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RGE Recycling Ltd
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RGE Recycling Ltd

Royal Eagle Close

Non-technical

Summary



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Non-Technical Summary

RGE Recycling Ltd operates a metals recycling yard at Royal Eagle Close, Rochester, ME2 4NF. The site sits on the Medway City Estate, approximately National Grid Reference TQ 75341 69619. The application seeks a bespoke environmental permit to store (R13) and treat (R4) metal wastes, with transfer-only of UPVC. Treatment includes sorting, shearing, baling and related size-reduction to prepare metals for recovery.

The yard is in an established industrial/commercial area with industrial neighbours on all sides and close proximity to the River Medway/Whitewall Creek. The nearest surface water is Whitewall Creek, 84 m to the north-north-east; the Medway is 215 m east. The nearest residential areas lie approximately 650–800m away (e.g., Castle Street/Chatham). The site is fully hard-surfaced and accessed from Royal Eagle Close.

The bespoke application has been structured around the standard rules permit SR2015 No 14 for the annual tonnage requirements of 75,000 tonnes. This is due to the sites proximity of a SSSI and the addition of EWC code 17 09 04 Mixed construction and demolition wastes other than those mentioned in 17 09 01, 17 09 02 and 17 09 03. The addition of the new EWC will allow for the acceptance of UPVC window frames.

The SSSI is Tower Hill to Cockham Woods situated within 500m of the site, the site is both biological and geological interest. It contains woodland representative of that on Tertiary deposits in Kent and supports a rich insect fauna.

Waste Operations

The operation proposes an annual tonnage of 75,000 tonnes per annum, under the following activities:

R13: Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on to the site where it is produced).

R4: recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds.

There shall be a limit to the above activities proposed:

- Treatment consisting only of sorting, separation, grading, shearing, shredding, bailing, granulating and cutting of ferrous metals or alloys and non ferrous metals into different components.
- The maximum quantity of non hazardous waste subject to a shredding operation shall no exceed 75 tonnes per day.

- There shall be no treatment of catalytic converters including decanning, other than not exceed 75 tonnes per day.
- There shall be no treatment of lead acid batteries.
- The maximum quantity of hazardous waste stored at the site does not exceed 50 tonnes at any one time.
- Wastes shall be stored for no longer than 3 years prior to recovery.

The EWC codes that will be accepted onto site are seen below.

EWC	DESCRIPTION
12 01 01	Ferrous metal filings and turnings
12 01 03	Non-ferrous metal filings and turnings
15 01 04	Metallic packaging
16 01 17	Ferrous metal
16 01 18	Non-ferrous metal
16 01 21*	Hazardous components other than those mentioned in 16 01 07 to 16 01 13 and 16 01 14
16 01 22	Components not otherwise specified
16 06 01*	Lead batteries
17 04 01	Copper, bronze and brass
17 04 02	Aluminium
17 04 03	Lead
17 04 04	Zinc
17 04 05	Iron and steel
17 04 06	Tin
17 04 11	Cables other than those mentioned in 17 04 10
17 09 04	Mixed construction and demolition other than those mentioned in 17 09 01, 17 09 02 and 17 09 03
19 01 02	Ferrous material removed from bottom ash
19 10 01	Iron and steel waste
19 10 02	Non-ferrous waste
19 12 03	Non-ferrous metal
19 12 04	Plastic and rubber
20 01 33*	Batteries and accumulators included in 16 06 01, 16 06 02 or 16 06 03 and unsorted batteries and accumulators containing these batteries
20 01 40	Metals

How operations are controlled

All receiving, treatment and storage of waste on site will take place on impermeable surfacing with sealed drainage.

In a major incident, the interceptor can be closed to create dynamic containment.

Core activities are manual/mechanical sorting, shearing and baling; UPVC is stored and transferred off-site without processing.

Opening hours are 07:00–17:00 Mon–Fri and 08:00–13:00 Sat.

Environmental setting and key receptors

Surface waters: Whitewall Creek (84 m NNE) and River Medway (213 m E). The adjacent WFD transitional water body “Medway” was last reported as Overall: Moderate, Chemical: Fail, Ecological: Moderate.

Groundwater/geology: Site underlain by estuarine alluvium over Principal Aquifer Chalk.

People and places: Surrounding land is predominantly industrial; nearest homes ~694–800 m; biodiversity features associated with the SSSI and Medway estuary lie >500 m away.

Wind and climate: Prevailing winds trend SW→NE; background PM10 is low (9 µg/m³) and the site is outside a PM10 AQMA.

Emissions and how we minimise them

Dust/particulates: The Emissions Management Plan identifies receptors within 1 km and sets proportionate controls (e.g., housekeeping, damping/suppression as needed, speed/height limits, quick turnaround of stock, shearing/baling good practice). The low background PM10 and industrial setting reduce the risk of significant off-site impact.

Odour, litter, pests, mud: Not expected to be significant for metal streams; routine housekeeping, hardstanding, and site rules prevent issues.

Noise: Managed through hours of operation, maintained plant and considerate working; receptors are mainly industrial.

Water: No point-source discharges to controlled waters are permitted. Surface water is captured via sealed drainage; in emergencies, the system can be sealed for on-site containment.

Further measures are set out within the EMS and FPP.

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