

## **NFA ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN DECEMBER 2013**

Re-location of Brook Green Consulting Limited- the saga continued throughout December! Having opted for BT fibre optic broadband and being an existing customer BGC had high hopes for the installation on the agreed date but no BT engineer or contractor arrived. A phone call from the company mobile revealed that BT themselves had cancelled the order! And without the courtesy of letting BGC Know! Apparently the previous broadband 'supplier' had not switched off their service, as agreed by them and, despite the previous occupant of the premises having cancelled the service three weeks earlier. That was resolved, then BGC had to place a new order with BT and wait a further week (till the 20<sup>th</sup> of December) for the installation of the new broadband service. Several hiccups later the service seems to have settled down. However as a result of this convoluted and frustrating process the land line phone number as given in the NFA Environment Bulletin November 2013 has been changed!

**[New phone number for Brook Green Consulting Limited - 0161 980 0557](tel:01619800557)**

### **NFA ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND NFA/ENVIRONMENT AGENCY LIAISON MEETINGS**

The NFA Environment Committee met on the 17<sup>th</sup> December at the National Metalforming Centre, West Bromwich. Minutes of the meeting have been circulated and are also available upon request.

The twice yearly NFA/Environment Agency Liaison Meeting took place following the Environment Committee meeting. Notes on the meeting have been circulated and are also available upon request.

### **CONSULTATIONS**

Environment Agency has no new consultations in December

DEFRA issued a consultation on the reform of water abstraction licencing. The consultation runs from 17<sup>th</sup> December to 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

A more detailed review and draft recommended response on behalf NFA will follow shortly.

In a nutshell DEFRA will be making changes in the Abstraction Licensing regime for abstraction of water from both surface water and ground water in order to rectify the

deficiencies of the existing scheme, and in order to reflect the new environmental reality of changes in water availability in the future. Climate change induced changes in rainfall patterns and requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive to protect watercourses from over-abstraction are the drivers. The legal structure of the current water abstraction regime was drawn up at a time when no water shortage or environmental impact was envisaged. The proposals for changes in the regime appear very sensible and logical hence supportable by industry and NFA.

The consultation is readily found by searching 'DEFRA consultations open' where the list of current consultations is found.

<http://consult.defra.gov.uk/water/abstraction-reform>

Members and companies who have a water abstraction licence are strongly recommended to review this consultation.

### **HSE consultations**

HSE is consulting on changes in the petroleum storage regulations. This is of interest only if companies store petroleum in site.

### **REACH update**

The EU has added Cadmium Sulphide and Lead Di-Acetate to the Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs). This means that the Authorisation procedure under REACH will be required for companies wishing to use these compounds.

### **DECC (Dept of Energy and Climate Change)**

DECC has issued energy use statistics for 2012.

Interesting facts:-

- The UK is a net importer of energy, up to 43%. Fossil fuel share of the energy generation source is down to 87.3%, a record low since this statistic has been generated. Renewable sources supplied 4.1% of energy needs of the UK.
- Energy usage was 3% down 2012 to 2011, 35% down 2012 to 1990 and 60% down on 1970.
- Industry accounts for 17% of all energy used in the UK, down 3% from 2012 to 2011, down 35% compared with 1990 and 49% down compared with 1970. Although some attempt is made to compare energy intensity of production the decline in industry appears somewhat overlooked.

- Energy and gas consumption as a proportion of energy generation accounts for 72% of all energy in 2012, compared with 52% in 1990 compared with 18% in 1970.

### **NEW FORMAT FOR THE NFA ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN**

Following a recommendation from the NFA Environment Committee, the next NFA Environment Bulletin will have a content list of topics at the head of the bulletin.

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**Brook Green Consulting Limited**