SITE CONDITION REPORT TEMPLATE

For full details, see H5 *SCR guide for applicants* v2.0 4 August 2008

COMPLETE SECTIONS 1-3 AND SUBMIT WITH APPLICATION

DURING THE LIFE OF THE PERMIT: MAINTAIN SECTIONS 4-7

AT SURRENDER: ADD NEW DOC REFERENCE IN 1.0; COMPLETE SECTIONS 8-10; & SUBMIT WITH YOUR SURRENDER APPLICATION.

1.0 SITE DETAILS	
Name of the applicant	GRS Rail Services Limited
Activity address	Small Heath Recycling Small Heath Rail Sidings Anderton Road Small Heath Birmingham B11 1TG
National grid reference	SP 09304 85224

Document reference and dates for Site Condition Report at permit application and surrender	GRS_SMHc32111scr dated June 2025. This Site Condition Report (SCR) accompanies an application to vary Environmental Permit number EPR/JB3107HT (the permit) for the inert and excavation waste transfer station operated under a Standard Rules Permit (SRP) SR2009 No6 by GRS Rail Services Limited (GRS) at the address above. The variation is to change the permit from a SRP to a bespoke permit due to the withdrawal of SR2009No6 by the Environment Agency. The permit was first issued on 23 May 2014 however a Site Condition Report (SCR) was not provided to the EA when the SRP was first applied for. This SCR is based on information presented in the Envirocheck Report.

Document references for site plans (including location and boundaries)	Figure 1 (reference GRS/SMH/05-25/24961), Figure 2 (reference GRS/SMH/05-25/24962), Figure DEMP 2 (reference GRS/SMH/05-25/24969)

Note:
In Part A of the application form you must give us details of the site's location and provide us with a site plan. We need a detailed site plan (or plans) showing:

- Site location, the area covered by the site condition report, and the location and nature of the activities and/or waste facilities on the site.
- Locations of receptors, sources of emissions/releases, and monitoring points.
- Site drainage.
- Site surfacing.

If this information is not shown on the site plan required by Part A of the application form then you should submit the additional plan or plans with this site condition report.

2.0 Condition of the land at permit issue

Environmental setting including: • geology • hydrogeology • surface waters	**Geology:** The geology of site is taken from the British Geological Survey (BGS) 1:50,000 scale Sheet 168 Birmingham solid and drift edition and the BGS geology viewer. The bedrock underlying the site is the Triassic Mercia Mudstone Group which at this locality is represented by the Sidmouth Mudstone Formation which is reported by the BGS to consist of red brown occasionally grey green structureless mudstone with skerry bands formed of dolomitic siltstone and fine grained sandstone as well as veins and nodules of gypsum. BGS borehole records indicate that beneath the site the Mercia Mudstone Group is likely at least 100m thick. Based on Sheet 168 the bedrock strata in the vicinity of the site dips approximately 2° to the south east. Overlying the bedrock at the site are superficial deposits comprising glaciofluvial deposits which are recorded as Pleistocene in age. The deposits are reported to comprise red brown sand and gravel which can have a variable silty, sandy or clayey content. The gravel may consist of quartz, quartzite, mudstone, sandstone and igneous rock. On Sheet 168 palaeovalley comprising a buried sediment filled channel is shown approximately 0.7km to the north west of the site. Records from boreholes within the marked buried channel indicate that the deposits are formed of medium to coarse grained sand with occasional clay and it is possible that this feature extends into the area of the site. The geology on Sheet 168 does not indicate that there is artificial ground for example made ground present at the site. However, based on historical maps and aerial photographs and anecdotal information provided by GRS it is considered likely that made ground is present at the site. The materials forming any artificial deposits may be variable depending on the historical development of the site. It is considered based on maps and photographs that the made ground at the site may in part be formed of hardcore aggregate consistent with the associated railway use of land at and in the vicinity of the site. **Hydrology:** The site is located in the catchment of the River Tame. The closest surface water feature to the site is the Grand Union Canal (GUC)

	which is located adjacent to the southwestern boundary of the site. In the vicinity of the site the GUC is orientated northwest to southeast. Spark Brook is located approximately 390m to the south east of the site. Surface water from brook flows to the south east to a confluence with the River Cole approximately 980m to the southeast of the site. The River Rea is located approximately 1.7km to the northwest of the site. The River Cole and the River Rea are tributaries of the River Tame. There is a lake located at Small Heath Park located approximately 490m to the east of the site. The Envirocheck report indicates there are 4 licensed surface water abstractions within 2km of the site. The closest abstraction is located approximately 814m to the southwest of the site and is for the transfer of surface water from Spark Brook to the GUC. Based on the Environmental Agency Flood Map for Planning the site is located in Flood Zone 1. Flood Zone 1 is defined by the EA as land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%). **Hydrogeology:** It is likely that the superficial deposits generally have a moderate to high intergranular hydraulic conductivity depending on the proportion of clay present. The primary permeability of the Mercia Mudstone Group is expected to be low although it may be locally enhanced where skerry bands occur. The Mercia Mudstone Group has a variable secondary hydraulic conductivity imparted by fractures and fissures. The superficial deposits and any artificial ground at the site may be water bearing with groundwater in the superficial deposits supported on the underlying Mercia Mudstone Group strata. It is likely that the GUC would have been engineered with low permeability clay where necessary to minimise leakage. On this basis it is considered unlikely that the groundwater in the superficial aquifer is in hydraulic continuity with the GUC. Aquifer designation is taken from the multi-agency geographic information for the countryside (MAGIC) website. The superficial glaciofluvial deposits are classified as a Secondary A aquifer. This is defined by the Environment Agency (EA) as aquifers which comprise permeable layers that can support local water supplies and may form an important source of baseflow to rivers.

	The Mercia Mudstone Group is classified as a Secondary B aquifer which are mainly lower permeability layers that may store and yield limited amounts of groundwater through characteristics like thin cracks (called fissures) and opening or eroded layers. Based on the Envirocheck report the groundwater vulnerability of the glaciofluvial deposits and the Mercia Mudstone Group in combination is categorised as medium. Based on information presented on the MAGIC website, the site is not located in a groundwater source protection zone (SPZ). The nearest SPZ is approximately 2.6 km to the west of the site. The Envirocheck report indicates there are 7 licensed groundwater abstractions within 2km of the site. The closest groundwater abstraction is located approximately 1342m east of the site and is used for the purpose of evaporative cooling.
Pollution history including: • pollution incidents that may have affected land • historical land-uses and associated contaminants • any visual/olfactory evidence of existing contamination • evidence of damage to pollution prevention measures	Information in respect of the potential pollution history at the site has been assessed from information in the Envirocheck report reference 376900241_1_1 including historical maps. The report is included as Annex A to this SCR. Based on the earliest available historical Ordnance Survey (OS) map from 1889 the site area was located within an urban area with the Great Western Railway present to the north of the site. Significant residential development is shown in all directions surrounding the site on the map dated 1905. The site is shown as railway sidings (Small Heath sidings) on maps dated from 1905 to 2024. An engine shed was located adjacent to the north west boundary of the site on maps dated from 1905 which is later labelled as 'Goods shed' on the map dated 1920-1921. There is a small arms factory south of the site included on the map dated 1889 which is further developed on the map dated 1905 and then later labelled as 'Motor car and small tools works' on the 1920-1921 map which is later labelled as 'machine tool works' between 1955 and 1956. The area adjacent to the factory is first labelled as the 'Armourer mills' between 1920 and 1921 and labelled 'Radix works' between 1955 and 1956. Between 1955 and 1956 a Goods shed and a timber yard appear to the north west of the site. On the map dated 1999 a conveyor and transversing crane are marked within the site. A factory is present to the south east of the

	site since 1905 and is first labelled as 'Works' between 1966 and 1968. Two more factories appear between 1981 and 1983 to the north of the site labelled as 'Works'. Based on a review of the historical map data the land has been used as railway sidings from at least 1905 onwards. Potential contaminants associated with this historical land use include hydrocarbons (diesels, oils), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls, solvents, ethylene glycol (antifreeze), creosotes and herbicides, together with ash/clinker fill (PAHs, metals, sulphate, asbestos).
Evidence of historic contamination, for example, historical site investigation, assessment, remediation and verification reports (where available)	Based on the information in the Envirocheck report there are no Contaminated Land Register Entries and Notices within 1km of the site. Based on the Envirocheck report there are 3 recorded pollution incidents to controlled waters within the site. All incidents are reported as 'Category 3 – Minor Incident' and relate to the release of oil/fuel to the canal. The incidents occurred in 1997 and 1998. Based on the Envirocheck report, there are two historical landfill sites located within 1km of the site. The closest historic landfill, for which the licence holder was Birmingham EPU, is located 615m to the south east of the site. The specified waste type is reported as 'Not supplied' and deposits are recorded between 31 December 1967 and 31 December 1976. The other historical landfill, for which the license holder was Fisher Foundaries Limited, is located 827m south east of the site. the specified waste type is reported as 'Deposited Waste included Inert and Industrial Waste' and deposits are recorded between 31 December 1920 and 31 March 1987. Based on the Envirocheck report there are multiple licensed waste management facilities within 1km of the site. The closest site comprises a revoked mixed metal recycling site operated by David John Price 37m to the east of the site. There are a further 8 waste management facilities within approximately 500m of the site. There are another 8 sites within 1km of the site. There is one registered landfill site within 1km of the site, which is located 831m south east of the site operated by Fisher Foundries based on the information in the Envirocheck report. It is reported as a landfill that is authorised to accept Foundry sand, foundry/metal making waste, hardcore and rubble and inert waste. Based on the Envirocheck report the status of the landfill

	site is Licence lapsed/ cancelled/ defunct/ not applicable/ surrendered/ cancelled. There are 11 Local Authority Pollution Prevention and Control permits within approximately 1km of the site, the nearest of which is approximately 75m west of the site and comprises an electrical and rotary furnaces facility. Based on the Envirocheck report there is one active Control of major accident hazards site (COMAH) located 237m south east of the site. it is described as an upper tier site operated by Macdermid Performance Solutions Uk Limited. There are two Planning Hazardous Substance Consents registered to Macdermid PLC at this location (though one is identified in the Envirocheck Report as withdrawn).
Baseline soil and groundwater reference data	No baseline soil or groundwater reference data or records are available.
Supporting information	• Envirocheck Report number 376900241_1_1 dated 15 May 2025 • Historical Maps provided with the Envirocheck Report

3.0 Permitted activities	
Permitted activities	**2014-2025** SR2009No6 – inert and excavation waste transfer station with treatment D15, R13, D14, D9, R3, R5 **2025 onwards** Bespoke Environmental Permit Inert and excavation waste transfer station and treatment facility **R13:** Storage of wastes pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced) **R3:** Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents **R5:** Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic materials
Non-permitted activities undertaken	There are no non-permitted activities undertaken.
Document references for: • plan showing activity layout; and • environmental risk assessment.	Figure DEMP 2 (GRS/SMH/05-25/24969) Environment Agency Generic Risk Assessment for SR2009No6 Environmental Risk Assessment GRS/SMH/AW/5790/01/ERA dated June 2025

Note:

In Part B of the application form you must tell us about the activities that you will undertake at the site. You must also give us an environmental risk assessment. This risk assessment must be based on our guidance (*Environmental Risk Assessment - EPR H1*) or use an equivalent approach.

It is essential that you identify in your environmental risk assessment all the substances used and produced that could pollute the soil or groundwater if there were an accident, or if measures to protect land fail.

These include substances that would be classified as 'dangerous' under the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) regulations and also raw materials, fuels, intermediates, products, wastes and effluents.

If your submitted environmental risk assessment does not adequately address the risks to soil and groundwater we may need to request further information from you or even refuse your permit application.

4.0 Changes to the activity	
Have there been any changes to the activity boundary?	No
Have there been any changes to the permitted activities?	No
Have any 'dangerous substances' not identified in the Application Site Condition Report been used or produced as a result of the permitted activities?	No
Checklist of supporting information	• Plan showing any changes to the boundary (where relevant) • Description of the changes to the permitted activities (where relevant) • List of 'dangerous substances' used/produced by the permitted activities that were not identified in the Application Site Condition Report (where relevant)

5.0 Measures taken to protect land	
Use records that you collected during the life of the permit to summarise whether pollution prevention measures worked. If you can't, you need to collect land and/or groundwater data to assess whether the land has deteriorated.	
Checklist of supporting information	• Inspection records and summary of findings of inspections for all pollution prevention measures • Records of maintenance, repair and replacement of pollution prevention measures

6.0 Pollution incidents that may have had an impact on land, and their remediation	
Summarise any pollution incidents that may have damaged the land. Describe how you investigated and remedied each one. If you can't, you need to collect land and /or groundwater reference data to assess whether the land has deteriorated while you've been there.	
Checklist of supporting information	• Records of pollution incidents that may have impacted on land • Records of their investigation and remediation

7.0 Soil gas and water quality monitoring (where undertaken)	
Provide details of any soil gas and/or water monitoring you did. Include a summary of the findings. Say whether it shows that the land deteriorated as a result of the permitted activities. If it did, outline how you investigated and remedied this.	
Checklist of supporting information	• **Description of soil gas and/or water monitoring undertaken** • **Monitoring results (including graphs)**

8.0 Decommissioning and removal of pollution risk

Describe how the site was decommissioned. Demonstrate that all sources of pollution risk have been removed. Describe whether the decommissioning had any impact on the land. Outline how you investigated and remedied this.

Checklist of supporting information	• **Site closure plan** • **List of potential sources of pollution risk** • **Investigation and remediation reports (where relevant)**

9.0 Reference data and remediation (where relevant)

Say whether you had to collect land and/or groundwater data. Or say that you didn't need to because the information from sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Surrender Site Condition Report shows that the land has not deteriorated.

If you did collect land and/or groundwater reference data, summarise what this entailed, and what your data found. Say whether the data shows that the condition of the land has deteriorated, or whether the land at the site is in a "satisfactory state". If it isn't, summarise what you did to remedy this. Confirm that the land is now in a "satisfactory state" at surrender.

Checklist of supporting information	• Land and/or groundwater data collected at application (if collected) • Land and/or groundwater data collected at surrender (where needed) • Assessment of satisfactory state • Remediation and verification reports (where undertaken)

10.0 Statement of site condition

Using the information from sections 3 to 7, give a statement about the condition of the land at the site. This should confirm that:

- the permitted activities have stopped
- decommissioning is complete, and the pollution risk has been removed
- the land is in a satisfactory condition.