



Q&A from Black Esk Information Event (18th September & 30th October 2024)

Q. How will Scottish Water manage the volume of traffic, vehicle speed & road conditions to keep disruption to a minimum?

Volume of traffic

A. We are currently reviewing requirements to bring construction traffic and future vehicles to the site such as new signage, police escorts for large loads, and reducing speed limits near the WTW.

Vehicle speed

A. When staff and contractors arrive on-site, they will go through an induction which will cover the site rules, including speed limits. We'll keep reinforcing these rules and monitoring them for the entire project. Any decision to lower speed limits leading into the village would be made by the local council and roads department.

Road condition

A. We'll do a condition survey of the area before starting work. If we find any weak spots, we'll let D&G Council know so they can make repairs. It may be hard for us to determine who is responsible for any road damage.

Q. How often will vehicles need to go to the site, including deliveries, tankers, and operational visits? Will these be scheduled and communicated to customers?

A. We expect about 11 operational deliveries per month. Once we've created the construction traffic management plan (CTMP), we'll share it with residents.

Q. How will access & egress to the WTW be managed?

A. The access road has been relocated, as shown in the new drawings, and this will be part of the planning application. When staff and contractors arrive on-site, they will go through an induction which will cover the site rules, including access points.

Q. What is TTU and why is this approach being used?

A. TTU, also known as Transportable Treatment Units, means that units are built offsite in a factory, which cuts down on months of onsite construction. This also reduces the need for 40-60 workers and equipment like cranes, mobile lifts, generators, and site lighting.

Q. Can the new building position be moved?

A. No, the location for the new WTW was carefully chosen based on risk, cost, and environmental impact. It will be built just northeast of the existing WTW. This site allows Scottish Water to use current assets, like the clear water tanks and waste treatment processes, and connect to the raw water main from the reservoir. The building is also in the best position hydraulically. This location ensures the best performance, compliance, and long-term value.

Q. How tall will the new building be?

A. The tallest structure will be about 16 meters high, but we are looking at having this reduced to be around 12.5 meters.

Q. Will there be a clash with the wind farm project?

A. We have reached out to the following wind farm projects to get the contact details for project teams, so we can coordinate all large vehicle movements:

- Fred Olsen (Balgray Wind Farm)
- CWP (Scoophill Wind Farm)
- Muirhall (Hoprig & Loganhead Wind Farm)

This will help ensure smooth coordination and avoid any conflicts.

Q. What is the purpose of the suds pond at the WTW, where will water come from and soak away to? What investigations have demonstrated the need for it?

A. Suds Pond will be a natural collection area for the surface water run off within the new WTW boundary. The utilisation of this method is a solution to sustainable urban drainage systems that are designed into construction projects. The drainage plan will be submitted to the local authority with the full planning application for approval. These solutions provide a bio-diversity enhancement and provide habitats for wildlife due to the pond and its basin configuration with an additional benefit being the attenuation of surface water, natural infiltration, and passive treatment.

Q. What will the working hours be?

A. The core hours will be Monday to Friday 08:00 to 18:00. Certain work activities may require weekend working and we will communicate this as and when required.

Q. Some customers have high chlorine levels; some have no issues?

A. One of the main ways we treat water is by adding chlorine in controlled amounts. A small amount of chlorine remains in the water after treatment to keep it safe from bacteria as it travels through long lengths of pipes to your home. Some customers may be more sensitive to the taste of chlorine, hence why they are able to taste it more. However, you may be more aware of the taste and smell of chlorine for various reasons such as where your property is situated on the network. You may live near a service reservoir or tank where secondary chlorination takes place to maintain water quality.

Q. What planting and screening will be in place at the WTW?

A. We have drafted a landscape drawing to demonstrate plans for the tree planting on site. Compensatory planting of 2 hectares has already been completed at West Deloraine (19 miles/30 km from Eskdalemuir). A further 2+ hectares of Native woodland planting will be carried out within the site boundary; this planting and landscaping plan is ongoing.

Q. Can planting take place before works start?

A. We need to agree a planting and landscaping plan first, but we can consider this.

Q. What biodiversity benefits will there be?

A. Biodiversity will be enhanced at the New WTW by the construction of the SUD, the planting of Native woodland species, interconnection planting and hedgerow.

Q. Why are we not putting PV panels on the roof?

A. We took on feedback from discussions with customers and ruled out PV on the roof due to how it would appear on the building. In addition, as we have reduced the height of the building parts of the roof would need to be removed to allow access to major plant items if they required removal.

Q. Can we use renewable energy (PV) at the old WTW?

A. This has been suggested to our renewables team and is being investigated. Any agreed installation would need to take place once the New WTWs has been commissioned.