

**SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN**  
**MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL GROUP**  
**Notes of the meeting held on Friday 4th April 2003, at 10.00am**  
**Penllergaer Civic Centre**

**Present**

Geoff White	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Ceri Morris	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Howell Beaton	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Alban Forster	SLR Consulting Ltd
Tony Yates	SLR Consulting Ltd
Sue Martin	Welsh Assembly Government
Cathy O'Brien	Waste Strategy Unit (WAG)
Niall Reynolds	Environment Agency Wales
Steve Thomas	Environment Agency Wales
Ruth Brown	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Carol Williams	Pembrokeshire County Council / Pembrokeshire National Park
Nick Oakes	Ceredigion County Council
Richard Jones	WESA
Alison Thomas	City & County of Swansea
Graham Dorrington	Ceredigion County Council
Neil Bateman	Carmarthenshire County Council
Gareth Jones	Carmarthenshire County Council

1. **Apologies**

Clifford Parish	City & County Of Swansea
Steve Bool	Bridgend County Borough Council
Huw Roberts	Pembrokeshire County Council
Eifion Bowen	Carmarthenshire County Council
Ifor Jones	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

2. **Notes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2002**

The notes were agreed to be a true record and there were no matters arising.

3. **Notes of the Seminar held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2003**

The notes were agreed to be a true record and there were no matters arising.

4. **Sustainability Appraisal Report**

AF gave a presentation on the Draft Stage 2b – Sustainability Assessment Report. A copy of the presentation was circulated and is therefore, not repeated.

Discussion ensued and the following main points were noted.

- Option 2 (Thermal Led strategy) would have a number of political problems associated with it;
- There is a need to explore why there is such diverse opinion with regard to the 'preferred option'. It was noted that the South East report identified Option 2 as being the least favoured option. It is important to establish why this has occurred;
- The Assessment Report does not seem to take account of the planning point of view. Lack of

- information to outline what facilities / land use implications there are;
- It was noted that each of the options would require a significant increase in the number of facilities, but clarification was requested on how this situation fits with what facilities currently exist. It was agreed that a clearer picture was needed on the implications of each option;
  - Clarification on a number of definitions was requested e.g. does existing commitments mean those facilities that have planning permission or does it include commitments that are in the pipeline; and
  - It was noted that the MSW Strategy should be delayed in order to take account of the Regional Waste Plan – The WLGA need to approach WAG.

Subsequently, the following was agreed.

- SLR to produce a briefing paper clarifying the definitions used in Tables 8-19 by 8<sup>th</sup> April;
- Any comments on the Tables must be forwarded by Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April. Based on the level of response, this will be fed into a revision of the Assessment, and otherwise be debated at the next Technical Group meeting;
- SLR to produce a revised report by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, taking into account any comments made, providing an extra table to map options against existing commitments, and clarifying the Sensitivity Analysis in section 11; and
- The Members Forum, scheduled for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April, is postponed to allow the Technical Group to meet again. GW to contact Cllr. P Palmer (Now confirmed to be at 10.00am, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May).

#### 5. **Public Consultation Framework**

GW outlined the content of the proposed Consultation Framework and informed the Group that an initial meeting had taken place with the South East Wales Region to discuss a joint working arrangement.

Support for joint working was noted and the following comments made.

- Consideration should be given to the potential requirement to explain to the general public why each region has come to the conclusion of two different ‘preferred options’;
- Awareness raising in the form of generic leaflets / posters etc. should be done prior to reaching the Draft Regional Plan stage; and
- The issue of whether consultation material be bilingual, should be decided by the Member Group.

#### 6. **Website**

GW reported for information, that the website for the South West was close to being completed and that the North Wales website was live and could be accessed on [www.walesregionalwasteplans.gov.uk](http://www.walesregionalwasteplans.gov.uk)

#### 7. **Date of next meeting of Technical Group**

It was agreed that the next Technical Group meeting is to be held at 2.00pm Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2003, at Penllergaer Civic Centre.

#### 8. **Any Other Business**

None was raised.