



NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The Barrow Mill was established in 1967 on a green-field site and is part of the Sowerby Woods Industrial Estate on the north-western edge of Barrow-in-Furness. The process conducted at Barrow Mill involves the production of soft tissue products from recycled fibre and pulp of different types and proportions to suit each particular product specification. No mechanical or chemical pulping processes are used on the site.

Prior to the proposed modifications the plant manufactured tissue products and had a capacity of approximately 125,000 Air Dried Tonnes per annum combined for the three tissue machines – TM1, TM3 and TM4. Kimberly-Clark currently employs approximately 380 people in a variety of different roles at the site.

The wider proposed changes consist of a series of modifications inside the existing boundary of the site to upgrade some of the manufacturing processes, including the replacement and installation of new equipment and facilities, as well as potentially the construction of new buildings in a number of different locations.

The proposals were the subject of a planning application submitted to Barrow Borough Council in September 2019 and planning permission with conditions was granted in December 2019.

As a result of the proposed modifications which include the installation of a new Tissue Machine (TM5) to replace the existing Tissue Machine (TM1) in the same location, the decommissioning and removal of existing Tissue Machine TM4, modifications to the existing converting line 5 and the installation of a new converting line (Line 7) there is to be a change to the permitted activities undertaken at the site – currently the operation of 3 machines is identified and listed in the permit as Activity A2 (Section 6.1 Part A(1)(b)). There will also be changes to the permitted point source emissions to air associated with the operation of the new and removed tissue machines. These modifications to the currently permitted facilities necessitate that an application for a variation to the existing permit is submitted to the Environment Agency (EA) for a Substantial variation. Note: The categorisation of the application as Substantial was discussed and agreed with the EA during the enhanced pre-application discussions (07/01/20).

Due to the proposed modifications and the replacement of TM1 and TM4 with TM5, which is a larger machine than either TM1 or TM4, (the capacity of TM5 is nominally 70,000 tpa) overall the production capacity of the site will not be significantly reduced. Annual throughput is dependent upon the product mix. The current stated nominal throughput for the facility is 125,000 Air Dried Tonnes (ADT) per annum and this is estimated to reduce to approximately 120,000 ADT per annum after the modifications have been implemented (70,000 tpa TM5 & 50,000 tpa TM3).

A brief summary of the scope of works to be undertaken is given below:



Modifications to the existing Converter Line 5 to improve processing flexibility – proposed operation April 2020. The key issue is that this will require the installation of a new dust scrubber unit and therefore a new emission point (A19) will be required.

Installation of a new Converter Line – Line 7 – to improve processing flexibility – proposed operation October 2020. The key issue is that this will require the installation of a new dust scrubber unit and therefore a new emission point (A20) will be required.

Removal of the existing Tissue machine TM4 and associated equipment. 4 existing air emission point sources will be removed from site. The existing pulper system will be removed.

Removal of the existing Tissue machine TM1 and associated equipment. 4 existing air emission point sources will be removed from site. The existing pulper system will be removed.

Installation of a new state of the art Tissue Machine – TM5 – and associated equipment. TM5 has enhanced heat recovery and dust capture systems (compared to TM1 and TM4) – proposed operation November 2020. Three new point source emissions to air (A21-23) will be required. Two new pulper systems will be installed to feed TM5.

Some other new facilities for the storage of pallets, reels and a new loading canopy may also be constructed but these will have no significant environmental impact.

The existing currently disused firewater lagoon area is to be refurbished by infilling the lagoon and the removal of the existing transformer, pumps etc. located in the area.

As a result of the above chemicals usage, water usage, energy usage and wastewater generation on-site will change. Reductions are anticipated.

Some new chemicals may be introduced to site whilst others will no longer be used on-site.

Fugitive dust emissions in operational areas will be improved by the removal of TM1 and TM4 and the installation of the new TM5.

Due to the proposed changes in air emission point sources a new AQ impact assessment has been prepared.

Odour is not currently an issue for the site and is not envisaged as being an issue following the modifications.

Noise is not currently a significant issue for the site and is not envisaged as being an issue following the modifications - silencers are to be fitted in all stacks and the majority of the equipment will be located within new or existing buildings. A new noise impact assessment has been prepared.

The existing wastewater treatment plant will continue to operate within the current permitted limits. Some reduction in volume and load may be achieved due to the



proposed modifications but at this stage cannot be fully quantified. The impact will be monitored.

There is an over-arching permitting regime requirement to maintain and develop knowledge on the site condition beneath the operational site (Site Condition Reporting – SCR).

All decommissioning and demolition work will be undertaken in accordance with written procedures/plans and records will be maintained of the work undertaken, the wastes removed etc.

Knowledge obtained from the on-going decommissioning, demolition and proposed construction activities that is relevant to the Site Condition Reporting requirement is being incorporated into the SCR process. An updated SCR is being prepared.

The requirements of the relevant BAT-Conclusions document for the paper industry have previously been addressed by KC. The proposals have been re-assessed against the relevant BAT Conclusions.