

Facility:

Waste Operation: Non-Hazardous Waste Recycling with hazardous batteries, cable and WEEE storage.

Location:

Horrocks Skips, James Street, Westhoughton, Bolton, Lancashire, BL5 3QR

Location of environmentally sensitive sites (km / m):

Less than 50m (see below)

Risk assessment carried out by:

AC Environmental Consulting Ltd

Date:

01-Apr-26

Data and information				Judgement				Action (by permitting)	
Receptor	Source	Harm	Pathway	Probability of exposure	Consequence	Magnitude of risk	Justification for magnitude	Risk management	Residual risk
What is at risk? What do I wish to protect?	What is the agent or process with potential to cause harm?	What are the harmful consequences if things go wrong?	How might the receptor come into contact with the source?	How likely is this contact?	How severe will the consequences be if this occurs?	What is the overall magnitude of the risk?	On what did I base my judgement?	How can I best manage the risk to reduce the magnitude?	What is the magnitude of the risk after management? (This residual risk will be controlled by Compliance Assessment).
Local human population	Releases of particulate matter (dusts) and micro-organisms (bioaerosols).	Harm to human health - respiratory irritation and illness.	Air transport then inhalation	High	Medium	High	Permitted waste types do not include dusts, powders or loose fibres but the treatment activities will produce particulate matter. Permitted wastes types also include inert waste which could be a source of dust. Received wastes include mixed municipal wastes which can include food waste and garden waste. Dry recyclables are also received, and if contaminated with food, they can become a bioaerosol. A high magnitude risk is therefore estimated. There is potential for exposure if anyone is living or working close to the site (apart from the operator and employees).	Prevent dust and bioaerosols becoming an issue through good housekeeping and site inspections. The retention time of wastes is also kept to a minimum. The sites concrete surface will be cleaned and maintained to minimise dust. Visual inspection will be carried out, at least daily, and any dust identified will be swept immediately. There is an onsite underground water tank which is used to provide water for dust suppression. If accumulations were to be found, the company would hire a mobile sweeper to remove the dust build up from the site, or where necessary dust will be dampened down. The Environmental Management System (EMS) contains procedures for managing dust and mud. Compliance with the plan will effectively mitigate any remaining risk.	Low
Local human population	As above	Nuisance - dust on cars, clothing etc.	Air transport then deposition	Medium	Low	Low	Local residents mainly comprise of employees in various industrial operations and home owners / tenants. The nearest domestic residences are some 85m to the south of the site on Peel Terrace. The site is neighboured by various industries including two waste operations, Malrod Environmental Limited and Forshaw Demolition Limited's Waste Transfer Station. To the north and west the site is bordered by Wingates Industrial Park. To the south of the site is the Wigan-Bolton Railway, beyond which is the town of Westhoughton. These locations have the potential to be affected by deposited dust.	As above	Low

Local human population, livestock and wildlife.	Litter	Nuisance, loss of amenity and harm to animal health	Air transport then deposition	Medium	Medium	Medium	Local residents mainly comprise of employees in various industrial operations and home owners / tenants. The nearest domestic residences are some 85m to the south of the site on Peel Terrace. The site is neighboured by various industries including two waste operations, Malrod Environmental Limited and Forshaw Demolition Limited's Waste Transfer Station. To the north and west the site is bordered by Wingates Industrial Park. To the south of the site is the Wigan-Bolton Railway, beyond which is the town of Westthoughton. There is no known livestock within 500m. There is an area of Priority Habitat Inventory - Deciduous Woodland 23m south of the site boundary.	The site perimeter is formed of 2m high palisade fencing. This forms an effective litter barrier at all boundaries of the site. The covered storage shed and perimeter of the site acts as a barrier to contain litter produced on site, preventing it from spreading to surrounding properties and areas. Procedures in the Environmental Management System details actions to be taken by site staff to inspect the site daily and to deal with litter as it arises.	Low
Local human population	Waste, litter and mud on local roads	Nuisance, loss of amenity, road traffic accidents.	Vehicles entering and leaving site.	Medium	Medium	Medium	The operational areas of the site are surfaced with impermeable concrete. Wastes stored externally are stored only on the concrete surface and within skips. All waste operations occur on the concrete surface. Therefore, it is unlikely that mud is transferred from the site surface to the road.	As above. In addition a mechanical sweeper will be employed on a weekly basis to keep site access roads free from dust/mud.	Low
Local human population	Odour	Nuisance, loss of amenity	Air transport then inhalation.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Permitted waste types do not include food waste, sludges or liquids which are likely to give rise to odour, however, wood waste, plasterboard/gypsum waste, and mixed HC&I wastes can lead to a potential for odour if not handled correctly.	Management of odour is controlled by the Environmental Management System and is based on rotation of stocks and immediate removal of odourous wastes. Recognising that wood waste can lead to a potential for odour these will be stored for a limited time. Wood waste will be properly segregated from other waste streams and stored within a skip, to reduce overall odour likelihood. This skip will be located within the covered building to reduce anaerobic decomposition which causes odours. Temperatures will also be monitored, as higher temperatures can accelerate decomposition and increased odours. Any food waste, or food contaminated wastes found within mixed wastes will also be segregated and stored for a limited time, for disposal at the earliest available opportunity at a suitable permitted facility. Plasterboard wastes will be segregated and stored in a skip within the covered storage shed to prevent wastes getting wet, which would then lead to odour production. Due to the waste types accepted on site and the measures above, the risk of an adverse impact on nearby sensitive receptors including the Hall Lee Brook LNR and Priority Habitat Inventory area of deciduous woodland is significantly reduced.	Low

Local human population	Noise and vibration	Nuisance, loss of amenity, loss of sleep.	Noise through the air and vibration through the ground.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Local residents mainly comprise of employees in various industrial operations and home owners / tenants. The nearest domestic residences are some 85m to the south of the site on Peel Terrace. The site is neighboured by various industries including two waste operations, Malrod Environmental Limited and Forshaw Demolition Limited's Waste Transfer Station. To the north and west the site is bordered by Wingates Industrial Park. To the south of the site is the Wigan-Bolton Railway, beyond which is the town of Westhoughton. A medium magnitude risk is therefore estimated due to the vicinity of the receptors.	Waste operations are contained within the U shaped covered storage shed which will help to reduce the spread of noise beyond the site boundary. The Environmental Management System contains procedures to manage noise emanating from site operations. The activities carried out on site are generally low audible volume activities. Skips and loads will be placed down carefully to avoid loud noises when the waste contacts the concrete surface. Operations will only be carried out within the allowed operating hours. The permit variatoin seeks the addition of an area of the site, for aggregate processing, which will be carried out externally. A 3.5m wall will be constructed to screen noise from the operations, and these operations are only carried out during the operating hours of the site.	Low
Local human population	Scavenging animals and scavenging birds	Harm to human health - from waste carried off site and faeces. Nuisance and loss of amenity.	Air transport and over land	Medium	Medium	Medium	The site does not handle food or readily degradable wastes liquids which are likely to provide a home for pests. However, it is acknowledged that small quantities of these waste types may be present on occasion in the general skip wastes handled.	Management of pests is controlled by the Environmental Management System and is based on rotation of stocks to prevent waste being used as a habitat. The permitted waste types will not provide a suitable habitat for pests. The use of a specialist pest control sub-contractor if scavenging animals are detected will also mitigate the risk. Due to the waste types accepted on site and the measures above, the risk of an adverse impact on nearby sensitive receptors including is significantly reduced.	Very low
Local human population	Pests (e.g. flies)	Harm to human health, nuisance, loss of amenity	Air transport and over land	Medium	Medium	Medium	The site does not accept loads of food or readily degradable wastes liquids which are likely to provide a home for pests.	As above	Low
Local human population and local environment	Flooding of site	If waste is washed off site it may contaminate buildings / gardens / natural habitats downstream.	Flood waters	Low	Medium	Low	The site is not within a Flood Zone and therefore not at risk of flooding. The site topography reduces the risk of flooding. Permitted waste types are very unlikely to leave site in a flood event. Procedures are in place to ensure no contaminated water enters the drains within the permitted area.	Site topography makes flooding unlikely and there are no historic records of any flooding. Operations of the site in accordance with the EMS mitigates any risk that remains.	Very low

Local human population and / or livestock after gaining unauthorised access to the waste operation	All on-site hazards: wastes; machinery and vehicles.	Bodily injury	Direct physical contact	Medium	Medium	Medium	Apart from POP's waste (such as sofas and mattresses) which are not received in large volumes, permitted waste types are non-hazardous so only a medium magnitude risk is estimated.	Activities shall be managed and operated in accordance with the EMS (which includes site security measures to prevent unauthorised access). The site is surrounded by fencing and has CCTV cameras distributed throughout the site. Site management will undertake toolbox talks on health and safety annually or immediately following an incident. The site will be patrolled, locked and sealed at the end of each working day.	Low
Local human population and local environment.	Arson and / or vandalism causing the release of polluting materials to air (smoke or fumes), water or land.	Respiratory irritation, illness and nuisance to local population. Injury to staff, firefighters or arsonists/vandals. Pollution of water or land.	Air transport of smoke. Spillages and contaminated firewater by direct run-off from site and via surface water drains and ditches.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Permitted waste types are largely non-hazardous. Hazardous wastes accepted include POP's containing waste (sofas and mattresses) which are flammable. Wastes such as wood and general waste have a higher potential for fire and these are stored in bays or skips for easy access in case of a fire. Combustible wastes are subject to procedures in the Environmental Management System and the Fire Prevention Plan to ensure the safe and efficient handling of the wastes. Site security is comprehensive.	As above. Activities will be managed in accordance with the Environmental Management System and the Fire Prevention Plan. Spread of fire restricted by control of stock piles and firebreaks or separation distances shall be maintained in accordance with Environment Agency guidance.	Low
Local human population and local environment	Accidental fire causing the release of polluting materials to air (smoke or fumes), water or land.	Respiratory irritation, illness and nuisance to local population. Injury to staff or firefighters. Pollution of water or land.	As above.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Risk of accidental combustion of waste is moderate.	As above. Activities will be managed in accordance with the Environmental Management System (which includes fire and spillages) and the Fire Prevention Plan. Spread of fire restricted by control of stock piles and firebreaks or separation distances shall be maintained in accordance with Environment Agency guidance.	Low
All surface waters close to and downstream of site.	Spillage of liquids, leachate from waste, contaminated rainwater run-off from waste e.g. containing suspended solids.	Acute effects: oxygen depletion, fish kill and algal blooms	Direct run-off from site across ground surface, via surface water drains, ditches etc.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Permitted waste types do not include sludges or liquids so only a medium magnitude risk is estimated. There is potential for contaminated rainwater run-off from wastes stored outside buildings especially during heavy rain. However, the site is entirely surface with impermeable concrete, with drains and an interceptor. The site also features a kerb and there are several raised earth embankments around the site. These effectively mitigate potential runoff in the areas with downward slopes, and means flood or fire water can be contained by the site.	All liquids on site, such as fuels for plant are stored within sealed bunded containers. In the event of a spill, site management will be alerted immediately and the spill kits will be used to deal with the spill in situ.	Very low

All surface waters close to and downstream of site.	As above	Chronic effects: deterioration of water quality	As above. Indirect run-off via the soil layer	Medium	Low	Low	As above. Harm is likely to be temporary and reversible.	As above	Low
Abstraction from watercourse downstream of facility (for agricultural or potable use).	As above	Acute effects, closure of abstraction intakes.	Direct run-off from site across ground surface, via surface water drains, ditches etc. then abstraction.	Medium	Medium	Medium	Watercourse must have medium / high flow for abstraction to be permitted, which will dilute contaminated run-off.	As above.	Low
Groundwater	As above	Chronic effects: contamination of groundwater, requiring treatment of water or closure of borehole.	Transport through soil/groundwater then extraction at borehole.	Medium	Medium	Medium	There is a potential for contaminated rainwater run-off or leachate from permitted waste types. There is a sealed drainage system on site and impermeable concrete surfaces.	As above.	Low
Local human population	Contaminated waters used for recreational purposes	Harm to human health - skin damage or gastro-intestinal illness.	Direct contact or ingestion	Low	Medium	Low	Unlikely to occur due to distances involved (nearest recreational waters is Rumworth Lodge Reservoir 2.6km northeast) but might restrict recreational use in extreme case.	As above, plus procedures in the Environmental Management System will effectively mitigate this risk.	Very low
Protected sites - European sites and SSSIs	Any	Harm to protected site through toxic contamination, nutrient enrichment, smothering, disturbance, predation etc.	Any	Medium	Medium	Medium	The site lies over 3.5km away from the nearest protected landscape. The closest is The Red Moss SSSI, 3.5km to the north of the site.	The location of the site is means that there is no risk to protected sites	Low
Local human population and all surface waters close to and downstream of site.	Serious Fire	Nuisance, harm to human health, loss of amenity, deterioration of water quality	Air transport then inhalation or deposition. Direct run off of fire water across site to surface waters.	Low	High	Medium	The site is entirely surfaced with concrete and consists of a surface drain linked to an interceptor, which is connected to an underground water tank near the site boundary to Long Lane. In the event of a fire, all water will be contained on site using clay drain mats, the sites 200mm kerbing at the base of the site boundary, and watergate barriers to ensure that water does not enter the drains or surface outside of the site.	Procedures in the Environmental Management System and Fire Prevention Plan will effectively mitigate this risk. Wastes will be stored in accordance with the Fire Prevention Plan which will limit the storage times of wastes and consequently will ensure that fire can be extinguished efficiently.	Low

All surface waters close to and downstream of site.	Serious Fire	Loss of amenity, deterioration of water quality	Direct run off of fire water across site to surface waters.	Low	High	Medium	As above.	Procedures in the Environmental Management System and Fire Prevention Plan will effectively mitigate this risk. Wastes will be stored in accordance with the Fire Prevention Plan which will limit the storage times of wastes and consequently will ensure that fire can be extinguished efficiently.	Low
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