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Supporting document for the planning application submitted by B&W Group Ltd. for the installation of external dust filter.
Reference: BW006

BOROUGH OF WORTHING
DEPOSITED 27.8.09
TP REF NO
WB / 09/0755/FUL

Economic Statement

As part of a global review of operations and manufacturing costs B&W Group Ltd. has decided to close it's Danish cabinet manufacturing plant due to the significant costs associated with this operation.

Only three viable options were highlighted for consideration by B&W; having all cabinets manufactured by a third part in either Denmark or mainland Europe, moving the operation into the Worthing site or moving the operation to a third party manufacturer located in China close to B&W's Chinese manufacturing plant together with the transfer of related manufacturing from Worthing to China and the closure of the Dale road site.

Commercial and operational sense dictates that the move of the cabinet manufacturing plant from Denmark should move the cabinet facility nearer to one of the company's loudspeaker final assembly plants.

After long and careful consideration it was decide that the best option for the business was to relocate the Danish plant to be within the current Worthing based plant. Thereby not only locating the cabinet facility close to a final assembly plant but also strengthening the Worthing plants operation.

The move of this plant will necessitate a significant investment by B&W Group in the modifications to the current manufacturing facility and general site at Dale road. It will also necessitate B&W increasing it's full time employees by about 40 persons from the 160 currently employed at the Dale Road site today.

Description of the proposed installation and reasons for installation

The proposed external dust filter is part of a full process extraction system to be installed. The bulk of which, including the main extraction fans, will be installed internally within the factory. This system is designed to extract the air from within each of the machines enclosure during the machining process. Thus limiting and controlling the amount of dust present in the air inside the building.

The filtration unit will separate the dust from the air and as appropriate return the cleaned air into the building, thus conserving heating energy during the winter months. The waste dust will then be transferred via and enclosed belt conveyor into an enclosed skip for removal from site to be recycled as possible.

All the dust extraction fans will have appropriate sound attenuators fitted to them to ensure that this installation does not adversely increase noise levels internally within the building or impact the local environment externally.

The need to install the external dust filter into the specific location as shown in drawing BW101 is for three primary reasons:

1. The new cabinet finishing manufacturing facility is to be installed internally in the west area of the current factory.

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2. It is essential to reduce the transfer distance of the extracted air to ensure that the extraction fan's can be kept to as minimum a size as possible. This will in turn not only prevent unnecessary waste of energy in transferring the dust and air, but will also keep any noise levels generated by the fans to an absolute minimum.
3. To ensure that all installations and equipment associated with this facility are kept within practical economic boundaries to ensure that this facility continues to be viable.

Alternative locations for this dust filter have been considered and rejected by B&W as detailed below:

It was considered by B&W to change the location for the new cabinet manufacturing facility within the building, thus moving the dust filter to the east end of the site. However, this option was discounted as neither financially or practically viable due the current warehousing facility and factory facility being located to the east of the proposed new cabinet manufacturing facility.

It was also considered by B&W to install the dust filter on the east side of the site, yet leaving the new cabinet manufacturing facility on the west side of the site. This however would necessitate extensive external ductwork being installed to transfer the dust and air to the rear of the site. It would also require significantly larger filter unit, fan units and ducting to transfer the air and dust this significantly greater distance.

The size of the fans and ductwork required to do this would preclude them from being installed internally and therefore they would need to be installed externally adjacent to the cabinet facility on the south side of the building. This would necessitate significant additional sound attenuation works not only with the fans but also with the associated ductwork.

Consideration by B&W to the noise levels generated by the plant

Please refer to the letter from Dust Control Systems Limited (DCS Ltd.) attached to this application and the inline duct noise spectrum detail sheets BW007 and BW008.

It is strongly anticipated by both B&W and it's contractor DCS that there will be no effect on the local residential or commercial neighbours with regards to any noise pollution associated with this installation. All of the main dust and air moving fans will be sited internally to significantly reduce noise breakout and all duct work will have the relevant silencers fitted.

However should despite our contractors expertise and long established experience in installing this type of equipment there be an issue, then B&W will obviously endeavour to solve the issue to the required standards as defined by the Borough Council.

End.