

**An application to vary environmental permit number EPR/ YP3138XB for the waste treatment and recovery facility operated by Augean South Limited**

**Non-technical summary**

- 1.1** Augean South Limited (Augean) operate a waste treatment and recovery facility under Environmental Permit number EPR/YP3138XB (the permit) at East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) (the site) for the treatment of hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste by soil washing, waste stabilisation and bioremediation (the waste treatment facility). The site is centred approximately at National Grid Reference (NGR) TF 006 001.
- 1.2** The following changes are proposed in respect of the operation of the waste treatment facility:
- Addition of a new process at this site for the neutralisation of hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste for the recovery or disposal of the treatment output. The proposed waste neutralisation process and the list of wastes which may be treated for disposal or recovery are consistent with the process currently undertaken by Augean Treatment Limited at Port Clarence Waste Recovery Park, Stockton on Tees under Environmental Permit Number EPR/YP3234XR/V007. The activity therefore comprises a process approved previously by the Environment Agency and a process for which Augean has operational experience.
  - An overall increase from 150,000 tonnes to 250,000 tonnes for the combined activity specific annual limit for the stabilisation process and for the solidification/stabilisation process.
  - An increase in the maximum quantity of waste to be stored at any one time in the dredging waste temporary storage area (DWTSA) from 5,000m<sup>3</sup> to 12,000m<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.3** There are no changes to the general principles of the site management and the surface water containment design, the principles of the waste acceptance and process operations including the types of storage and processing plant and site monitoring.

- 1.4** The facilities at ENRMF, including the treatment facility, are an acknowledged part of the nationally significant infrastructure for the management of hazardous waste and are the subject of a Development Consent Order (DCO) which was granted in July 2013 and amended in June 2018. The DCO for the existing treatment activities extends to 2026. In order to secure continuity of its operations beyond 2026, Augean is preparing to submit an application in 2021 for a new DCO which will include the proposed increased throughput of the treatment facility.
- 1.5** The waste treatment area is located in the northern part of the treatment facility permit boundary within the footprint of the hazardous waste landfill site operated by Augean under a separate Environmental Permit. The waste treatment facility is surrounded to the east, south and west by the landfill permit boundary. The site setting is generally rural with the majority of the land surrounding the wider ENRMF site comprising open farmland or woodland. The closest properties to the waste treatment facility are the properties at Westhay Cottages located approximately 500m to the east of the waste treatment facility. Westhay Farm is located approximately 500m east of the waste treatment facility.
- 1.6** There are no National Parks, Areas of Outstanding National Beauty, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protected Areas, Ramsar Sites or Marine Conservation Zones within 5km of the waste treatment facility. To the west of the waste treatment facility lies woodland known as Fineshade Wood part of which is known as The Assarts and which is a Local Wildlife Site. Collyweston Great Wood is located to the north of the waste treatment facility. To the north east of the waste treatment facility, beyond Collyweston Great Wood and east of Stamford Road is an area of woodland known as Easton Hornstocks. Parts of the Collyweston Great Wood and Easton Hornstocks comprise a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve. Collyweston Quarry Local Geological Site is located approximately 800m north west of the waste treatment facility at its closest point.
- 1.7** Detailed waste acceptance procedures are in place for the currently permitted site to minimise the risk that unacceptable waste materials will be accepted at the site including procedures for the rejection of non-conforming loads. The receipt, acceptance, handling and storage of waste materials are the subject of procedures under which the site is operated currently.

- 1.8** Augean has in place a management system to support the operation of the installation under the Environmental Permit. The site will continue to be operated under an Environmental Management System (EMS) that is certified to ISO14001. The management system identifies roles and responsibilities relevant to the operation of the installation and provides procedures that must be followed under normal operating conditions and specific procedures to deal with abnormal operating conditions or in the event of an incident. The management system has been developed with reference to relevant guidance produced by the Environment Agency to support the operation of this type of regulated facility under an Environmental Permit.
- 1.9** Augean is committed to training its staff so that they are technically competent to undertake the waste operations and uses the formal Chartered Institution of Wastes management/Waste Management Industry Training and Advisory Board (CIWM/WAMITAB) scheme for these purposes. The training standards set out in the CIWM/WAMITAB scheme, as applicable to the operation of hazardous waste treatment facility, are adopted for training purposes.
- 1.10** In order to demonstrate that the site can be operated in accordance with the requirements of relevant legislation, guidance and the conditions of the permit an environmental risk assessment has been undertaken to evaluate the potential risks from the proposed changes in the activities to human health and the environment. The risk assessment demonstrates that the proposed changes the subject of the application can be undertaken without affecting adversely the surrounding environment.
- 1.11** A storage and processing capacity assessment has been undertaken which demonstrates that there will be sufficient storage capacity in the silos, bays, bunkers and storage tanks at the site and sufficient processing capacity at the site to accommodate the increase in the overall annual throughput from 150,000 tonnes to 250,000 tonnes.
- 1.12** A Best Available Techniques (BAT) review has been undertaken in respect of the proposed new waste neutralisation process and a technical description document for the waste neutralisation process has been prepared. The technical description document and the BAT review demonstrate that the waste neutralisation process and directly associated new plant and techniques comprise BAT.