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Permission to create hundreds of houses – and jobs

by Rhodri Evans, Western Mail | Mar 16 2012

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MORE than 800 construction jobs are to be created after St Modwen was granted permission for 300 new homes at its Coed Darcy development

The regeneration project on the site of the former BP Llandarcy Oil Refinery in Neath Port Talbot is creating a £1.2bn sustainable community.

Detailed planning approval granted in Neath Port Talbot means that St Modwen and its joint venture partner, Persimmon, can develop 302 properties at the northern end of the 1,060 acre site.

St Modwen said the work would create up to 880 temporary building jobs locally, with construction expected to start as soon as July and the first homes due to be completed for occupancy by Christmas.

The scheme will provide a range of one, two, three, four and five bedroom homes as part of wider plans to establish Coed Darcy as a community of more than 4,000 homes supported by education facilities, including three primary schools, a secondary school and a range of community, sports and retail facilities.

Rupert Joseland, South Wales regional director for St Modwen, said: "The development of these high quality properties with Persimmon is an important milestone in the delivery of Coed Darcy, as we work with partners to bring new housing opportunities to the region.

"As the scheme develops, residents and people working at Coed Darcy will be able to access shops and community facilities at a new Main Square planned as the social heart of the scheme as well as a variety of leisure and recreational facilities located around the development."

Andrew Crompton, regional land director for Persimmon Homes West Wales region, said: "This is wonderful news for everyone associated with Persimmon and we really can't wait to get started."

The [application](#) is the second to be submitted in Wales under the joint venture established between St Modwen and Persimmon in August 2010. The first was for 307 homes at the Glan Llyn scheme in Newport.