

Berkswell Quarry

Environmental Permit Variation Application

Non-Technical Summary

H.D Ricketts Limited

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Prepared on Behalf of Tetra Tech Environment Planning Transport Limited.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
2.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION	2

DRAWINGS

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

BER/B031730/PER/02 – Proposed Extension Areas

P2/928/12/2 – Restoration Plan

BE 20/23A – Restoration Masterplan

BE 10/13B – Restoration Plan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1.1.1 This document has been prepared by Tetra Tech on behalf of the Operator, H.D Ricketts Limited (H.D Ricketts) to support an Environmental Permit Variation Application for Berkswell Quarry (the site), Cornets End Lane, Meriden, Warwickshire, CV7 7LH.
- 1.1.2 H.D Ricketts currently hold a bespoke environmental permit (reference EPR/KB3203MT) to allow the importation of inert waste to infill the quarry void following mineral extraction at the site and restore the site to create agricultural land and broadleaf woodland.
- 1.1.3 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 Drawings P2/928/13/2 and BE 10/13B.
- 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.
- 1.1.5 H.D Ricketts seek to vary the Environmental Permit to incorporate two areas of land that are covered under the planning permissions mentioned above. The first area of land is located to the northwest of the site at approximate National Grid Reference (NGR) SP 22420 80934 and the second area is located to the south east at approximate NGR SP 23115 80186. The proposed site boundary is shown on Drawing Number BER/B031730/PER/01. Subsequently, H.D 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.
- 1.1.6 In addition, H.D Ricketts are seeking to add the following waste codes to the environmental permit for the site:-
- 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 This application is accompanied by all relevant documentation, as required by the aforementioned Regulations, and in the format set out in the Environment Agency (EA) guidance documents. Details of the supporting documents are provided in the following section.

2.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1 APPLICATION FORMS

- 2.1.1 Forms Part A, C2, C4 and F1 have been included as part of this application. These forms are provided as Appendix A of this application.

2.2 TYPE OF VARIATION

Part C2, Question 2a and Part F1, Table 1

- 2.2.1 According to the EA's 'Environmental Permitting Charges Guidance' (updated April 2022), changing the list of wastes to an environmental permit is identified as a minor variation. However, the guidance also indicates that if an operator seeks to increase the permitted area of a bespoke permit, a normal variation will need to be applied for.
- 2.2.2 Although the guidance indicates that each change would require different variations if they were proposed individually, it's considered that both changes would constitute a normal variation.
- 2.2.3 Due to information received in a Not Duly Made noticed by the EA, it has been determined that the proposed variation constitutes a Substantial Variation.

2.3 TECHNICAL ABILITY

Part C2, Question 3b

- 2.3.1 According to the guidance notes that accompany the Part C2 application form, evidence of technical ability is only required if the proposal involves the addition of a waste installations or a waste operation to a permit that has not previously had them.
- 2.3.2 Given that the proposal is to add two non-hazardous waste codes and extend the site boundary, it is considered that the required level of technical competence will not be affected as a result of this variation. As such, it is proposed that H.D Ricketts will continue to operate in accordance with their current arrangements which are approved by the EA.

- 2.3.3 Furthermore, according to the guidance notes that accompany the Part C4 application form, applicants are not required to resend any information if it's not affected by the proposed changes. As such, evidence of technical competence for the site has not been provided as part of this application.

2.4 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Part C2, Question 3d

- 2.4.1 H.D Ricketts have an Environmental Management System (EMS) that satisfies the requirements of the EA's 'Develop a Management System: Environmental Permits' guidance.
- 2.4.2 According to the guidance notes provided in the Part C2 application form, details regarding the operator's ability, including the management system should only be provided if the variation is to add a waste installation or waste operation to a permit that has not previously had them.
- 2.4.3 Given that H.D Ricketts do not propose to make any changes to the operational characteristics of the site, it's considered that details of the site's EMS are not required to support this application.

2.5 SITE PLAN

Part C2, Question 5a

- 2.5.1 In accordance with the guidance notes provided in Part C2 application form, a site plan is only required if the proposal involves any changes to the permitted area. As such, site plans (Drawing Number BER/B031730/PER/01 and BER/B031730/PER/02) have been prepared which identify the proposed extension areas and the proposed site boundary.

2.6 SITE CONDITION REPORT

Part C2, Question 6

- 2.6.1 Although the guidance notes in the Part C2 application form note that a Site Condition Report (SCR) is required for variations that involve extra land to be included within the permit, the EA's 'Site Condition Report Guidance and Templates' a Site Condition Report indicates that a SCR is not required for areas that have permanent deposits of waste. The extension areas that are proposed in this application comprise working areas of the wider quarry site and therefore will be subject to infilling with inert waste following the completion of mineral extraction. As such, it is considered that a SCR is not required to support this application.

2.7 ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Part C2, Question 6

- 2.7.1 An Environmental Risk Assessment (Appendix C) has been prepared to consider the potential impact of the proposed changes. The Environmental Risk Assessment (ERA) is concerned with the nature and extent of any linkages between the source of any environmental hazards and the receptors which may be susceptible to harm; such linkages being termed pathways. Where potential for harm is identified, the assessment identifies the management techniques which will be utilised to mitigate such impacts.
- 2.7.2 In addition to the ERA, Gas Screening Report (Appendix G) has been prepared to determine the risks presented by the placement of materials on surrounding receptors.

2.8 WASTE OPERATIONS SUBJECT TO VARIATION

- 2.8.1 Prior to this application, a Waste Recovery Plan (Appendix J) was submitted to the EA for assessment as part of their pre-application service (reference EPR/BB3333RH/V004). On 21st January 2022, the EA issued a pre-application advice letter to confirm that they agree that the proposed changes constitute a recovery activity. A copy of this advice letter is provided as part of Appendix J.

2.9 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Part C4, Table 3b

- 2.9.1 In light of the proposed changes, H.D Ricketts understand that the proposed activity may result in concerns with regards to increased dust and noise emissions.
- 2.9.2 A Dust Management Plan (DMP) has been prepared to address the potential risk of dust from the proposed changes and describes the measures that will be in place to prevent the occurrence of dust at the site. This document is provided as Appendix E of this Environmental Permit Application.

2.10 MONITORING

Part C4, Question 4 and Appendix 2, Question 6

- 2.10.1 An Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan (Appendix G) has been prepared to detail the monitoring requirements for the site as well as the extension areas.

2.11 SPECIFIC QUESTIONS FOR INERT WASTE LANDFILL AND DEPOSIT FOR RECOVERY OPERATIONS

Part C4, Appendix 2

Environmental Setting and Site Design Report (Question 1)

- 2.11.1 According to the EA's 'Landfill Operators: Environmental Permits' guidance an Environmental Setting and Site Design (ESSD) report is required for an application that comprises an inert landfill or a deposit for recovery activity. As such an ESSD (Appendix D) has been prepared to describe the regulated facility in relation to the environmental setting, identifying the source terms, pathways and receptors that will be used as the basis for the risk assessments provided.

Waste Acceptance Procedures (Question 2)

- 2.11.2 Details regarding the waste acceptance procedures for the proposed waste codes are detailed in the Operating Techniques (Appendix B).

Hydrogeological Risk Assessment (Question 3)

- 2.11.3 A Hydrogeological Risk Assessment (HRA) has been prepared to provide the geological and hydrogeological setting of the proposed extension areas allowing the development of a conceptual model to determine the risk that the facility will pose to underlying groundwater. A copy of the HRA is provided as Appendix F of the Environmental Permit Application.

Outline Engineering Plan (Question 4)

- 2.11.4 Details regarding the engineering of the extension area are provided in the ESSD (Appendix D of the Environmental Permit Application).

Stability Risk Assessment (Question 5)

- 2.11.5 A Stability Risk Assessment (Appendix H) has been prepared documents the structural and physical ability of the site.

Monitoring Plan (Question 6)

- 2.11.6 As noted in Section 2.10, an Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan (Appendix G) has been prepared to detail the monitoring requirements for the site as well as the extension areas.

2.12 APPLICATION FEES

Part F1, Question 1

- 2.12.1 According to 'The Environment Agency (Environmental Permitting) (England) Charging Scheme' guidance, if an application comprises the addition of an activity that is not already authorised by the permit, the charge is the permit application charge applicable to that activity.
- 2.12.2 As such it's considered that the application fee will comprise the following: -

Table 1: Summary of Application Fees

Item	Fee
Deposit for Waste for Recovery (Activity Reference 1.17.9) Substantial Variation	£8,286
Habitats Assessment (Reference 1.19.2)	£779
Dust Management Plan	£1,241
Total	£10,306

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