. Key features of the Midlands programme are:

- protection for extended lengths of river expected to maintain good fisheries
- contributing to improving the condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), helping protect key wildlife sites like Thorne and Hatfield Moors
- a reduction in the impacts of groundwater abstractions on low flows in rivers
- water resource schemes providing benefits for key species in biodiversity action plans
- reduced phosphate levels in rivers limiting eutrophication and algal blooms.

Climate change issues have also been considered in the supply and demand balance plans that the water companies have had to provide. These plans look up to 25 years ahead and there were concerns that individual schemes would need to include climate change factors. Sewage works and sewerage schemes, for example, may need to take higher peak flows in winter and have less dilution available in summer if the UK has milder, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers as climate change scenarios suggest.

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## Sheep dip pollutes the River Dove

Agency investigations have shown a significant fall in invertebrates in the Upper River Dove, as far downstream as Beresford Dale. This has confirmed reports from local anglers of a decline in fish stocks and insect life on this stretch of the river.

Invertebrates are the food of trout usually found in the river and the decline in insect life has probably contributed to the decrease in trout populations in the Upper River Dove. Samples taken from the river at Glutton Bridge, Hartington, Dovedale, and Mayfield have all shown levels of Diazinon and other sheep dip chemicals that could be damaging to invertebrate life.

Sheep dip is designed to kill unwanted insects on sheep and is particularly toxic to the aquatic insects that live in rivers. Sheep dip may enter watercourses directly through drain-holes, from drain down areas, dipped sheep entering streams before they are dry or from land where dip has been spread. Since 1999 Agency authorisations have been required for disposal of sheep dip onto farmland, even if only a small quantity is being disposed of. In the Upper Dove catchment only two farms have such authorisations.



The Agency encourages all farmers involved in dipping or showering sheep to take extra care to ensure that chemicals do not enter watercourses and that they have the appropriate authorisations if they are disposing of sheep dip. Agency officers will be undertaking further investigative work in the catchment in the coming weeks and any farms found to be causing this type of pollution may face prosecution.

## Internet Sites

This issue the focus is on climate change

<http://www.ipcc.ch>

Find out more about the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change here.

<http://www.tyndall.ac.uk/>

The web pages of the Tyndall Centre, one of the UK's leading climate research centres. Find out about their reports, publications and events here.

<http://www.newscientist.com/hottopics/climate>

One of the New Scientist's hot topics is climate change. Look here for recent New Scientist articles on climate change issues.

<http://www.usgcrp.gov/usgcrp/default.htm>

The United States is often criticised over climate change issues. Find out about the American position on climate change here at the US Global Change Research Program.

<http://www.ukcip.org.uk>

Information about the UK Climate Impacts Programme can be found here and data for the UKCIP scenarios can also be downloaded.

### Editors Note

The Environment Digest is published quarterly by the Midlands Region of the Environment Agency. Please send comments, ideas and information to the editor, Charles Storey, Olton Court, Telephone: 0121 711 2324; e-mail [charles.storey@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:charles.storey@environment-agency.gov.uk).

Thanks for contributions in this issue to: Bob Harris, Nick King, Roger Prestwood, Martin Shepley, Helen Taylor and Roger Wade.



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## Crackdown on Birmingham flytippers

On 3 June the Agency teamed up with Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Police and ENCAMS to carry out a crackdown on flytippers across Birmingham. The operation, named Cleansweep 2, was the second in a year long programme designed to catch unregistered waste carriers.

The first Operation Cleansweep was conducted in March 2003 and led to 70 vehicles carrying waste being stopped. Only 20 of these were registered. The operation also resulted in a number of police offences being disclosed, four people were also arrested and subsequently charged. Offences included driving whilst disqualified, theft of motor vehicles, use of red diesel, transport of hazardous loads and driver document and tachograph offences.

Flytipping has become a major problem in the city, ruining the landscape and posing a threat to the environment and human health. By targetting unregistered waste carriers the Agency and its partners hope to deal with the root of the problem. Enforcement exercises like Cleansweep and Cleansweep 2 send a clear message to those involved in flytipping that they will be targeted and prosecuted for their illegal activities.

To report a suspected flytipper or a flytipping incident to the Agency call 0800 80 70 60.



## Gloucester printer recognised for environmental achievements

During May 2003 the Agency launched its REWARD (Regional and Welsh Appraisal of Resource Productivity and Development) initiative at the Barber Surgeons Hall, Westminster, London. The Agency and several partners have established the scheme to promote the link between environmental protection and economic growth.

One of four case studies in the report produced to support the initiative, covered the activities of Gloucester based printers Severnprint. The company, which has been established for 25 years, has undertaken several environmentally friendly actions resulting in annual savings of over £19,000. These have included:

- purchasing green electricity
- maintaining a comprehensive waste management and recycling programme
- installation of new technologies to reduce waste
- investing in transport using greener fuels such as liquid petroleum gas (LPG)

The aim of the REWARD initiative is to help overcome the traditional view that business and the environment are naturally antagonistic. Individual companies like Severnprint have already made significant gains, REWARD aims to support a strategic approach to capturing these gains on a regional and national level over the coming years.

For more information visit the REWARD website at [www.reward-uk.org](http://www.reward-uk.org).

## Bewdley flood defences win ICE prize



New demountable flood defences at Bewdley have won a major Institute of Civil Engineers (ICE) prize for the Agency and Severn Trent Water Ltd.

Construction of the defences began in January 2002 and took nine months to complete. They combine extensive underground defences and drainage modifications with a removable aluminium barrier that can be installed when flooding is expected.

The awards, supported by the Birmingham Post, recognise the work of civil engineers in the Midlands during 2002. The Bewdley project was selected for an award because of the attention paid to general public interests during the planning and execution of the project. Innovative techniques were also used to solve construction and operation problems for the scheme without spoiling the amenity for residents and visitors.

Work recognised by the award included the Agency's design and installation of the defences on the Severnside North section of the riverbank and Severn Trent Water's design and build of new tunnelled sewers through town centre car parks. Both the Agency and Severn Trent Water were delighted to receive the award, which has acknowledged the commitment and hard work put into providing new flood defences whilst preserving the character of the town.

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## The Courts

Mr Roy Lomas, Mr Alan Lomas,

Mr Graham Lomas

Chesterfield Magistrates Court

7 May 2003

Fine: £1,000 each

Costs: £556 each

Chesterfield Magistrates fined three Derbyshire farmers £1,000 each after they pleaded guilty to permitting silage effluent to enter the Press Brook. The incident led to pollution of both the brook and a fishery at Press Manor Fishery.

On 20 June 2002 Agency officers investigated a pollution of a tributary of the Press Brook, which feeds a series of lakes called Press Manor Fishery. The investigation indicated that silage effluent was being discharged from a land drain leading to Span Carr Farm, Andover, owned by E & E Lomas and Sons. Samples taken from the river at this point and downstream at the trout lake inlet showed that oxygen levels in the water were very low.

It is believed that a significant amount of polluted water had entered the fishery before the Agency was notified, leading to the death of approximately 100 trout. Agency staff and contractors undertook a major seven day cleanup operation before the tributary was allowed to flow into the fishery and on into the River Amber. The total cost of the cleanup was £11,610 and was paid by the defendants.

Mr Roy Lomas excavated his concrete courtyard and found that pipework feeding his silage effluent tank was defective. The pipes had been leaking from underneath the concrete floor of his barns into two land drains. The defendants have since carried out works that will prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future.

Contact: Kath Williams 0115 945 5722

Texaco Ltd

Nottingham Magistrates Court

19 May 2003

Fine: £10,000

Costs: £2,306.16

Texaco Ltd pleaded guilty to a charge of causing oil to enter the Colwick Dyke, a tributary of the River Trent, from their terminal on the Colwick Industrial Estate. Nottingham Magistrates ordered the company to pay a fine of £10,000 and court costs of £2306.16.

On 20 December 2001 the Agency received a report of oil on the River Trent at Stoke Bardolph, Nottingham. An Agency officer traced the source up the Colwick Dyke to a surface water pipe draining the Colwick Industrial Estate. When interviewed by the Agency, Texaco confirmed that oil had leaked from an underground pipe at their terminal site after a hole developed in the pipe. The underground pipes had not been tested in the last five years.

The diesel flowed into drains and was pumped through oil interceptors and into the industrial estate's surface water sewer, which discharged into the Colwick Dyke. When oil was detected in the final interceptor an alarm should have sounded in the terminal control room alerting the shift controller. A manual outlet valve could then have been closed to prevent loss of the oil.

Texaco management informed the Agency that prior to the incident it had been believed that the alarm was linked to an automatic cut off switch in the final interceptor. This would switch off the interceptor pump from the first interceptor to the final interceptor. The shift controller had been told this was the case in training.

On the day of the incident the alarm did sound but indicated that oil was in the first interceptor, not the final interceptor. The shift controller checked the first

interceptor and found no oil and thought, as per his training, that the interceptor pump would automatically switch off if any oil reached the final interceptor. As a result he did not carry out Texaco's emergency procedures, which require personnel to carry out set actions once a leak is discovered.

Agency officers conducted a cleanup operation on the Colwick Dyke using booms and pads to retain and absorb the oil. The penstock controlling flows from the Dyke into the River Trent was also lowered to contain the pollution. Contractors working on behalf of Texaco also conducted cleanup work on the industrial estate's surface water drainage system. Since the incident Texaco has also conducted extensive work on the terminal, including replacement of underground pipes with over ground pipes.

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Rigidal Ltd

Worcester Magistrates Court

14 May 2003

Fine: £14,200

Costs: £2,077.28

Rigidal Ltd, a manufacturer of metal roof and wall systems, pleaded guilty to nine charges brought under the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 1997. Worcester magistrates fined the company a total of £14,200 and ordered it to pay £2,077.28 court costs.

The Packaging Waste Regulations were introduced to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and encourage recycling and reuse of packaging materials. They require companies handling over 50 tonnes of packaging and with a turnover of more than £2 million to register with the Agency or a compliance scheme. Rigidal Ltd was charged on three counts of failing to register for 1999, 2000 and 2001; three counts of failing to take reasonable steps to recover and recycle waste in 1999, 2000 and 2001; and three counts of failing to supply the Agency with a certificate showing compliance with the regulations for 1999, 2000 and 2001.

During May 2002 investigations revealed that Rigidal was required to comply with the regulations and that it had failed to follow the correct procedures for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001. The company ceased trading in autumn 2002 and is no longer handling any packaging.

Contact: Clare Daley 01562 60631

Rolls Royce

Derby Magistrates Court

19 June 2003

Fine: £10,000

Costs: £2,143.37

On 19 June Derby Magistrates fined Rolls Royce £10,000 with £2,143.37 court costs after the company pleaded guilty to polluting the Cuttle Brook in Derby with heating oil. The oil affected approximately three kilometres of the brook; killing invertebrate life in what is one of Derby's registered wildlife sites.

On 17 June the Agency received a report of diesel on the Cuttle Brook near Sinfin Lane, Derby. The brook is a tributary of the River Trent. Agency officers attending the site observed that red fuel oil was present in the brook as far downstream as Sinfin Golf Course. The oil was found to be entering the brook from a drain running from the Royal Ordnance depot on Sinfin Lane. Around three hours after the incident was first reported Rolls Royce notified the Agency that there had been a fuel leak at its Royal Ordnance Depot premises. Their report indicated that approximately 2000 litres of fuel oil had escaped but that the leak had only been noticed that morning.

Further investigation revealed that the oil had leaked from an oil-fuelled heater in one of Rolls Royce buildings. The absence of site drainage plans delayed tracing of the route the oil took to the Cuttle Brook and

cleanup of the oil in the surface water drains. Rolls Royce's stock of oil absorbing materials was rapidly used up and could not contain the oil at Sinfin Golf course. As a result the Agency called out Derbyshire Fire Service's Environment Unit to help contain the spill.

During the cleanup operation an Agency officer requested that a bung be placed in the surface water drain to prevent further pollution of the brook. Rolls Royce promised this would be done but checks later in the day proved it had not. A bung was borrowed from the fire service and installed in the drains as a matter of urgency.

Contact: Kath Williams 0115 945 5722

Mr Gary Shorthouse

Ludlow Magistrates Court

22 May 2003

Fine: £665

Costs: £900

The defendant pleaded guilty to a charge of depositing waste on land that did not have a waste management licence. Ludlow Magistrates ordered Mr Shorthouse to pay a fine of £665 and court costs of £900.

On 3 October 2001 the Agency received a report that skips of waste were being deposited at Oakery Farm in Ludlow. Agency officers visited the site on 8 October 2001. A skip hire vehicle was observed entering the site with a quantity of waste; the vehicle belonged to Mr Shorthouse. The landowner admitted to the Agency that more waste had been delivered to the farm previously. The officers stopped Mr Shorthouse from emptying the waste load and observed a pile of similar waste already on the ground.

Mr Shorthouse admitted he had dumped approximately nine loads of waste at the site and told Agency officers that other individuals had also been tipping waste there. An inspection of the site revealed a considerable quantity of waste including soil, concrete, wood off-cuts, garden waste and scrap metal. Some of the waste had also been deposited in close proximity to a watercourse.

Contact: Paul Keay 01743 283575

Onyx Landfill Ltd

Telford Magistrates Court

24 June 2003

Fine: £10,000

Costs: £13,500

Onyx Landfill Ltd pleaded guilty at Telford Magistrates Court to one charge of failing to take reasonable measures to prevent the escape of waste under its control and one charge of keeping waste in a manner likely to cause pollution. The company was fined £10,000 and ordered to pay court costs of £13,500.

Agency officers visited Onyx's Candles landfill site on 24 December 2001 and noticed a significant quantity of windblown waste trapped against the sites perimeter security fence. A further inspection was made on 27 December 2001 and officers found an accumulation of litter on the Horsehay Golf Course adjacent to Onyx's site. The Agency informed Onyx of the presence of the litter and requested its removal.

On 4 January the Agency wrote to Onyx requiring erection of fences to prevent litter escaping from their site by 25 January 2002. Further complaints were received on 11 and 28 January with large amounts of litter being reported as blowing across the golf course and A5223 on the 28 January. A witness also informed the Agency that a road traffic accident was almost caused when vehicles on the A5223 tried to avoid bags of litter blown onto the road. Litter was still present on the road and adjacent land on 29 January 2002.

On visiting the Candles site the Agency found that the litter control fences requested had not been installed and that those litter control fences already present were broken and badly maintained.

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