

ENERGY RECOVER CENTRE, SEVERNSIDE

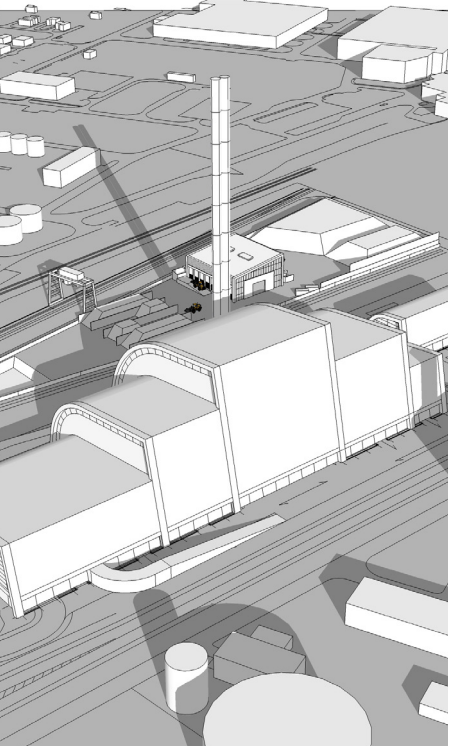
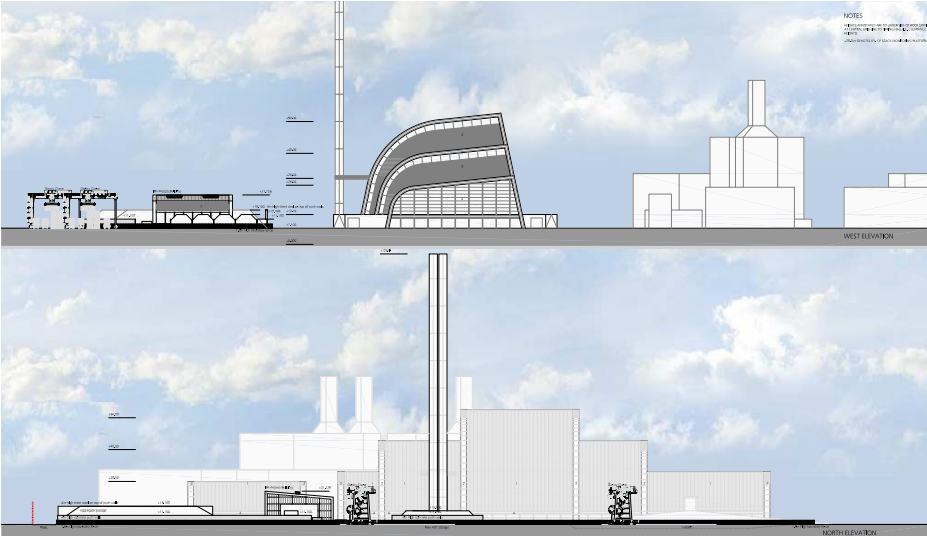


LOCATION:	SEVERNSIDE, BRISTOL
CLIENT:	WEST LONDON ENERGY RECOVERY LTD
VALUE:	CONFIDENTIAL
SIZE:	EFW AND IBA COMBINED: 13,480M2
COMPLETION:	2016
SERVICE:	ARCHITECTURE
SECTOR:	INDUSTRY/INFRASTRUCTURE

The main challenge of the “Energy from Waste” building design was to efficiently, but elegantly, enclose the process equipment, boldly expressing the functions within the building envelope. The resultant form comprises 5 concentric volumes shaped, in cross section, to reach up to the power station to the south and diving down into the Rhine to the north.

Staff and Visitor accommodation is located within the Western gable at the principal point of arrival to the site and where it has the most visual impact giving an appropriate focus of public and pedestrian activity.

To the north of the Rhine there is a separate, yet integral, Incinerator Bottom Ash Recovery Plant to process the material discharged from the main energy recovery plant. The IBA recycles the EfW bottom ash on site to ensure that it will not be sent to landfill minimising transportation and helping to provide an even more sustainable solution.



The stacks of the Energy From Waste building, which reach +126m AOD, have been separated from the main building massing to the north side as a feature, seeking to counter and exaggerate the movement of the main form.

Each of the enclosing volumes are largely generic – but vary in height depending on the process which they enclose emphasising each dramatic form in a subtle palette of silver grey tones in line with the surrounding structures.

Horizontal profiled cladding on the south facade seeks to emphasise the main distributor route between the EfW and Seabank Power Station. In contrast, the east and west gable ends are predominately glazed with either aluminium curtain walling or translucent polycarbonate cladding which will not only flood the building with natural light but will provide imprecise glimpses of the building function within.

By accentuating the building forms at the juncture of wall and roof with the same translucent cladding the individual component parts will lighten the structure and reduce the scale of the building. The aesthetic that has been developed provides an expressive honesty representative of its industrial function and location.

The site for the IBA plant is on a distinct area of land to the north of the Rhine adjacent to a series of existing disused railway sidings and the neighbouring industrial site, the former Terra Nitrogen fertiliser works. These adjacent buildings are a collection of simple industrial forms and therefore the IBA plant building has been designed to reflect these neighbouring forms in a simple mono-pitch structure echoing the shape of the elements making up the main EfW process building.

Aerial photos courtesy of Suez. Night shot courtesy of Paulbox.