

## NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Silvertop is a limestone quarry located in Cumbria. The quarry is located approximately 0.7 km north east of Hallbankgate village, which is approximately 5 km east of Brampton, Cumbria. The Grid Reference for the site is NY588 605.

The application is for a Bespoke Waste Recovery Permit for the continuation of restoration of the quarry by infilling with inert waste. The application follows preparation of a Waste Recovery Plan for the site (dated January 2019), which was approved by Environment Agency in April 2019 (EA ref EPA/EB3204UZ/A001). The plan and approval letter are attached as Appendix 1 to the application.

The site application has been subject to pre application discussion with the Environment Agency. The Case Ref for the Customer being EPA/DB3603KK/A001 and that of the EA, EAWML402901.

The quarry is owned by Thompsons of Prudhoe, the extraction of limestone within the part of the quarry subject to this application is now complete and the quarry void is to be restored back up to pre-existing surface levels, using inert wastes. The infilling works represent a continuation of site restoration measures, which has been ongoing throughout the life of the wider quarry area, most recently under a standard rules permit.

The site is situated within the carboniferous sequence of limestones, sandstones, coals and shales. There is only a limited superficial cover of soils and clay materials. There are no underlying mine workings. The site is not situated on a major aquifer nor is it within a designated groundwater protection zone. Groundwater levels at the site are below the base of the existing excavation. Future in filling operations will not be below the groundwater table.

There are no Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within 2km of the site. Other designated receptors are listed below, refer also to the ERA, Document No.008.

- The North Pennine Moors Special Protection Area is located 1km south east of the site.
- The North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is 800m from the site boundary
- The World Heritage Site (Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Hadrian's Wall)) is 20m from the north site boundary.

The Environment Agency Screening request did not identify any nature and heritage conservation interests that could be impacted by the proposal.

The existing quarry void and the area to be infilled occupies the western part of the larger site area. It is proposed to import 240,000m<sup>3</sup> of inert waste over a 5 year period. The depth of fill will be of the order of 10 to 12 metres thickness. It is proposed to in fill the void area with inert materials to achieve restoration back up to surface level. The final restoration will be a shallow slope profile down to the south.

The list of wastes to be used for infilling the quarry are detailed in Document 0003 (Operating Techniques). There will be no treatment of wastes on site, with materials (clays and subsoils) arriving by road haulage vehicles and directed via the weighbridge directly to the tipping area. The waste materials are tipped into the quarry void whereupon they are spread and compacted by dozer.

The proposed scheme is a waste recovery operation. Therefore, once the materials are placed they will cease to be a waste and the site will not be a landfill. The site will not be regulated under the requirements of the Landfill Directive (99/31/EC).

The site will accept only inert materials, which by definition will not give rise to environmental pollution and will not generate leachate that will endanger the quality of surface water or groundwater. There will be no requirement for the collection and disposal of leachates at the site.

The key technical documents enclosed as part of this application include the following:

- Environmental Setting and Site Design Report
- Hydrogeological Risk Assessment
- Operating Techniques
- Environmental Risk Assessment
- Dust Management Plan

There are no existing control measures required at the site other than those employed as standard site operations, including:

- waste acceptance procedures, which are undertaken at the weighbridge and the tipping face
- the control of mud and dusts through good site maintenance (spraying and road sweeping)
- periodic checks of groundwater quality through the network of groundwater monitoring boreholes located around the perimeter of the site.

- A noise limit of 45dB is imposed at the nearest receptor (New Garth) located 280m west of the site.