Harlestone Inert Landfill

784-B043007

Closure and Aftercare Plan

Environmental Permit Application

Mick George Limited

May 2024

Document prepared on behalf of Tetra Tech Limited. Registered in England number: 01959704

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 REPORT CONTEXT

1.1.1 This document has been prepared by Tetra Tech on behalf of the operator, Mick George Limited (Mick George) as part of an environmental permit application for their facility at Harlestone, Harlestone Road Northampton NN7 4EW.

1.1.2 To facilitate the restoration of the site as proposed under a planning application, Mick George are seeking to gain a bespoke waste disposal permit for the permanent deposit of inert waste at the site. This activity would facilitate the infilling and restoration of the quarry void that will be created following mineral extraction activities at the site. The restoration comprise of will reinstating the agricultural land to its previous status and aim to increase the natural value of the local environment.

1.1.3 The aim of this report is to ensure that the site can be maintained to avoid any pollution risk up to the point of permit surrender, when the site no longer poses a pollution risk.

1.1.4 This plan will be updated on a regular basis to take account of revisions to working practices and results of any monitoring undertaken.

2.0 CLOSURE AND AFTERCARE PLAN

2.1 The purpose of the closure and aftercare plan is to ensure that the regulated facility can be maintained to avoid any pollution risk up to the point of the Environment Agency (EA) accepting the surrender of the Permit when the site is no longer likely to cause a hazard to the environment. This will include the monitoring requirements of the aftercare phase and the necessary measures required to fulfil landfill completion.

2.2 The aftercare period extends from the time of final restoration to when pollution control measures are no longer required. At this site, this will include groundwater and landfill gas monitoring installations. The aftercare stage will include sampling and monitoring of groundwater and landfill gas in accordance with a reviewed Environmental Monitoring Plan.

Restoration

2.3 As detailed on the restoration plan (Drawing Number H40/2/22/04) the site will be restored to agricultural land with natural landscaping to improve the local environment by enhancing the local green infrastructure assets and provide a positive biodiversity gain.

2.4 The final landform for the north-western part of the site will comprise broadleaf woodland to the north of the site, seasonal wetland to the south of the site and the central portion of the site will consist of grassland. The hedgerow to the south, east and west of the site will be retained.

2.5 The south-eastern part of the site comprises primarily of grassland with a stream to the north alongside the retained hedgerow and the existing trees to the east.

2.6 Restoration shall occur in three phases, commencing at the east of the site and following through to the west of the site.

2.7 A volume of 530,000m^3 of imported material (or 848,000 tonnes using a conversion factor of 1.6 m^3/tonne) is required to restore the site and it is proposed that up to 250,000 tonnes of material would be brought to the site each year. It is estimated that at this rate it will take approximately 4 years to complete restoration.

Aftercare

2.8 Aftercare will be undertaken for a period of 10 years in accordance with an aftercare scheme that will be submitted to Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) for approval.

2.9 Monitoring will be undertaken during the years 3, 6, and 9 of the aftercare period to determine the establishment of species and their relative abundance.

2.10 It is the intention of Mick George to establish seasonal wetland to the south of the site aftercare will allow for natural progression to occur gradually, and should it be necessary the use of hand control or herbicide application will be employed.

2.11 Regular inspections of the wooded areas will occur throughout the year to check on security of shelters and tree guards; any noxious weeds present treated through herbicide application or cutting to prevent seeding.

2.12 An annual site meeting between Mick George and NCC will be undertaken to review the performance of the aftercare scheme for that year to ensure that the programme of aftercare arrangements is employed. The meeting shall also provide an opportunity for the Northampton County Council to agree alterations to the aftercare works for the following 12 months and these shall thereafter be implemented. Furthermore, annual review meeting will be held with the Mineral Planning Authority, during which the previous year's operations will be discussed and the proposals for the following year presented for approval.

2.13 Any amendments to the aftercare steps will be agreed in writing between Mick George and NCC.

3.0 CONCLUSION

3.0.1 The Closure and Aftercare Plan demonstrates that the proposed activity at the site can be managed and maintained to avoid any pollution risk up to the point of surrender, when the site will no longer pose a pollution risk.

DRAWINGS

H40/2/22/04 – Restoration Plan