











Our Ref.:

DAVID WIGFIELD

**APPLICATION NO.:** 

2003/1480

FULL PLANNING

Date:

13/09/2007

Site:

PARK FARM QUARRY MERCOTE HALL LANE BERKSWELL SOLIHULL

Proposal:

PROPOSED EXTENSION TO SAND AND GRAVEL QUARRY WITH RESTORATION

TO AGRICULTURE AND BROADLEAF WOODLAND USING IMPORTED

RESTORATION MATERIAL.

Applicant:

**RMC** 

Submitted by: RMC AGGREGATES (UK) LTD

AGGREGATES(WESTERN)

LTD

Date Registered:

07/07/2003

Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

#### NOTICE OF DECISION OF LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council as Local Planning Authority hereby **GRANTS PERMISSION SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS** for the above described development proposed in the application numbered as shown above and in the plans and drawings attached thereto (or as revised wholly or in part by those last dated as shown above). A copy of the approved plan(s) is/are attached to this notice.

The development must conform with the terms of, and approved plans accompanying, the permission and must remain in conformity with such terms and plans, subject to and save as may be otherwise required by any of the following conditions:-

(1) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, has been secured.

To protect and record features of archaeological importance.

(2) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until constructional details of the conveyor tunnel beneath Merecote Mill Lane have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

In the interests of highway safety.

(3) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until details of the vehicular crossing of Merecote Mill Lane have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Submitted details shall include where appropriate, highway strengthening, warning signage, gates, provisions to maintain the highway free from mud and other deleterious material.

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In the interests of highway safety.

(4) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until a scheme of protection and maintenance during operations of the boundary hedges and trees to be retained has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Following approval the scheme shall be implemented accordingly for the duration of operations.

In the interest of landscape character and ecology.

(5) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until full details of the field pond and landscaping scheme have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Submitted details shall include, engineering details of the pond and full and detailed landscaping scheme.

To secure satisfactory restoration having regard to landscape character and ecology.

(6) The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until full details of advance screen planting to be undertaken has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Submitted details shall include, locations, species, sizes, densities and maintenance programme.

In the interests of the visual amenity of the area.

(7) The development hereby permitted shall be begun not later than 5 years from the date of this permission.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

(8) Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority the development hereby permitted shall not be carried out other than in accordance with the submitted application ref: 2003/1480, environmental Statement, plans ref. BE 20/1, BE 20/2, BE 20/3, BE 20/4, BE 20/5, BE 20/6, BE 20/7, BE 20/8, BE 20/9, BE 20/10, BE 20/11, BE 20/12, BE 20/13, BE 20/14, BE 20/15, BE 20/16, BE 20/16/ BE 20/17, BE 20/23A, BE 20/24 and conditions set out below.

In order to ensure the proper planning of the site.

(9) No sand and gravel extraction shall take place later than the expiration of the period of 15 years beginning with the date of this permission.

In order to safeguard the Green Belt

(10) No waste disposal operations shall take place later than the expiration of the period of 17 years beginning with the date of this permission.

In order to safeguard the Green Belt.







(11) Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 no buildings, work or equipment shall be erected or installed on site without the prior approval of the local planning authority.

In order to safeguard the amenities of this sensitive Green Belt location.

(12) Within 12 months of the cessation of mineral extraction at Berkswell Quarry and Park Farm Quarry the plant servicing the site shall be removed and a woodland shall be planted in accordance with the previously approved scheme during the next available planting season.

In the interests of securing the proper and expedient restoration of the site.

(13) No trees shall be felled within Coronation Spinney until a detailed method of working, including bat survey and survey for the presence of nesting birds has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Following approval the scheme shall be implemented accordingly.

To minimise the effect of the development on local fauna in general and protected species in particular.

(14) Except with the previous written agreement with the Local planning Authority, no operations authorised or required by this permission (including the maintenance of vehicles and plant) shall be carried out and plant shall not be operated other than during the following times:-

0700 - 1800 hours Monday to Friday

0700 - 1300 hours Saturday

No such operations shall take place on Sundays or on Bank or Public Holidays.

In the interests of the amenities of nearby residents.

(15) Sand and gravel extracted from the site shall not be processed at the site other than in the Plant Area located at Berkswell Quarry.

To minimise the impact of mineral processing on nearby residential properties.

(16) The surge pile of dug aggregate detailed on drawing number BE 20/4 shall not exceed 4 metres in height above existing ground levels.

In the interests of the visual amenity of the area.

(17) Plant and machinery shall not be used at the site unless it is silenced at all times in accordance with the best practicable standards.

In order to safeguard the amenities of the nearby residents.

(18) Except for temporary operations, the equivalent continuous noise level, Laeq, at the noise sensitive premises adjoining the quarry, due to operations in the quarry, shall not exceed a free field level of 52 Laeq. The measurement shall be expressed as an hourly Laeq level and shall have regard to the effects of extraneous noise and shall be corrected for any such effects.







In the interests of protecting the amenities of nearby residents.

(19) For temporary operations, the Laeq level due to work at the nearest point to the noise sensitive properties shall not exceed 70 Laeq, expressed in the same manner as for Condition 18 above. Temporary operations shall not exceed a total of eight weeks in any calendar year for work close to any individual noise sensitive properties.

In order to protect the amenities of nearby residents.

- (20) Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local Planning Authority in writing, no pumps shall be used on the site unless they are either electrically powered or encased in acoustic cladding.
- To safeguard the amenities of nearby residents.
  - (21) Reversing alarms shall not be used unless they are of a bell tone type or are of the directional type or are capable of adjusting their noise level automatically to 5dB(A) above the ambient noise level or are of a type otherwise approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

To safeguard the amenities of nearby residents.

(22) The conveyor shall be mounted on suitable pads to prevent vibration transmission. All belts, support wheels etc. shall be of such material as to minimise noise. All transfer drops shall be kept to the minimum practicable height.

To safeguard the amenities of nearby residents.

- (23) No development shall take place unless all necessary measures to prevent or minimise the raising of dust have been adopted. These measures shall include:
- (i) The use of water bowsers on haul roads and other operational areas of the site;
- (ii) The use of water sprays or other methods of controlling dust from mineral extraction and landfilling operations;
- (iii) Methods for controlling dust during soil and overburden movement, including the suspension of operations during weather conditions likely to give rise to uncontrollable dust generation which would be likely to be carried beyond the boundary of the site.

In order to safeguard the amenities of nearby residents.

(24) There shall be no discharge of any foul or contaminated surface water from the site into either the ground water system or any surface water course.

To prevent pollution of the water environment.

(25) Any facilities for the storage of oils, fuels or chemicals shall be sited on impervious bases and surrounded by impervious bund walls. The volume of the bunded compound should be at least equivalent to the capacity of the tank plus 10%. If there is multiple tankage, the compound should be at least equivalent to the capacity of the largest tank, or the combined capacity of interconnected tanks, plus 10%. All filling points, vents, gauges and sight glasses must be located within the bund. The drainage system of the bund shall be sealed with no discharge to any watercourse, land or underground strata. Associated pipework should be located above ground and protected from







accidental damage. All filling points and tank overflow pipe outlets should be detailed to discharge downwards into the bund.

To prevent pollution of the water environment.

(26) No topsoil, subsoil or overburden shall be removed from the site.

To ensure a satisfactory standard of restoration.

- (27) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Local Plan Authority the full depth of the topsoil and subsoil shall be stripped and stored for use in restoration of the site.
- To ensure a satisfactory standard of restoration.
- (28) No soils shall be stripped or removed except when the full depth of soil to be stripped or otherwise transported is in a suitably dry and friable condition. Conditions shall be sufficiently dry for the top soil to be separated from the subsoil without difficulty ad the ground is suitably dry to allow the passage of heavy goods vehicles and machinery over it without damage to the soils.

In order to ensure proper separation of soils and preserve soil quality.

(29) Top and subsoils shall be stripped and stored separately. Any overlap of soil types within a mound shall be the minimum necessary to form that mound and the interface shall be clearly recorded on a plan.

To ensure the integrity of the soils.

(30) Prior to any part of the site being excavated or traversed by heavy machinery (except for the purpose of stripping that part or storing topsoil on that part) or used for the stacking of subsoil, all available top soil shall be stripped from that part.

To ensure the integrity of the soils.

(31) Topsoil and subsoil mounds shall be constructed with the minimum amount of compaction necessary to ensure stability and shall not be traversed by heavy vehicles or machinery whilst in storage.

To ensure the integrity of the soils.

(32) No mineral shall be exported from the site nor infill materials imported other than via the main access off Cornets End Lane into Berkswell Quarry.

In the interests of highway safety and residential amenity.

(33) The site access shall be maintained in a good state of repair and kept clean and free of mud and other deleterious material at all times.

In the interests of highway safety.







(34) No mud or deleterious material shall be deposited on the public highway. In the event that material is inadvertently deposited it shall be removed immediately.

In the interests of highway safety.

(35) The wheel wash which is installed at the site shall be maintained in a clean and functional condition at all times and shall be used as necessary by all lorries leaving the site.

In the interests of highway safety.

(36) No loaded lorries shall enter or leave the site unless they are sheeted or the load is otherwise adequately secured.

In the interests of highway safety.

(37) Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority the site shall be restored in accordance with drawing number BE 20/23A.

To ensure satisfactory and early restoration of the site.

(38) Nothing other than materials of an inert nature shall be deposited on site, in accordance with a schedule to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority before infilling commences.

To protect ground water quality in the area.

(39) All operations involving soil replacement and treatments shall be carried out when the full volume of soil involved is in a suitable dry and friable condition to minimise soil damage.

To ensure the integrity of soils.

(40) All reasonable precautions shall be taken so as to prevent the mixture of topsoil and subsoils with other material.

To ensure the integrity of soils.

(41) Within 6 months of the completion of sand and gravel extraction all equipment, plant, machinery and site roads not required for restoration shall be removed from the site unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

To ensure satisfactory and early restoration of the site

(42) Three months prior to the replacement of any top soil, final soil cover of the completion of restoration works, which ever is the sooner, a detailed aftercare scheme for that area shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval. The scheme shall specify the steps to be taken and the five year period in which they are to be taken. Following approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority the scheme shall be implemented accordingly.

To ensure satisfactory restoration and aftercare of the site.







The decision to grant planning permission has been taken having regard to the policies and proposals in the Solihull UDP2006 set out below, and to all relevant material considerations and the particular circumstances summarised below.

T1 - An integrated and sustainable transport strategy

ENV8 - Ancient monuments and archaeological sites

ENV10 - Important nature conservation sites

ENV11 - Conservation of biodiversity

ENV12 - River Blythe catchment area

ENV13 - Wildlife species

**ENV14 - Trees and Woodlands** 

ENV15 - Air pollution

ENV17 - Water protection

ENV18 - Noise

C1 - Green Belt

C2 - Control of development in the Green Belt

C4 - Agricultural land

WM7 - Landfill

M3 - Supply of aggregates

M4 - Mineral extraction, restoration and after-care

JM1 - Developer obligations

In reaching this decision the Council is mindful of the particular circumstances of the application, namely:

The proposed development is not expected to result in any undue detrimental impact upon the amenities of nearby residents, visual amenity of the area, openness of the Green Belt and nature conservation value of adjacent designated sites.

NOTE: A planning agreement/obligation under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 relates to this site.

Signed

G. PALMER Dip.T.P., M.R.T.P.I.

HEAD OF DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT



H D Ricketts Limited Our ref: EPR/BB3333RH/V004

Berkswell Quarry

Cornets End Lane Date: 21/01/2022

Meriden

Warwickshire

CV7 7LH

Dear Alice Shaw,

**Environmental Permitting – Recovery or Disposal Operation** 

Pre-application Reference: EPR/BB3333RH/V004

Proposed Operator: H.D. Ricketts Limited Regulated facility: Berkswell Quarry

Site Address: Cornets End Lane, Meriden, Warwickshire, CV7 7LH

You have submitted an amendment to your approved waste recovery plan for permit reference EPR/BB3333RH, to include additional areas within your permit, and to include two EWC codes.

We have now fully considered your submission and we would like to advise you that:

We agree with your assessment that your activity is a recovery operation. This advice is based on the information you have provided in relation to waste types, amounts and nature of proposal including any proposed landform. If you change any of these between now and when you submit an application form, this advice may no longer apply. Please also note that following submission of an application, additional assessment will take place (for example, further assessment of the proposed waste types based on the sensitivity of the site location) and therefore agreement that an operation is a recovery activity does not guarantee that a permit will be granted or a variation issued.

For the sake of clarity, the following documents are considered to form the approved waste recovery plan;

- Berskwell Quarry, Waste Recovery Plan, November 2021
- BER/B031730/PER/02 Proposed Extension Areas
- 21-12 Recovery Permit Information Cross Sections
- 21-12 Level Difference to Restoration Levels
- 21-12 Recovery Permit Information Existing Situation August 2021
- 21-12 Recovery Permit Information Cross Section Locations
- 21-12 Berks Vols Tonnages
- BE 10 13 B Restoration Scheme

Customer services line: 03708 506 506 Email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk www.environment-agency.gov.uk If you have any questions please phone me or email  $\frac{mark.oxford@environment-agency.gov.uk}{}$ 

Yours sincerely

Mark Oxford

**Permitting Officer** 

Cont/d.. 2



# **Berkswell Quarry**

# Waste Recovery Plan

H.D Ricketts Limited

November 2021

Prepared on Behalf of Tetra Tech Environment Planning Transport Limited.

Registered in England number: 03050297



# **Document Control**

Document:	Waste Recovery Plan				
Project:	Berkswell Variation 2020				
Client:	H.D Ricketts Limited				
Job Number:	784-B031730				
File Origin:	\\southampton52\Data\Projects\H.D.Ricketts(C05081)\B031730 (Berkswell Variation 2020)\Reports				
Revision:	-	Status:	Final (Submission to the Environment Agency)		
Date:	Date: November 2021				
Prepared by: Alice Shaw		Checked by: Andrew Bowker		Approved by: Andrew Bowker	
Description of	revision:				
Revision:		Status:			
Date:					
Prepared by:		Checked by:		Approved By:	
Description of revision:					
Revision:		Status:			
Date:					
Prepared by:		Checked by:		Approved By:	
Description of revision:					



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
2.0	SITE DESCRIPTION	3
3.0	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	5
4.0	JUSTIFICATION FOR WASTE RECOVERY	8
5.0	CONCLUSION1	3
LIOT	OF TABLES	

#### LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Permitted Waste Types	. 5
Fable 2: Proposed Waste Types	. 6

### **DRAWINGS**

BER/B031730/PER/01 - Site Location and Environmental Permit Boundary

BE 20/23A – Restoration Masterplan

P2/928/13/2 - Illustrative Restoration Masterplan

BE\_100 - Berkswell Plan and Sections

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix A - Planning Permission 2003/1480 Decision Notice



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 REPORT CONTEXT

- 1.1.1 Tetra Tech have been commissioned to prepare and submit a revised Waste Recovery Plan (WRP) on behalf of H.D Ricketts Limited (Ricketts) for Berkswell Quarry, Cornets End Lane, Meriden, Warwickshire.
- 1.1.2 Berkswell Quarry is currently regulated under a bespoke Environmental Permit (EPR/KB3203MT) to allow the importation of inert waste to infill the quarry void following mineral extraction and restore the site to create agricultural land and broadleaf woodland. The original permit was transferred from CEMEX to Ricketts in May 2021. As part of the original Environmental Permit application, a WRP was submitted to the Environment Agency (EA) to demonstrate that the restoration activities at Berkswell Quarry meets the recovery test criteria and therefore should be considered as a recovery operation. The WRP was subsequently approved by the EA when the Environmental Permit was issued and furthermore when the site area was extended to the south east.
- 1.1.3 Sand and gravel extraction at Berkswell Quarry has been ongoing since the late 1990s. The original planning permission between Cornets End Lane and Mercote Hall Lane in the northern part of the permit area was granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in 1999 (planning reference W10999/10). The restoration scheme for this area is detailed in Drawing Number P2/928/13/2.
- 1.1.4 In July 2003, a planning application (reference 2003/1480) was submitted Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to extend mineral extraction activities in an area to the south of Mercote Hall Lane and restore the site back to agriculture and broadleaf woodland as detailed in the restoration scheme (Drawing Number BE 20/23A). Planning permission was subsequently granted in September 2007 and a copy of the planning permission is provided in Appendix A. For the purposes of this WRP, this area will be referred to as the southern section.
- 1.1.5 Ricketts seek to incorporate the remaining site area within the southern section of the site which is required to be restored by planning permission 2003/1480 into the Environmental Permit. In addition, Rickets seek to incorporate an area of land to the north west of the northern section of the site at approximate National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 22420 80934. This area is required to be restored by planning permission W10999/10.
- 1.1.6 In order to facilitate the restoration of the extension areas, Ricketts seek to vary the Environmental Permit to extend the permit boundary into the extension areas, located to the south east of the southern section of



the site and the north west of the northern section. The proposed site boundary is shown on Drawing Number BER/B031730/PER/01. Subsequently, Ricketts seek to increase the quantity of waste permitted from 1,576,500 tonnes to 3,376,500 tonnes which will accommodate the extension areas, an increase of 1,800,000 tonnes (1 million m³). In addition, Ricketts seek to add the following waste codes to the environmental permit:-

- 19 12 09 Minerals (for example sand, stones); and
- 19 12 12 Other wastes (including mixtures of materials) from mechanical treatment of wastes other than those mentioned in 19 12 11.
- 1.1.7 According to the EA's Regulatory Guidance on Waste Recovery Plans and Deposit for Recovery Permits (published 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021), if an operator needs to make a change to their waste recovery, they must send a revised version of the plan to the EA for reassessment. The guidance provides the following examples as changes that would require a reassessment of the WRP:-
  - Accept a different type of waste
  - Change the volume of waste to be deposited
  - Change where or how the waste is to be placed
- 1.1.8 In light of the above, this revised WRP has been prepared to address the proposed changes to the recovery operation.



## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

#### 2.1 SITE SETTING

- 2.1.1 Berkswell Quarry is located approximately 4km from the village of Balsall in West Midlands and is centred at approximate NGR SP 22909 80758. The proposed extension areas area located to the south east and north west of the existing permitted area as shown on Drawing Number BER/B031730/PER/01.
- 2.1.2 Access to the site is achieved from the access road off Cornets End Lane located to the north of the current site. The immediate surroundings of the proposed extension area largely comprise agricultural land with an area of deciduous woodland (Coronation Spinney) adjacent to the south boundary and woodland located approximately 210m south (Sixteen Acre Wood) of the proposed extension area.
- 2.1.3 With reference to the Multi Agency's Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website, there are two statutory designated sites located within 2km of the site. The closest of which is the Berkswell Marsh, located adjacent to the southern boundary of the proposed extension area. The marsh is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The second site is the River Blythe which is located approximately 1km west of the site and is also designated as a SSSI.
- 2.1.4 With reference to the Environment Agency's mapping website 'What's in my Backyard', there is a historic landfill (Meriden Quarry Landfill) located approximately 20m north of the current permit area. The registered site operator is Tilling Construction Services Limited with the site receiving waste between January 1962 and July 1992.

#### 2.1 PLANNING HISTORY

- 2.1.5 As noted in Section 1, sand and gravel extraction at Berkswell Quarry has been ongoing since the late 1990s. The original planning permission between Cornets End Lane and Mercote Hall Lane in the northern part of the permit area (planning reference W10999/10) was granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in 1999.
- 2.1.6 In July 2003, a planning application (reference 2003/1480) was submitted Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to extend mineral extraction activities in an area to the south of Mercote Hall Lane and restore the site back to agriculture and broadleaf woodland as detailed in the restoration scheme (Drawing Number BE 20/23A).



- 2.1.7 In addition to the above, Solihull's Metropolitan Borough Council's planning register indicates that the following applications have been submitted:
  - Application PL/2001/00320/FULL for the determination of conditions for mineral site under environment act 1995 - review of permission granted under ref. APP/5108/A/79/8037 and 92/0023' -A letter was issued in October 2016 for a postponement of the review date to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022;
  - Application PL/2013/00070/FULM for the 'construction of a concrete pad and associated operational development and change of use of land to carry out wood chipping operations – permission was granted on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

#### 2.2 PERMITTING CONTEXT

- 2.2.1 Berkswell Quarry is currently regulated under a bespoke Environmental Permit (EPR/ KB3203MT) which allows the importation of inert waste to infill quarry void generated from mineral extraction and restore the site to create agricultural land and woodland.
- 2.2.2 In order to facilitate the restoration of the quarry's extension areas, as approved under Planning Permissions 2003/1480 and W10999/10, Ricketts seek to vary the current Environmental Permit to extend the permit boundary in to include the extension areas, located to the south east and north west of the site. The location of the extension areas is shown on Drawing Number BER/B031730/PER/01.
- 2.2.3 In order to achieve the restoration profiles provided on the approved restoration schemes (BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2) a volume of 1 million m³ of additional material will be required in order to achieve the proposed restoration profiles. When using a bulk density conversion factor of 1.8 tonnes/m³ this equates to approximately 1,800,000 tonnes.
- 2.2.4 As such, Ricketts seek to increase the quantity of waste permitted by 1,800,000 tonnes. This is in addition to the 1,576,500 tonnes which is already permitted and would enable a total of 3,376,500 tonnes to be accepted at the site for recovery purposes.



## 3.0 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

#### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

3.1.1 The proposed development comprises the importation of inert waste to infill the quarry void at the extended quarry area as approved under planning permissions 2003/1480 and W10999/10. The site will be restored back to agricultural land and broadleaf woodland in accordance with the restoration schemes (Drawing Number 20/23A) as approved under the planning permission.

#### 3.2 MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS

#### **Volumes**

- 3.2.1 In order to achieve the restoration profiles provided on the approved restoration scheme (BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2) a volume of 1,000,000m³ of additional material will be required in order to achieve the proposed restoration profiles (as shown on Drawing Number BE\_100). When using a bulk density conversion factor of 1.8 tonnes/m³ this equates to approximately 1,800,000 tonnes.
- 3.2.2 As such, Ricketts seeks to increase the quantity of waste permitted by 1,800,000 tonnes. This is in addition to the 1,576,500 tonnes which is already permitted and would enable a total of 3,376,500 tonnes to be accepted at the site for recovery purposes.

#### 3.3 WASTE TYPES

- 3.3.1 According to Table S2.1 of the Environmental Permit, the site is currently permitted to accept the waste types listed in Table 1 below.
- 3.3.2 It is proposed that the site will continue to use the waste types that are permitted under the current Environmental Permit (EPR/ KB3203MT) for the proposed restoration works. These waste types are identified by the EA as suitable for use in the restoration of mineral workings and as general fill material (EA's Check if your waste is suitable for deposit for recovery' guidance, 21st April 2021).

**Table 1: Permitted Waste Types** 

EWC Code	Description		
17	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTES (INCLUDING EXCAVATED SOIL FROM CONTAMINATED SITES)		
17 01	Concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics		
17 01 01	Concrete		
17 01 02	Bricks		



17 01 03	Tiles and ceramics		
17 01 07	Mixtures of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics other than those mentioned in 17 01 06		
17 05	Soil (including excavated soil from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil		
17 05 04	Soil and stones including chalk other than those mentioned in 17 05 03 (excluding topsoil and peat)		
20	MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONA WASTES) INCLUDING SEPARATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS		
20 02	Garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)		
20 02 02	Soil and stones (excluding topsoil and peat)		

3.3.3 In addition to the waste codes that are listed in Table 1, Ricketts are also seeking to add the following waste codes to the environmental permit which are also as suitable for use in the restoration of mineral workings and as general fill material.

**Table 2: Proposed Waste Types** 

EWC Code	Description	Restriction			
19	WASTES FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, OFF-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND THE PREPARATION OF WATER INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL USE				
19 12	Wastes from the mechanical treatment of waste (for example sorting, crushing,				
	Compacting, pelletising) not otherwise specified				
19 12 09	Minerals (such as sand and stones) from the treatment of waste aggregates that are otherwise naturally occurring minerals	Restricted to wastes from the treatment of waste aggregates that are otherwise naturally occurring materials.			
		Does not include fines from treatment of any non-hazardous waste or gypsum from recovered plasterboard.			
19 12 12	Crushed bricks, tiles, concrete and ceramics, including mixtures of materials	Restricted to crushed bricks, tiles, concrete and ceramics only.  Metal from reinforced concrete must			
		Does not include fines from treatment of any non-hazardous waste or gypsum from recovered plasterboard.			

3.3.4 These waste codes will solely derive from the aggregate recycling facility that's located to the north of Berkswell Quarry at NGR SP 22920 80890. The aggregate recycling facility is regulated under a separate environmental permit (reference EPR/WE3588AA and EAWML 120088) which allows the treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregates in accordance with the standard rules set SR2010 No12. This permit is currently in the name of CEMEX UK Materials Limited, however a permit transfer application was submitted to the EA in October 2021 to transfer this permit to H.D Ricketts Limited.



- 3.3.5 Although the aggregate recycling facility is permitted to accept a variety of waste types (as specified under standard rules SR2010 No12), Ricketts will only accept specific wastes that are classed as inert in accordance with the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) and Council Decision (2003/33/EC) of 19 December 2002 'establishing criteria and procedures for the acceptance of waste landfills'. This will include waste concrete, tiles and ceramics that are characterised under the following waste codes:-
  - 17 01 01 Concrete;
  - 17 01 02 Bricks;
  - 17 01 03 Tiles and Ceramics; and
  - 17 01 07 Mixtures of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics and other than those mentioned in 17 01 06.
- 3.3.6 In addition to the above, Ricketts will also accept soil and stones that are characterised under the following waste codes:-
  - 17 05 04 Soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03; and
  - 20 02 02 Soil and stones.
- 3.3.7 In accordance with the Council Decision 2003/33/EC, no topsoil or peat will be accepted under the above waste codes and no soil and stones will be accepted from contaminated sites.
- 3.3.8 Based on the nature of the wastes that will be accepted and treated at the aggregate recycling facility, it's considered that the resultant 19 12 wastes will meet the descriptions detailed in Table 2.



## 4.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR WASTE RECOVERY

#### 4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The EA's Regulatory Guidance on Waste Recovery Plans and Deposit for Recovery Permits sets out the Environment Agency's approach to determining whether an activity involving the permanent deposit of waste on land is waste recovery or waste disposal.

#### 4.2 THE RECOVERY TEST

- 4.2.1 In order to reach a formal determination as to whether the restoration works constitute a recovery operation, the Environment Agency will apply the tests set out in the guidance which is based upon a legal test derived from the Waste Framework Directive and European case law, and are set out below:-
  - Evidence to show that if you couldn't use waste you would do work to get the same outcome using non-waste;
  - It is suitable for the intended purpose;
  - Won't cause pollution;
  - Purpose of the work;
  - Quantity of Waste Used; and
  - Meeting Quality Standards.
- 4.2.2 These questions are answered in the following sections to support the EA's consideration of this Waste Recovery Plan.

#### 4.3 EVIDENCE OF SUBSTITUTION FOR NON-WASTE MATERIALS

4.3.1 The EA's Waste Recovery Plans and Permit Guidance states that:-

"Depositing waste is only a recovery activity if you have shown that you could and would have carried out the works using non-waste material. Your waste recovery plan must include evidence to support this. The Environment Agency refer to this as 'substitution'.

4.3.2 There are three main ways that applicants can demonstrate that a waste material will be substituting a nonwaste material. These are as follows:-



- Financial gain by using non-waste materials;
- · Funding to use non-waste; and
- Obligations to do work.
- 4.3.3 As detailed above, the northern section of Berkswell Quarry was granted planning permission in 1999 (reference W10999/10) to allow mineral extraction with subsequent restoration in accordance with Drawing Number P2/928/13/2.
- 4.3.4 In terms of the southern section planning permission (2003/1480) was granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to extend mineral extraction activities at Berkswell Quarry with subsequent restoration using imported restoration material. According to Condition 37 of the planning permission, Ricketts are required to restore the site in accordance with the approved restoration scheme (BE20/23A).
- 4.3.5 Further to the issue of the planning permission, extraction activities have commenced on site with the mineral having been extracted in the extension area to facilitate the construction of silt lagoons. This has therefore triggered the commencement of the planning permission and all conditions which are contained within this permission are to be adhered to. As such, this demonstrates that there is an obligation to restore the site to ensure compliance with condition 37 of the extant planning permission.
- 4.3.6 Furthermore, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council have a Local Enforcement Plan (published July 2016) which detail's the council's policy for the enforcement of planning control within the borough. As specified in the plan, development which has not been carried out in accordance with the approved planning permission is classed as a breach of planning control and therefore would be subject to enforcement action from the council.
- 4.3.7 In light of the above, the implementation of the planning permissions demonstrates that there is a statutory obligation to restore the site. Failure to restore the site would constitute a breach of planning control as defined in Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Local Enforcement Plan and therefore would result in enforcement action.

#### 4.4 IS THE RECOVERED WASTE MATERIAL SUITABLE FOR ITS INTENDED USE?

4.4.1 Ricketts currently operate a bespoke environmental permit (EPR/KB3203MT) at Berkswell Quarry. The current environmental permit allows a maximum quantity of 1,576,500 tonnes of waste to be accepted. In order to facilitate the restoration of the extension areas, an additional 1,000,000 m³ of material is required.



When using a bulk conversion factor of 1.8 tonnes/m³ this equates to approximately 1,800,000 tonnes. As such, Ricketts seek to vary the environmental permit to increase the maximum quantity of waste accepted at the site to 3,376,500 tonnes.

- 4.4.2 It is the intention of Ricketts to use the same waste types that are permitted under EPR/ KB3203MT (Table1) as well as the waste codes that are proposed in Table 2. The proposed waste types are inert and considered suitable for general fill and construction materials.
- 4.4.3 Many of the proposed waste types are physically similar to the likely primary aggregate non-waste materials to be used e.g. soils, sand, stone, gravel etc., and can be considered direct replacements. They are capable of being sufficiently compacted so that they can form a stable landform for the medium and long term and will undergo consolidation rapidly to reduce the risk of short term instability.
- 4.4.4 It is considered that the proposed wastes are suitable for use in creating the proposed landform.

#### 4.5 WILL THE MATERIAL CAUSE POLLUTION?

- 4.5.1 As mentioned above, materials to be imported to site will be Landfill Directive Compliant inert wastes and their acceptance will be strictly monitored through the requirements of the environmental permit.
- 4.5.2 Strict waste acceptance, including careful screening of materials entering the site, will be undertaken on site as part of the restoration works and will be the same waste acceptance techniques as agreed under Environmental Permit EPR/ KB3203MT. These procedures will continue to be employed on site to ensure that no prohibited materials which are likely to cause a risk to the environment will be accepted at Berkswell Quarry. The subsequent variation application will include a Hydrogeological Risk Assessment which will demonstrate that there will be no further risk to groundwater from the additional inert materials.
- 4.5.3 It is considered that in following the strict criteria detailed above, the material is unlikely to cause pollution.

#### 4.6 PURPOSE OF THE USE

- 4.6.1 The purpose of the scheme is to infill the quarry void generated from mineral extraction activities and restore the site back to agricultural land and broadleaf woodland in accordance with the approved restoration schemes (Drawing Numbers BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2).
- 4.7 IS THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF WASTE BEING USED TO ACHIEVE THE INTENDED BENEFIT?



- 4.7.1 The proposed landform has been carefully designed to take into account the physical and technical requirements for the restoration (e.g. land stability, drainage, etc.) and also the inclusion of landscape features that would fit in with the surrounding landscape character.
- 4.7.2 An additional volume of 1,000,000 m³ of imported material is required to achieve the profiles provided under the approved restoration schemes (Drawing Numbers BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2).
- 4.7.3 Throughout the restoration of the site, Ricketts have sought to re-incorporate as much of the unwanted silt materials and any overburden back into the restoration landform. Consideration of the volume of this material which can be used has been given in the calculation of the of the additional volume of material that needs to be imported to facilitate the works.
- 4.7.4 In determining whether the minimum volumes of waste are being used, consideration has been given to alternative schemes. In the first instance, the area could be left with no materials imported. However, this would not comply with the profiles provided under the restoration schemes (Drawing Numbers BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2) as approved under planning permissions 2003/1480 and W10999/10. This would result in a breach of planning control as defined in Solihull's Local Enforcement Plan and therefore would result in enforcement action.
- 4.7.5 Alternatively, the scheme could proceed with a lower volume of waste as required. However, this would also result in non-compliance with the approved plans and therefore, would result in enforcement action from the planning authority.

#### 4.8 MEETING QUALITY STANDARDS

- 4.8.1 The proposed development has been carefully and professionally designed, taking into account any physical constraints, such as land stability, land condition and drainage.
- 4.8.2 The fill materials will be placed in accordance with the Specification for Highways Series 600 for general fill materials.
- 4.8.3 All works, including construction and landscaping, will be carried out in accordance with current industry best practices and the Environmental Permit. Efforts will be made to minimise disruption to local amenity and measures will be taken to cause as little nuisance as possible (e.g. dust emissions or noise) to local receptors.
- 4.8.4 Therefore, the restoration of the extension area at Berkswell Quarry, in accordance with the approved restoration plans (Drawing Number BE 20/23A and P2/928/13/2), is considered to be a recovery operation.





## 5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.0.1 Berkswell Quarry is currently regulated under a bespoke Environmental Permit (EPR/KB3203MT) to allow the importation of inert waste to infill the quarry void following mineral extraction and restore the site to create agricultural land and woodland. As part of the original Environmental Permit application, a WRP was submitted to the EA to demonstrate that the restoration activities at Berkswell Quarry meets the recovery test criteria and therefore should be considered as a recovery operation. The WRP was subsequently approved by the EA when the Environmental Permit was issued.
- 5.0.2 Sand and gravel extraction at Berkswell Quarry has been ongoing since the late 1990s. The original planning permission between Cornets End Lane and Mercote Hall Lane in the northern part of the permit area was granted by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in 1999 (planning reference W10999/10). The restoration scheme for this area is detailed in Drawing Number P2/928/13/2
- 5.0.3 In July 2003, a planning application (reference 2003/1480) was submitted Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to extend mineral extraction activities at the quarry and restore the site back to agriculture and broadleaf woodland. Planning permission was subsequently granted in September 2007 and a copy of the planning permission is provided in Appendix A.
- 5.0.4 In order to facilitate the restoration of the extension area, Ricketts seek to vary the Environmental Permit to extend the permit boundary into the extension areas, located to the south east and north west of the site. In addition, Ricketts also seek to increase the quantity of waste permitted from 1,576,500 tonnes to 3,376,500 tonnes.
- 5.0.5 This Waste Recovery Plan provides information relating to the benefits of the scheme and confirms that the minimum amount of waste is being used to confer these benefits. In addition, the information provided above shows clearly that the scheme meets the test as detailed within the EA's Waste Recovery Plans and Deposit for Recovery Permits Guidance and that it should be considered as a recovery activity in line with EU Case Law.



## **DRAWINGS**

BER/B031730/PER/01 - Site Location and Environmental Permit Boundary

BE 20/23A - Restoration Masterplan

P2/928/13/2 – Illustrative Restoration Masterplan

BE\_100 - Berkswell Plan and Sections



## **APPENDICES**



## APPENDIX A

Planning Permission 2003/1480 Decision Notice