

INTRODUCTION

Starling Environmental Limited (SEL) has been commissioned by A1 Services (Manchester) Limited (the operator) to prepare an environmental permit variation application for the waste transfer station located at Overman Way, Agecroft Commerce Park, Swinton, Salford, Greater Manchester, M27 8BQ.

The site is regulated under environmental permit EPR/JB3701XB which is a bespoke waste transfer station permit. The permit allows acceptance of a wide range of non-hazardous waste and a limited range of hazardous waste. The core business of A1 Services is dealing with construction, demolition and excavation waste to produce recycled aggregate products.

The proposed changes are:

- Add a soil washing activity for production of recycled aggregates.
- Increase of the annual throughput
- Extend the site boundary to include an area of land to the west previously used for storage of building products,
- Extend the site boundary to the south into the area previously occupied by Chartrange (Quarry Products) Limited

Site Details and Surrounding Area

The site is situated off Overman Way, within Agecroft Commerce Park, Swinton, Manchester. The site location is shown on Drawing No 109/01. The national grid reference for the centre of the site is NGR SD 80489 00866.

Agecroft Commerce Park extends to the north and west. To the east is the Manchester to Bolton railway line and beyond that the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal. Further industrial properties are located beyond the canal around Langley Road and the Langley Business Park. These include the Tarmac concrete batching and asphalt plant. Further west are some residential properties and the River Irwell. To the south and south-west of the site is Brindle Heath woodland, which is classed as a site of biological importance (SBI) by Salford City Council. Beyond the woodland to the west and south are the suburbs of Brindle Heath and Irlams o' the Heights.

Layout

Access to the site is from Overman Way via a set of palisade security gates. The site is bound by palisade fencing on all sides. The gates are locked outside working hours and the site is covered by 24 hour CCTV. The site comprises a rectangular shaped parcel of industrial land covering approximately 3.7 hectares. The northern area houses an office building, garage/workshop, weighbridge and truck parking. The southern portion of the site is used for waste processing and storage. All waste operations are conducted in the yard. The site is surfaced with a mixture of concrete and hardstanding, The concrete surfaced areas drain via interceptor to sewer.

The permit boundary includes a strip of land to the north of the site entrance which has not been used for waste activities.

Current Activities

The permit allows a wide range of non-hazardous waste types for acceptance, but only construction, demolition and excavation waste is currently accepted and processed. Waste is imported to site where it undergoes treatment to produce recycled aggregates. Treatment consists of manual sorting and separation, crushing, screening and blending. Hardcore is crushed and then either sold as 6F5 or screened to produce graded stone products. The dry processing area is currently located around the centre of the site. Waste is deposited and treated on the hardstanding surface.

PROPOSED CHANGES

Expansion of the Site Boundary to the South

Permit EPR/EB3903LV was originally part of the A1 Services permit and was transferred to Chartrange Quarry Products Limited in 2017. Chartrange entered into a lease for the area of land and carried out dry crushing and screening of inert and excavation waste. The lease period has now ended and Chartrange have vacated the site and have no right of access.

Although they have no right of access, Chartrange Quarry Products Limited have not engaged with the operator to transfer the permit back to A1 Services. Following pre-application advice in June 2024, it was agreed with the EA that the existing A1 Services permit could be expanded to include the southern area again on the basis that Chartrange had no access to site.

This area of land will be used to house a permanent large scale wash plant which is described below.

Expansion of the Site Boundary to the West

An additional area of land is to be incorporated into the permit boundary. This area, shown on the site plan, is currently delineated by its two separate uses. The northern extent is used for HGV parking and is surfaced with hardstanding. The extent of this area is marked by a concrete block wall, to the south of which is a concreted yard and building used for storage of building products. This area is concrete surfaced and drains to an underground water storage tank to provide water for site activities such as dust suppression. The tank can be bypassed when full and water drain into the main drainage system and off site to sewer.

In the short term, the concreted yard will house a temporary wash plant. The wash plant will be in use until the permanent wash plant is operational, after which the area will be used for crushing, dry screening and storage of incoming waste.

Soil Washing

Proposed waste types for soil washing are listed in Table 1 below. This list mirrors the waste types allowed under the WRAP Quality Protocol for Aggregates from inert waste. The predominant waste types will be concrete, bricks, soil and stones from construction, demolition and excavation.

Waste Code	Description
01 04 08	Waste gravel and crushed rocks other than those mentioned in 01 04 07 <i>May include excavation from mineral workings</i>
01 04 09	Waste sand and clay <i>Must not include contaminated sand</i>
10 11 03	Waste glass based fibrous material <i>Waste without organic binders only</i>
15 01 07	Glass packaging
17 01 01	Concrete <i>Must not include concrete slurry</i>
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 02 02	Clean glass <i>Must not include fibreglass or glass fibre</i>
17 03 02	Bituminous mixtures other than those mentioned in 17 03 01 <i>Only bituminous mixtures from the repair and refurbishment of the asphalt layers of roads and other paved areas (excluding bituminous mixtures containing coal tar and classified as waste code 17 03 01)</i> <i>Must not include coal tar or tarred products</i> <i>Must not include freshly mixed bituminous mixtures</i>
17 05 04	Soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03 <i>Must not contain any contaminated soil or stone from contaminated sites</i>
17 05 06	Dredging spoil other than those mentioned in 17 05 05 <i>Only inert aggregate from dredgings</i> <i>Must not contain contaminated dredgings</i> <i>Must not contain fines</i>
17 05 08	Track ballast, soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 07 <i>Must not contain soil and stones from contaminated sites</i>
17 09 04	Mixed construction and demolition waste other than those mentioned in 17 09 01, 17 09 02 and 17 09 03 <i>mixed construction and demolition waste, limited to that generated from utilities trenching, consisting of sub base aggregates, and containing only material that would be described as 17 01 01, 17 03 02 and 17 05 04</i>
19 12 05	Glass <i>Does not include glass from cathode ray tubes</i>
19 12 09	Minerals (eg sand, stones) <i>Must not contain contaminated concrete, bricks, tiles, sand, stone or gypsum from recovered plasterboard</i>
20 01 02	Glass <i>Must not include fibreglass</i>
20 02 02	Garden and park waste (including cemetery waste) – soil and stones <i>Must not contain contaminated stones from garden and parks waste</i>

Table 1: Waste Types for Washing

Initially, a temporary plant will be used to wash soil/stone mixtures to produce graded stone products. Temporary plant is proposed as there is a long lead time for ordering, installing and commissioning the permanent plant. Once the permanent plant is in place the temporary plant will be off-hired and removed from site.

Both plants will operate a closed loop system, there will be no discharge of water. Water is lost as moisture in the filtercake and the system will be topped up with clean water. The water source will be harvested surface water and mains water.

The permanent wash plant will have the capacity to process up to 2,500 tonnes per day, which over a 5-day week and 48 weeks of the year, equates to 600,000 tonnes. In addition some material will be dry screened and not processed through the wash plant so an additional 150,000 tonnes is requested to accommodate this, which provides the overall maximum throughput of 750,000 tonnes per year.

Increase in Throughput

It is requested that the annual throughput is increased from to 750,000 tonnes per annum. The permanent wash plant will have the capacity to process up to 2,500 tonnes per day, which over a 5 day week and 48 weeks of the year, equates to 600,000 tonnes. In addition, some material will be dry screened and not processed through the wash plant, so an additional 150,000 tonnes is requested to accommodate this.

The current permit has a throughput of 235,000 tonnes per year, as does the southern area under the Chartrange permit, so there is already an established throughput of 470,000 tonnes across the wider landholding. The increase to 750,000 tonnes will mean an overall increase of 280,000 tonnes per year to allow maximisation of the wash plant capability.

Supporting Documents

The following documents have been submitted with the application:

Environmental Risk Assessment – identifies receptors and assesses the risks from the proposed changes and proposes mitigation to reduce risks where required. Report No 109/1B.

Dust Management Plan – this is a standard requirement for this activity as the site is within 500 m of a sensitive receptor. Report No 109/2B.

Site Condition Report – for the expansion of the permit boundary to the west. Report No 109/3B.

Revised Environmental Management System – including additional controls identified through the risk assessment. Also updated to include a climate change risk assessment. Version 7, November 2023.