

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Higginshaw Lane, Oldham, OL1 3LA

Recycling PVC Ltd

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Document History:

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1.1	18/12/2023	IA	-	Draft for client
1.2	27/02/2024	IA	-	Document changes
1.3	15/03/2024	IA	-	Application copy
1.4	01/09/2025	IA	-	Application resubmission

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Non-Technical Summary accompanies the above application submitted by Recycling PVC Ltd are applying for a bespoke environmental permit for the sorting, storage and treatment of non-hazardous waste (comprising predominantly uPVC plastic waste). Any residual waste will be sent to an appropriately permitted landfill site or suitably permitted facility.
- 1.2 Drawing No. 2531-002-03 which accompanies this application shows the current operations taking place on site and the indicative location of the recycling operations.
- 1.3 **NOTE** – It is important to note that a bespoke permit application was originally submitted on behalf of the Operator by Oaktree Environmental Ltd on the 15 March 2024 and held in the queue for Duly Making for 14 months. A request for further information was sent by the EA on the 23 July 2025, and a response was submitted on behalf of the Operator on the 6 August 2025 and subsequently returned due to a minor technicality relating to noise which we believe should have been discussed further as part of determination as has been the case for many other applications in the past. It is understood, based on previous discussions with the EA, that all other aspects of the application with regards to drainage, discharges and water treatment were sufficient for Duly Making, the information has now been included within this application package, it is therefore considered that the application should be expedited to determination.

2 Application proposals

2.1 Recycling PVC Ltd will hold and operate an Environmental Permit (EP) for the acceptance, storage and treatment of plastics.

2.2 The throughput of the site will be limited to <25,000 tonnes per annum.

2.3 The Environmental Permit is required for the storage (keeping) prior to removal, and treatment (all types of handling/processing) of waste. Waste treatment processes to be carried out on site may include the following:

- Compaction
- Manual & Mechanical sorting, separation, screening & optical sorting by using appropriate mechanical plant and equipment (including density separation)
- Crushing by using appropriate mechanical plant and equipment
- Drying & heating by mechanical plant and equipment
- Washing, cleaning & separation by mechanical plant and equipment
- Shredding by mechanical plant and equipment
- Granulation by mechanical plant and equipment
- Baling and Debalancing by mechanical plant and equipment
- Wrapping by mechanical plant and equipment
- Bagging by hand and equipment
- Loading & unloading of waste & material

2.4 Specified waste management operations include waste disposal and waste recovery operations listed Annex I and II of The Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC and are listed in summary below:

- R3 - Recycling or reclamation of organic substances.
- R4 - Recycling or reclamation of metals and metal compounds.
- R5 - Recycling or reclamation of other inorganic materials.
- R12 - Exchange of wastes for submission to any operations numbered R1 to R11

- R13 - Storage of waste pending recovery.
- D9 - Physico-chemical treatment not specified elsewhere in Annex IIA which results in final compounds or mixtures which are discarded by means of any of the operations numbered D1 to D8 and D10 to D12
- D14 - Repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations numbered D1 to 13
- D15 - Storage of waste pending disposal.

2.5 **Water treatment process**

2.5.1 The water treatment plant is situated on a sealed impermeable concrete pad; all water (yard water and water within the treatment plant) from the site will be subject to water treatment prior to discharge. The water will be continuously recirculated into the processing line, the treated water tank benefits from an overflow pipe, once the tank reaches approximately 90% capacity the overflow water will be discharged to sewer under a Trade Effluent Consent at Grid Reference: SD 92965 06560.

2.5.2 Details of the water treatment process are detailed below:

- a) Water is drawn off the processing line at the flotation tank separator and will pass through a designated sieve. The yard water will pass through its own designated sieve. The sieves will be utilised to remove any fines from the water. Both sieves will connect to a combined process and yard water 'Dirty Water Tank'.
- b) Water will then pass through a lamellar separator which will further remove any fines from the water before entering the weir tanks which will also remove fines from the water. The sieves, lamellar and weir tanks act as a 3 stage fines separator.
- c) The water will then be transferred to the clean/treated water tank where it will be recirculated back into the flotation tank separator which forms part of the plastics processing line.
- d) The treated and clean water tank benefits from an overflow discharge pipe, once the tank reaches approximately 90% capacity, overflow water will pass through a flow meter and be discharged to a United Utilities controlled sewer asset under a Trade Effluent Consent.

- 2.5.3 The above process will be repeated to ensure continuous recirculation of treated water. Process flows for the water treatment process are detailed in Appendix I.
- 2.5.4 Treated water will be sampled at Grid Reference SD 92908 06570 and is expected to be tested for the following determinants:
- Antimony (dissolved), arsenic (dissolved), Barium (dissolved), cadmium (dissolved), chromium (dissolved), copper (dissolved), lead (dissolved), mercury (dissolved), molybdenum (dissolved) nickel (dissolved), selenium (dissolved), zinc (dissolved), turbidity, pH, ammoniacal nitrogen, chloride, sulphate, phosphate, suspended solids, total dissolved solids, chemical oxygen demand and total organic carbon.
- 2.5.5 Thresholds and determinants will be controlled by United Utilities (UU), discussions will be held with UU as part of the Trade Effluent Consent application to determine the above, therefore, determinants to be sampled may be subject to change.

2.6 **Discharge to sewer**

- 2.6.1 As previously detailed, the site discharges to a United Utilities controlled sewer asset and will be controlled under a Trade Effluent Discharge Consent which is still being determined, it is understood that this discharges to combined sewer, however this matter is still being discussed with United Utilities.
- 2.6.2 It is also worth noting that all water is treated at the site prior to any discharge to ensure that it is suitable for discharge. Any water from the treatment process which is not suitable for reuse in the process will be pumped directly from the treated & clean water tank and tankered off site to ensure that it is not discharged to sewer.
- 2.6.3 The treated water tank benefits from an overflow discharge pipe, once the tank reaches approximately 90% capacity, the overflow will be discharged to a UU controlled sewer asset, it is therefore anticipated that any discharges to sewer will be infrequent.

3 Proposed EWC codes

3.1 The following tables below demonstrates each activity and the proposed EWC codes to be accepted as part of the application.

Table 3.1 – Proposed EWC Codes for Plastic Recycling facility

Plastic Recycling Facility	
Maximum Quantities	The total quantity of waste accepted shall be less than 25,000 tonnes a year
Waste Code	Description
02	Wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing, food preparation and processing
02 01	wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing
02 01 04	waste plastics (except packaging)
07	Wastes from organic chemical processes
07 02	wastes from the MFSU of plastics, synthetic rubber and man-made fibres
07 02 13	waste plastic
12	Wastes from shaping and physical and mechanical surface treatment of metals and plastics
12 01	wastes from shaping and physical and mechanical surface treatment of metals and plastics
12 01 05	plastics shavings and turnings
15	Waste packaging; absorbents, wiping cloths, filter materials and protective clothing not otherwise specified
15 01	packaging (including separately collected municipal packaging waste)
15 01 02	plastic packaging
17	Construction and demolition wastes (including excavated soil from contaminated sites)
17 02	wood, glass and plastic
17 02 03	plastic
17 09	Other construction and demolition wastes
17 09 04	mixed construction and demolition wastes other than those mentioned in 17 09 01, 17 09 02 and 17 09 03 – (consisting of UPVC window frames and doors only)
19	Wastes from waste management facilities, off-site waste water treatment plants and preparation of water intended for human consumption/industrial use
19 12	wastes from the mechanical treatment of waste (for example sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising etc.)
19 12 04	plastic and rubber
19 12 12	shredded window frames and doors from other waste management facilities
20	Municipal wastes (household waste and similar commercial, industrial and institutional wastes)
20 01	separately collected fractions (except 15 01)
20 01 39	plastics
20 03	other municipal wastes
20 03 01	co-mingled recyclable wastes (consisting of UPVC window frames and doors only)

4 Documentation and fees

- 4.1 The previous submission and discussion with the EA have confirmed that this application falls under a Physical Treatment facility for non-hazardous waste activity. Oaktree Environmental Ltd have calculated the fee from the Environment Agency charging scheme as demonstrated below:

Table 4.1 – Base Application Fee Table

Charging Scheme Ref	EPR Charging Scheme Ref & Description	Type of application (Ref)	Fee
1.16.12	Physical treatment of non-hazardous waste	New Bespoke permit	£7,930

- 4.2 In addition to the above, as the site is accepting and storing combustible waste, the operator will be submitting additional documentation, and the following table sets out the additional charges.

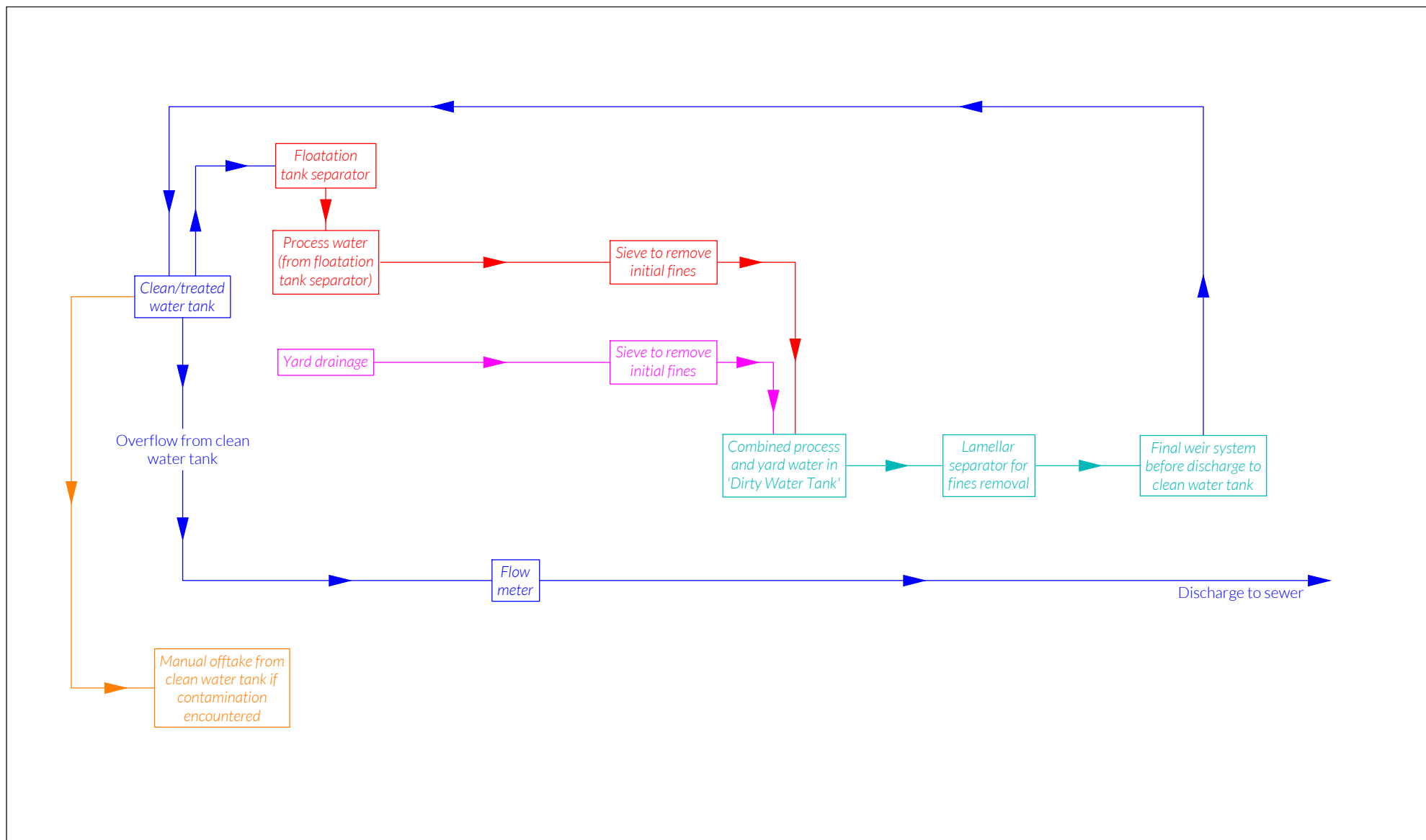
Table 4.2 – Additional Application Fees Table - Charges for plans and assessments

General	Consideration	Document & Ref	Fee
Environmental Management System	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-A	N/A
Fire Prevention Plan	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-B	£1,241
Non-Technical Summary	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-C	N/A
Environmental Risk Assessment	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-D	N/A
Site Condition Report	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-E	N/A
Dust Management Plan	Required due to permitted activities	2531-002-H	£1,241
Noise Impact Assessment and Noise & Vibration Management Plan	Required due to permitted activities	2531- 003-B002	£1,246
		TOTAL	£3,733

- 4.3 Based on the above, the total fee payable to the EA on submission will be **£11,658.**

Appendix I

Process Flow



TITLE: WATER TREATMENT PROCESS	PROJECT/SITE: 376 Higginshaw Lane, Oldham OL1 3LA	KEY: Process water Yard water Combined process and yard water Clean water Manual offtake	NOTES Drawing for indication only. Reproduced with the permission of the controller of H.M.S.O. © Crown Copyright and database rights 2025. OS AS0000813445. This drawing is copyright and property of Oaktree Environmental Ltd.							
CLIENT: Recycling PVC Ltd	SCALE @ A4: Not to scale CLIENT NO: 2531 JOB NO: 002									
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