



July 28th, 2011

Clear-Up Operation Tackles Smoke And Beats Back Fire

The clear-up operation at the RIO site in Orsett is now in full swing. Following the spell of more settled weather, major inroads have been made by the company to clear the residual ash piles in the quarry. Whilst there are two major areas still alight, a large proportion of the affected area has now been leveled and extinguished.

This has had a major impact on the smoke which is being produced from the site, which has now reduced significantly.

RIO's team has re-established some of the access roads into the quarry and this has allowed a wider range of the company's plant to access the ash mounds and contribute to the clear-up. Shovels and the heavy 360 tracked vehicles are working on rotating shifts to manage the clear-up in as quick a time as possible. RIO is working with the Environment Agency to assess the best options for disposal of the ash from the site.

Care is still being taken to monitor the two areas of fire that continue to burn and these will be tackled as soon as it is safe to do so.

Commenting on the latest situation, Jonathon Howard, Communications Manager at RIO said, "Our team has been working continuously to make this first stage of the clear-up as effective as possible. We are making good progress, particularly in reducing the smoke from the fire and we will, in the next few days, hope to bring down and extinguish the remaining cones of ash that are alight.

"Once we have eradicated the fire and cleared the ash, we will start phase two of the clear-up, rebuilding the earthwork bunds around the site and preparing access roads and processing areas. I hope that we can finish the primary clearing job in the next couple of weeks and then get to the bigger job of preparing the site again for the wood recycling process in which we have invested so heavily".

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Pictures show: *The RIO Recycling plant clear-up is well under way.*



About RIO

Recycled in Orsett Ltd (RIO) owns and operates a recycling facility in excess of 30 acres, based at Orsett in Essex. It forms one of the largest recycling sites in the south of England offering a wide range of recycled materials.

RIO specialises in the production of quality construction aggregates, fill materials, sands and soils, all produced from selected and quality controlled inbound sources of a wide range of materials including brick, concrete, ceramics, aggregate of all types, asphalt, sands, ballasts, soil, wood and green waste. The company offers closed loop production facilities which have allowed clients to gain considerable competitive advantage and achieve challenging recycling KPI targets. The inbound products are graded and blended using the latest technology and methods developed with assistance from DEFRA, WRAP and ReMaDe. All of the company's products are produced to its WRAP protocol.

RIO has also invested heavily in the latest technology and plant to offer a service to reprocess waste Class A, B and C wood products into biomass fuel for a variety of environmentally sensitive organisations, including Dalkia's 18MWe renewable electricity plant in Chilton, County Duham.

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