

## **INTRODUCTION**

Starling Environmental Limited (SEL) has been commissioned by Blackburn Skips Limited to prepare an environmental permit variation application for their waste transfer station at Eden Works, Colne Road, Kelbrook, Lancashire, BB18 6SH. The site is regulated under environmental permit EPR/JB3101SK.

The site currently operates under Standard Rules 2015 No 6: 75kte household, commercial and industrial waste transfer station with treatment. It is proposed to vary the permit to a bespoke permit to allow external storage of a wider range of waste types, limited external processing and also to add a number of new waste codes.

The new waste codes are mainly for hazardous waste to allow storage of hazardous wood, asbestos and WEEE. The hazardous waste will not be treated, just stored for onward transfer to third party sites. No more than 50 tonnes of hazardous waste will be stored at any time.

Under the current permit all waste must be stored inside except for specified waste. The operator would like to store waste wood and trommel fines in bays outside and also undertake screening of fines in an open fronted building.

### **Site Details and Surrounding Area**

The site is located on the Eden Works Industrial Estate accessed from the A56 (Colne Road), situated to the north of Kelbrook, a small settlement 3km to the southeast of Barnoldswick, Lancashire. The approximate National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is SD 90252 45199.

Surrounding land use includes farmland to the east and industrial units to the south, west and north. Neighbouring units within the industrial estate includes pre-cast concrete manufacture, vehicle storage, building suppliers yards and other industrial uses. The nearest residential properties are situated approximately 95 m to the north of the site located on Colne Road.

### **Layout**

The site area is approximately 5,200 m<sup>2</sup> and features includes a waste processing building of approximately 720 m<sup>2</sup>, a workshop, portacabin style offices and a weighbridge. There is a large concreted yard which provides parking for vehicles, storage space for empty skips and waste storage in both concrete block bays and containers.

The site is securely fenced with a combination of palisade fencing approximately 2 m high to the west and north with lockable security gates at the entrance on the western boundary. A CCTV system is in use at the site to provide additional security. The east and southern perimeter is secured with fencing and concrete block walls.

The yard is mostly surfaced with concrete, with a small portion on the west as hardstanding. The operator plans to concrete the hardstanding area before the end of December 2024, alongside upgrade works to the existing concrete surface. Surface water is contained within the site by a shallow concrete bund (speed-bump style) and water drains to an interceptor at the low point towards the workshop. From there it is pumped to public sewer which is located to the west, close to Colne Road.

## **CURRENT OPERATIONS**

The majority of waste brought to site is in skips from household or commercial sources and are classed as either EWC 20 03 01 mixed municipal waste or EWC 17 09 04 mixed construction and demolition waste. The waste is largely from renovation or building projects.

Full skips are deposited inside the transfer building in the waste reception area. Waste is pre-sorted in the reception area by removing large pieces of uPVC, hardcore, scrap metal, general waste or green waste. Any waste identified as WEEE is also removed to a segregated area. This waste is removed and placed in the appropriate storage container for onward recycling. General waste is separated and stored one of the general waste storage containers.

The remaining waste is fed into the treatment process which consists of mechanical treatment using a trommel followed by sorting on a manual picking line. Materials recovered from this process include hardcore, soil, scrap metal (ferrous and non-ferrous) and wood. Scrap metal is stored in bays below the picking line and the soil, wood, hardcore are conveyed out of the building and stored in external bays.

The trommel produces fines as a by-product, which are also conveyed outside and stored in a dedicated storage bay. These are further processed using an external flip-floor screening plant to separate fractions for recovery into aggregates and fines. The screening plant is covered by a canopy constructed with steel frame and corrugated roof panels. Both fractions produced by the flip-floor screener are stored outside.

## **PROPOSED CHANGES**

### **External Storage and Treatment**

External storage of fines and wood waste is not allowed under the standard rules permit as they are not included in the list of specified waste. It is proposed to vary the permit to allow external storage of both wood and fines (19 12 12). Wood is currently stored outside under an exemption however the operator is aware of the upcoming changes to exemptions and would like to bring this under the permit.

External treatment using the flip-floor screener is only currently permitted for specified waste. Although the trommel fines consist of mainly soil and hardcore, it has to be classified as 19 12 12 which is not on the specified list of waste. Therefore, inclusion of external treatment under the bespoke permit is requested through this variation.

The treatment activity will be enclosed on three sides. A canopy above the screening plant is to be extended to cover the entirety of the screening plant. The rear wall along the eastern boundary will be extended to meet the roof (there is currently a gap between the top of the wall and the roof). This will enclose the operation along the eastern boundary to prevent escape of litter.

### **Addition of Hazardous Waste Codes**

A large proportion of waste comes to site under the municipal waste code EWC 20 03 01 which is an absolute non-hazardous entry on the List of Waste. There is a waste acceptance procedure in place which instructs operatives not to collect hazardous waste, however this is not always visible until the contents are tipped at the site. Once the load is sorted some of the components would be classed as hazardous waste and will be stored as such on site until they are dispatched.

In particular this could include:

- Wood considered hazardous as listed by the WRA
- Cables
- PU foam insulation and products
- Batteries
- Fridges
- Gas cannisters

It is proposed to add a number of hazardous waste codes to the permit as listed in the table below. This will allow both storage of the sorted waste until it is removed from site and also acceptance of the waste as part of a mixed load of construction waste as 17 09 03\*.

<b>Waste Code</b>	<b>Description</b>
16 02 10*	Discarded equipment containing or contaminated by PCBs other than those mentioned in 16 02 09
16 02 11*	Discarded equipment containing CFCs, HCFCs, HFCs
16 05 04*	Gases in pressure containers (including halons) containing hazardous substances
16 06 01*	Lead acid batteries
16 06 02*	Ni-Cd batteries
16 06 03*	Mercury containing batteries
17 02 04*	Glass, plastic and wood containing or contaminated with hazardous substances
17 09 03*	Other construction and demolition waste (including mixed waste) containing hazardous substances
17 04 10*	Cables containing oil, coal tar and other hazardous substances
17 06 05*	Construction materials containing asbestos
19 12 12	Other waste including mixtures of materials from mechanical treatment of wastes other than those mentioned in 19 12 11*
20 01 23*	Discarded equipment containing chlorofluorocarbons
20 01 33*	Batteries and accumulators included in 16 06 01*, 16 06 02* or 16 06 03* and unsorted batteries and accumulators containing these batteries
20 01 35*	Discarded electrical and electronic equipment other than those mentioned in 20 01 21 and 20 01 23 containing hazardous components
20 01 37*	Wood containing hazardous substances

This waste will be stored in the hazardous waste storage areas shown on the Site Layout Plan. Waste will be segregated according to hazard whereby cables and equipment will be stored together and batteries will be stored separately within a container.

### **Addition of Non-Hazardous Waste Code**

It is proposed to add the non-hazardous waste code EWC 19 12 12. This will enable waste fines from the Blackburn Skips site at Oxford Mill, Burnley to be imported for screening. The fines produced at Oxford Mill are produced following the same process as described in Section 2 and do not contain biodegradable or odorous material. The fines will be subject to a sampling and analysis and waste classification before being brought to site.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

The following documents have been submitted with the application:

Environmental Risk Assessment – identifies receptors and assesses the risks from the proposed changes and proposes mitigation to reduce risks where required. Report No 112/1.

Dust Emissions Management Plan – this is a standard requirement for this activity as the site is within 500 m of a sensitive receptor. Report No 112/2.

Fire prevention Plan – this is a standard requirement for this activity for storage of combustible waste. Report No 112/3

Odour Management Plan – this is a standard requirement for this activity. Report No 112/4.

Noise Impact Assessment and Noise Management Plan – to assess the impacts from operation of the external screening plant.

Site Layout Plan – Drawing No 112/02