



Löt



Löt – a secure site

In Roslagen, between Stockholm and Norrtälje, is the Löt Waste Plant situated. The site of the plant was chosen following a study of several sites in Northern Stockholm, which revealed that this was the most suitable location for a future landfill with the capacity to meet very stringent environmental requirements.

The region comprises three long valleys with up to ten metres of impermeable clay at the bottom. This guards against water leaching from the waste into the water table. Additional landfill areas will be created as the mountains are excavated to provide ballast material for construction projects. These surfaces will be sealed artificially so as to achieve the same environmental safety levels as the naturally sealed areas.

As early as the mid-1970s, the area was purchased and SÖRAB – Söderhalls Renhållningsverk AB – was founded. The local authorities could no longer live up to the increasingly stringent environmental requirements on waste treatment facilities. For this reason, it was decided to join forces to create the refuse processing plant of the future. The facility was officially opened in 1995, so we are now ready to meet the future in the new Europe – and the Löt facility gives us many opportunities to continue our work for a sustainable society.

This pamphlet explains what the Löt plant has to offer.





Polluted soil can be deposited at Löt for treatment.



Welcome to the Löt Waste Plant

The SÖRAB facility at Löt is a large waste processing plant. The site is licensed to receive 352,000 tons of waste a year. The permit from the environmental authorities regulates what types of waste can be accepted, what terms SÖRAB is to live up to, and how we are to control the business.

For every ton deposited, a sum is set aside to assure the future termination of the business, control during the termination period, and the reconditioning of the site.

Customer reception

After the weighing process, our customer reception staff direct the vehicles to the appropriate part of the facility, depending on the type of load they are carrying. The checking of the load is particularly important and requires extensive knowledge and secure systems when the waste is to be used as landfill or requires special treatment for hazardous substances. At the customer reception centre, customers can enjoy a cup of coffee or ask for assistance with specific issues.

The sorting area

It is not permitted to use waste containing organic refuse as landfill. Loads that contain organic waste or large amounts of recyclable material are taken to the sorting area. When a sufficient volume of waste has been collected, the sorting process begins. Wood and metal are sorted using excavators fitted with grabs. Wood and other combustible materials are extracted. The combustible waste is chipped on site and sent to incineration plants. What remains after the sorting process is deposited as landfill in decomposition cells at the Löt facility.

Depositing in cells

The landfill area is divided into cells, where waste with different properties can be deposited in different cells. This makes it possible to control the leach water from the various fractions separately, and to subject it to different types of purification depending on what it contains.

Recycling centre

At the recycling centre, private citizens from the municipalities that own the plant can deposit their bulky waste free of charge. Small business owners can also deposit waste here, and pay for it through a “value ticket” arrangement.

At our six recycling centres in the region, we handle more than 70,000 tons of waste per year. Of this material, more than half is recycled, 8 % is composted, 27 % is used as fuel and 13 % is used for landfill – and some of this waste is used as construction material.

Processing contaminated soil

The Löt plant is licensed to process more than 100,000 tons of contaminated soil per year. The soil is purified through composting and soil cleaning, and the site also has a permit for thermal treatment. The cleaned soil can be used as construction material or intermediate covering material at Löt, or transported from the plant for use in the local community.

Pressure-treated wood

Material of this kind is considered hazardous waste and must be dealt with separately. At Löt, pressure-treated wood is received for chipping and intermediate storage. Some energy plants can





use this woodchip as fuel, thus utilising its energy content.

Ash stabilisation

Ash from refuse incineration has to be looked after safely for a very long time. At the Löt plant, SÖRAB has a unit that mixes this ash with cement and puts it in cells where the cement sets very slowly to form a homogenous body that is very hard to break down.

Polluted leach water and any runoff water from cells containing ash is bound into the cement mix so as to minimise the volume of contaminants that are released into the environment.

Rock cover

In order to prepare additional space for long-term storage of such waste that cannot or must not be recycled today, rock is broken at the Löt Waste Plant. Up until 2024, 8 million tons of rock will be quarried. In these areas, artificial covers and barriers will be installed to match the stringent environmental requirements currently in effect throughout the EU.

Gas extraction

When organic material is broken down without access to oxygen, biogas is generated. This largely consists of methane. This gas has a high energy content that can be exploited. At Löt, the gas is used for heating the site buildings and the nearby Roslagsstoppet restaurant.

Surplus gas is converted into electricity in a gas generator, and SÖRAB can supply electricity with an eco-certificate.

Stumps become fuel

SÖRAB has developed a technique for extracting all the energy to be found in tree stumps. The stumps are split, and the sand, gravel and stones are allowed to dry before being rinsed away. The stumps are then converted into wood chips.

Leach water treatment

At Löt, leach water is purified in a local unit that comprises a variety of filters, collection and aeration pools and flood irrigation over a very large area of land. The purified water is finally released into watercourses that flow into the lake Jälnan. After comprehensive characterizing of the water, checks are run in a thorough testing system to ensure that none of the water is flowing the wrong way and that the purification system is having the desired effect.

Environmentally certified

In order to ensure that SÖRAB lives up to its environmental obligations, the company has been certified according to the ISO 14001 environmental standard since 1998.



SÖRAB is responsible for waste handling in nine municipalities in western and northern Stockholm: Danderyd, Järfälla, Lidingö, Sollentuna, Solna, Sundbyberg, Täby, Upplands Väsby and Vallentuna.

Our business concept is to provide local authorities, households and companies with rationalised and environmentally friendly waste processing at a reasonable price.

Our ambition is to recycle most of the waste, and deal with the rest in a manner acceptable to people and the environment.



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