

# Mitchell Hill Quarry Environmental Permit Application

## Non-Technical Summary

Prepared on behalf of Mick George Limited



September 2020

## Document control

Document:	Non-Technical Summary		
Project:	Mitchell Hill Lagoons Permit		
Client:	Mick George Limited		
Job Number:	A116466		
File Origin:	\\SOUTHAMPTON14\Data\Projects\Mick George (G05059)\A116466 (Mitchell Hill Lagoons Permit)\Reports		
Revision:	1 <sup>st</sup> Draft		
Date:	September 2020		
Prepared by: Alice Shaw	Checked by: Michael Jones	Approved By: Michael Jones	
Description of revision:			



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**Drawings**

- CP/FRIM/MH/01 – Location Plan
- MGL/MH/LGNS/01 – Settlement Lagoons Permit Boundary

**Appendices**

- Appendix A – Application Forms
- Appendix B – Waste Management Plan
- Appendix C – EMS Summary

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Application Requirements**

- 1.1.1 This Environmental Permit Application has been prepared by WYG on behalf of the Operator, Mick George Limited (Mick George), in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 as amended.
- 1.1.2 In December 2018, planning permission (reference S/0088/18/CM) was granted by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), to allow the winning and working of sand and gravel at Mitchell Hill Quarry.
- 1.1.3 As part of the works, the site will comprise an aggregate washing plant which will be used to separate the mineral from any oversized material or fines (silt) that is excavated from the site. Any silt laden water that is generated from this process will be discharged into settlement lagoons where the silt will subsequently settle out of the water column and result in clean water which can either be reused by the aggregate washing plant or discharged into the quarry's external drainage system.
- 1.1.4 The silt that is generated from the operation of the aggregate washing plant is considered to be extractive waste and therefore falls under the scope of the Mining Waste Directive. Furthermore, it is proposed that the extractive waste will be deposited for a period greater than three years and therefore the site falls under the scope of a mining waste operation with mining waste facilities. This will require an Environmental Permit to facilitate this operation.

## 2.0 Non-Technical Summary

### 2.1 Environmental Permit Application

- 2.1.1 This Environmental Permit Application is submitted to the Environment Agency (EA) by the Operator, Mick George under the requirements of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations as amended in 2016. It is a requirement of these Regulations that any application is accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary of the submitted documentation.
- 2.1.2 In December 2018, planning permission (reference S/0088/18/CM) was granted by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), to allow the winning and working of sand and gravel at Mitchell Hill Quarry. The scheme relates to approximately 72 hectares (ha) of land which is located approximately 2.7km north east of Cottenham. The site location is shown on Drawing Number CP/FRIM/MH/01.
- 2.1.3 The quarry area comprises two blocks of arable land which is divided by a road (Long Drove) which runs in a west to east direction off Twentypence road. The largest part of the site is Mitchell Hill Farm and extends to approximately 59.4 ha. This part of the site is bounded by Twentypence Road to the west and Long Drove to the north and east. The remainder of the site is Chear Fen which is approximately 13.2 ha of land and is located to the north of Long Drove.
- 2.1.4 Both parts of the site are estimated to contain a total of 1.7 million tonnes of sand and gravel. This is divided as 1.45 million tonnes for Mitchell Hill Farm and 0.25 million tonnes for Chear Fen. It is proposed to progressively work the site from south to north over a twelve year period. This work includes a restoration element whereby Mitchell Hill Farm will be progressively infilled and restored to agricultural land and Chear Fen will be restored to wet grassland for nature conservation after use.
- 2.1.5 As part of the works, the site will comprise an aggregate washing plant which will be used to separate the mineral from any oversized material or fines (silt) that is excavated from the site. Any silt laden water that is generated from this process will be discharged into settlement lagoons (as shown on Drawing Number MGL/MH/LGNS/01) where the silt will subsequently settle out of the water column and result in clean water which can either be reused by the aggregate washing plant or discharged into the quarry's external drainage system.
- 2.1.6 The silt that is generated from the operation of the aggregate washing plant is considered to be extractive waste and therefore falls under the scope of the Mining Waste Directive. Furthermore, it is proposed that the extractive waste will be deposited for a period greater

than three years and therefore the site falls under the scope of a mining waste operation with mining waste facilities. This will require an Environmental Permit to facilitate this operation.

2.1.7 This application is accompanied by all relevant documentation, as required by the aforementioned Regulations, and in the format set out in the Environment Agency guidance documents. In summary, these documents comprise: -

- Application Forms A, B2, B5 and F1;
- Waste Management Plan; and
- Environmental Management System Summary.

2.1.6 The Waste Management Plan (Appendix B) details how Mick George will prevent or reduce waste production at the proposed facility and its harmfulness, promotes backfilling of the excavation void and recovery of waste and ensures the short and long term safe disposal of the extractive waste generated.

2.1.8 In response to Question 3d of the Part B2 application form, a copy of the proposed management system is provided as Appendix C of this application.