
Application for Permit Variation

Permit N° 53997 (New Tip)

Document NTPV 01 (C2)

Pre-application discussions with the Environment Agency

Section L

- Urban Springside Ltd. queries re. sequencing and closure of both the ‘New Tip’ and ‘Old Tip’.
- Environment Agency response to Urban Springside Ltd. queries re. sequencing and closure of both the ‘New Tip’ and ‘Old Tip’.

Darrell Woodrow

From: Gregory, Helen <Helen.Gregory@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 February 2019 15:57
To: Darrell Woodrow
Subject: Urban Springside

Darrell

Thank you for your two emails received on 04/02/2019 at 12:56 and 15:54. Please see responses to each of your questions in black text below:

1. [OLD TIP variation to accept materials](#) - application already made and to be issued soon. (Does this variation include for the placement of all necessary materials to form the agreed cover system and acceptance of the Closure Plan or just placement of treated material as stated in the email below?)

This application only authorises the placement of the treated paper pulp materials. It does not include final approval of the Closure Report. That will require a further variation which will include the incorporation of the environmental monitoring programme, site restoration requirements (if not already complete), and the removal of all waste import activities from the permit.

In your email to us on 4/12/18 at 14:30 you stated the following regarding materials to be brought on to the Old Tip in addition to the treated New Tip waste:

'Screened coal ash coarse textured gas drainage layer (site derived)

Large volumes of coal ash are present on site. This material is to be screened as necessary to generate sufficient volumes of a coarse low fines material for re-use as the gas drainage layer to be established above the free draining cement stabilised paper pulp layer. This layer is to be a minimum of 300mm thick.'

With regard to this material our Geotechnical assessment originally interpreted this to be material won from within the Old Tip licensed area (specifically the ash bund at the eastern end), however we now consider that it is possible that the intended material lies outside the permit boundary. If so it will be an additional waste material which will need to be assessed as fit for purpose and included in a variation (whether this current one or another) to allow its import for use in the capping system. The closure report refers to a coarse drainage layer comprising low fines gravel material for this element of the cap. When reviewing the report we took this to be a clean aggregate product rather than an additional external waste material with a polluting potential, such as coal ash won from the wider area might comprise.

Please can you clarify: is this screened ash material to be sourced outside the landfill permit area?

If not, and the ash already lies within the Old Tip landfill area, then we may assume it was received into the site under waste acceptance procedures and can be used in the capping system subject to the specification in the Closure Report.

If it is an external waste requiring importation, then we must object to its importation until it has been demonstrated that it is fit for purpose as per the recovery tests.

Also:

'Sandy subsoil/compost layer (site derived/imported)

Although there is potential for the sandy subsoil/compost layer to be site derived, considering the timescales and other activities that would need to be completed to access sufficient volumes of the material (circa 3,500m³), it is more realistic that it will be imported. Currently, there is no specific

source for the material but it will be a naturally occurring sandy subsoil/compost which will be imported to site under an MMP (an MMP covering the restoration works and the earthworks for the proposed development as a whole is to be prepared prior to works commencing).'

Topsoil layer (site derived)

Topsoil material is to be recovered on site and relocated as the final layer to the restoration.'

If the restoration (as opposed to engineered capping) materials above are waste, and are to be imported, then there may be further permitting implications. We will need to discuss this further and will advise you as to any necessary actions.

2. NEW TIP variation to enable the tip contents to be excavated and treated (for re-use as part of the cover system of the Old Tip) - new application to be made ASAP with supporting documentation.

You previously enquired as to the necessary forms and supporting documentation that would be required for this variation. The variation forms that you will need to complete are Part A, Part C2, Part C4 and Part F1 and appropriate fee. The accompanying guidance notes with each form will advise the supporting documentation that you will need to submit with your application. When you submit your variation application, we recommend that you evaluate your risk assessments for dust and odour closely and consider submissions of dust and odour management plans, in line with guidance available on gov.uk.

The trial batch testing of the treatment process included testing of the paper pulp waste leachate after the samples had been excavated, but prior to treatment. The results showed the 'disturbed waste' leachate to have a very high Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), far higher than would be acceptable for disposal via the consented discharge route currently used for New Tip leachate disposal. The Closure Report acknowledges that further treatment or off-site disposal of this leachate will be required when the full-scale treatment process is underway within the New Tip. The varied new tip permit (if granted) must include a requirement to treat and/or dispose of any leachates so as not to exceed the current discharge consent limits and also not to allow polluting concentrations of COD, which is not currently a consent determinand.

3. NEW TIP permit to be surrendered (all waste materials will have been removed/treated/relocated onto the Old Tip, the liner removed and the underlying strata tested etc. as detailed in the MS already submitted. Will this be a basic/low risk surrender?)

It is unlikely that any landfill surrender can be carried out as low risk due to the intrusive monitoring that is invariably required. A full surrender will be required so that a proper consideration of the site's condition can be made after the waste removal process is complete.

This is likely to include assessing ground investigation data following the removal of the lining system. You are advised to seek surrender pre-application support to establish what evidence will be required to support an application. Although you may apply to surrender at any stage, in view of the complex nature of the site, we recommend the necessary variations are completed before you contemplate the surrender submission.

4. OLD TIP permit to be surrendered - post cover system placement as detailed in the Closure Plan (presumably requires gas/leachate/ground water/surface water monitoring to inform a standard surrender?)

Surrender of the Old Tip has not previously been discussed with the Agency to our knowledge. The site is still currently producing low but still significant quantities of landfill gas, to the extent that a gas protection barrier is proposed as part of the Old Tip closure works. Groundwater and surface water monitoring is still required to monitor discharges from the site.

If the operator wishes to explore surrender then enhanced pre-application is strongly advised. In the first instance the operator should refer to our guidance **Landfill (EPR 5.02) and other permanent deposits of**

waste - How to surrender your environmental permit in order to determine whether the site is capable of meeting the surrender criteria (this is considered unlikely at present). A Full Surrender application would be required based on the types of waste received at the site and the known leachate and gas source term characteristics of the waste.

further to the queries and confirmations detailed in the earlier email (and detailed below) to clarify the requirements of both the Environment Agency and Ourselves to thereafter implement the Closure Plan for the Old and New Tips:

With specific reference to the Closure Plan, and to enable Urban Springside Limited to fully complete and implement the MMP for the site, we would appreciate separate confirmation from the Environment Agency that the submitted Closure Plan is acceptable.

We are not yet at a stage where we can provide this confirmation. We will aim to confirm this within the next two to three weeks.

Please do let me know if you have any further queries.

Regards

Helen Gregory

Permitting Officer (Waste), Solihull Centre, National Permitting Service
Part of Operations – Regulation, Monitoring and Customer

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Darrell Woodrow

From: Gregory, Helen <Helen.Gregory@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Sent: 05 February 2019 10:57
To: Darrell Woodrow
Subject: RE: Urban Springside - EPR/CB3508MW/V002

Thank you for your emails Darrell. We are currently considering your queries and will get back to you as soon as possible.

Regards

Helen Gregory

Permitting Officer (Waste), Solihull Centre, National Permitting Service
Part of Operations – Regulation, Monitoring and Customer
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From: Darrell Woodrow [mailto:Darrell.Woodrow@urbanregen.co.uk]
Sent: 04 February 2019 15:54
To: Gregory, Helen <Helen.Gregory@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Cc: Andy Walker <Andy.Walker@urbanregen.co.uk>; ben.thomas@smithgrant.co.uk
Subject: FW: Urban Springside - EPR/CB3508MW/V002

Helen,

further to the queries and confirmations detailed in the earlier email (and detailed below) to clarify the requirements of both the Environment Agency and Ourselves to thereafter implement the Closure Plan for the Old and New Tips:

With specific reference to the Closure Plan, and to enable Urban Springside Limited to fully complete and implement the MMP for the site, we would appreciate separate confirmation from the Environment Agency that the submitted Closure Plan is acceptable.

Regards

Darrell J Woodrow

For and on behalf of Urban Regen Ltd.

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From: Darrell Woodrow

Sent: 04 February 2019 12:55

To: Gregory, Helen

Cc: Andy Walker; ben.thomas@smithgrant.co.uk

Subject: RE: Urban Springside - EPR/CB3508MW/V002

Helen,

further to your email below and our subsequent telephone conversation; please can you confirm the sequencing below (for the ultimate closure of the tips):

1. OLD TIP variation to accept materials - application already made and to be issued soon. (Does this variation include for the placement of all necessary materials to form the agreed cover system and acceptance of the Closure Plan or just placement of treated material as stated in the email below?)
2. NEW TIP variation to enable the tip contents to be excavated and treated (for re-use as part of the cover system of the Old Tip) - new application to be made ASAP with supporting documentation.
3. NEW TIP permit to be surrendered (all waste materials will have been removed/treated/relocated onto the Old Tip, the liner removed and the underlying strata tested etc. as detailed in the MS already submitted. Will this be a basic/low risk surrender?)
4. OLD TIP permit to be surrendered - post cover system placement as detailed in the Closure Plan (presumably requires gas/leachate/ground water/surface water monitoring to inform a standard surrender?)

Regards

Darrell J Woodrow

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From: Gregory, Helen [Helen.Gregory@environment-agency.gov.uk]

Sent: 01 February 2019 15:19

To: Darrell Woodrow

Subject: Urban Springside - EPR/CB3508MW/V002

Darrell

I would like to update you on the Urban Springside Old Tip application. I apologise that I have been unable to give you a meaningful update until now. The complexity of the site and the connection with the New Tip has meant that we have had to have extensive discussions with regards to the way forwards for this proposal.

We are aiming to issue the variation to the old tip soon, but the variation will only cover the deposit of treated material for engineering purposes. So please note our following concerns:

- we have concerns regarding the unearthing of landfill source material and treatment activities that are to take place within the auspices of the New Tip permit. So we have to ensure that the unearthing takes place within the correct regulatory framework. As such, a variation is also needed to the New Tip permit to allow waste treatment rather than deposit activities.
This is because the landfill has priority over the deployment, which will reflect the changed risk particularly with respect to amenity issues (noise, dust, odour etc).
- if you submit an application to vary the New Tip permit promptly, we will handle it outside of our normal procedure i.e. fast-track it so that it will not need to wait in turn on our work queue. Should you choose not to submit an application, an Agency-led variation will take place as from a regulatory and legal perspective, varying the new tip permit is vital before any waste is removed. A regulator initiated variation attracts the equivalent fee to that which would have been payable if the variation had been made by yourself.

You may consider using material from another source for the engineering aspects but, until such time as a variation to New Tip is issued you ought not open up the New Tip, else you risk breaching either the New Tip permit, the deployment or both.

I'd be happy to discuss the above with you over the phone, please let me know the best time to contact you next week.

Regards

Helen Gregory

Permitting Officer (Waste), Solihull Centre, National Permitting Service

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