

NEWS RELEASE – 23 September 2015

Plans for Wiltshire energy plant approved

Northacre Renewable Energy Limited, part of The Hills Group, is pleased that plans to build a multi-million pound renewable energy plant in Westbury have been given planning permission by the local planning authority.

The permission paves the way for Northacre Renewable Energy (NRE) to build the facility on the open land between Hills' existing Northacre Resource Recovery Centre (Northacre RRC) and Arla Foods Westbury Dairies at Stephenson Road, Northacre Industrial Park, Westbury.

The renewable energy centre will generate up to 22 megawatts of power from Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) made at the neighbouring Northacre RRC, blended with commercial and industrial waste. A substation will be constructed on site to enable the electricity produced to be exported to the national grid, together with possible private underground connections to local businesses.

Mike Webster, Group director for Hills Waste Solutions said: "Gaining planning permission is the first step in the process and we can now put further resources into the financial modelling and engage with project partners in more detail. This renewable energy centre will be a significant investment for our company and provides Wiltshire with a sustainable solution for dealing with local waste whilst powering local businesses." ENDS

Notes to editors:

Northacre Renewable Energy will:

- Generate up to 22 megawatts of electricity with the potential to provide heat and power to local businesses
- Create local employment in the form of 80 construction jobs, and 40 permanent new jobs when completed
- Provide a sustainable outlet capable of handling 160,000 tonnes of local feedstock
- Reduce vehicle movements as 25% of the feedstock will come from the adjacent Northacre RRC, as the Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) currently produced there will no longer be transported to Europe
- Reduce waste to landfill as the balance of the feedstock will come from Wiltshire's commercial and industrial waste
- Contribute to the local renewable energy market
- Enable locally produced fuel to be used to generate local energy which supports the concept of regional energy security
- Support Wiltshire's aspiration for a local green economy

Media contact:

Monique Hayes, Group communications officer, The Hills Group Limited

Tel: 01793 714978 monique.hayes@hills-group.co.uk



@HillsWaste



Hills Group