

## **NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

Veolia, part of the Veolia Environmental Group is the UK's leading waste management company. Veolia has been operating in the UK since 1990 and employs around 12,000 people across the wide spectrum of the environmental services that are central to the expanding low carbon economy. Conscious of environmental and social responsibilities, Veolia promote the use of sustainable waste treatment methods to recover valuable raw materials. Veolia has invested over £1 billion in the UK's recycling and waste infrastructure and is renowned for integrated waste management solutions.

Veolia's core business in the UK is in the provision of integrated waste management and environmental services to local communities and industry with over a third of the UK's population benefit from Veolia's services which it provides through more than one hundred Local Authorities across the UK, including long term contracts in Merseyside, Sheffield, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Leeds, Hampshire, East Sussex/ Brighton and Hove, West Berkshire, London Borough of Southwark and Hertfordshire. It provides a range of services including refuse collection, recycling, composting, waste treatment and street cleansing on behalf of local authorities and businesses. VES operates a network of recycling, composting, transfer and other treatment facilities along with a network of energy recovery facilities and strategic landfills to support the services it provides to both its public and private sector clients.

Veolia has extensive experience of assessing, developing and operating a wide range of robust waste treatment technologies which it provides as a bespoke solution to meet the needs and requirements of its clients. This includes delivering bespoke treatments to manage certain wastes produced by industrial customers.

Veolia ES (UK) Limited trading as Veolia is seeking to expand its decommissioning business and add to its existing facility at Great Yarmouth (Permit reference: EPR/BB3808TU – to be referenced as the '**Existing**' site in this document to add clarification). This new area is to be known as the '**Inner**' site as it is more in-land. The Inner site seeks to replicate the activities at Veolia's existing operation on South Beach Parade. This is in response to the increase in predicted waste tonnages that are expected in future.

Veolia propose to use the Inner site for the receipt of marine vessels and structures (including platforms, jackets, rigs, wind turbines and similar units) for decommissioning, dismantling, disposal

and recycling. In addition to the dismantling of onshore structures such as wind turbines and ELVs i.e. train carriages.

The intention is that each item to be dismantled will be treated as an individual project, such that all methods and risk assessments are carried out on a case by case basis.

Before arrival at the quayside, an inventory of the materials contained within the structure is obtained to allow the production of a waste management plan for that structure.

Once landed on the quayside area of the site, the item will be inspected to ensure that it is consistent with the waste inventory, and that it is safe for the proposed decommissioning. From here it will be transported the short distance via road to the new site.

Where appropriate, hazardous substances such as oils, fluorescent tubes, capacitors and mercury switches are removed. These will be repackaged (if necessary) and stored on site in the dedicated Hazardous Waste Storage Area/Wash Bay, which is appropriately bunded, prior to being transferred to a suitably licensed facility.

Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) will be processed at the Inner site. This will require a variation to the existing Radioactive Substances (RSR) Permit (EPR/EB3595DZ) held at the Existing site.

Once depolluted, any reusable items (such as working pumps) are removed. Then the item is stripped of any other readily accessible materials (like doors, fixtures and fittings), the item is then ready for dismantling.

In general, Veolia primarily use method BS6187. This method weakens the structure and then it is pulled at a pre-determined point to bring about collapse. This allows a controlled destruction of the structure (primarily the Jackets), without having to use explosives. Other techniques employed on the Topsides include high-reach excavators with specialist shearing equipment and removing small items using hot and cold cutting techniques and lifting operations.

Once collapsed, the components are cut into easy to handle lengths and then segregated into different materials to await collection for recovery.

Dedicated bunded areas will be used for storage of the structures, which may have the potential to cause leaks and spillages. Surface water run-off from the sealed drainage areas will be

managed by a surface water management system and discharged to sewer. At the time of writing a sewer connection application has been submitted to Anglian Water (ref: ALD-0068671) and a Trade Effluent Application to Business Stream. Details of the surface water management system have yet to be finalised. An indicative layout of the drainage system is set out in plan ref: GYDF-S2-PLAN-01 in Appendix B of the recent permit application. Plan ref: 333792-1 (also in Appendix B) from Anglian Water sets out the location of the combined sewer on South Denes Road which would be the location of effluent drainage route to sewer.

Surface water collected from the Hazardous Waste Storage Area will be tankered off site to an appropriately permitted waste management facility.

It is anticipated the new area could handle up to 150,000 tonnes of structures for decommissioning per year. This would increase the total waste input under the permit to 300,000 tonnes per year. There are a significant amount of platforms in the Southern North Sea which are reaching the end of their lives, and these will need to be decommissioned in an environmentally safe manner.

Veolia currently has two other decommissioning facilities for oil and gas structures. These are at Greenhead Base and Dales Voe on the Shetland Islands. The geographic spread of these sites means that Veolia can cover much of the North Sea area.

At these sites, in other decommissioning projects which have been undertaken we have managed to obtain a reuse, recycling and recovery rate of greater than 90% of the weight of the structures being dismantled.