

Walley's Quarry Landfill Site, Silverdale- Community Update January 2020

Introduction

This newsletter will provide residents with the latest information about our regulation of Walley's Quarry Landfill site, Silverdale.

We understand residents' are concerned about odour in the local area we would like to assure all residents that we take these concerns seriously. Keeping you up to date on our regulation is very important to us and we hope our updates will answer many of the questions you may have. All reports are handled with the upmost of care and we endeavour to thoroughly investigate each report on a case by case basis. Please call the incident hotline **0800 807060** and an officer will receive your report.

This community information will be updated regularly and shared on our website at this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lafarge-aggregates-limited-newcastle-under-lyme-staffordshire>

What is the Environment Agency's Role?

We regulate two environmental permits held by the Red Industries RM Limited (the operator) for Walley's Quarry. Further details on the permits can be found on our website.

- Walley's Quarry Landfill site - issued on the 9 June 2005 to Lafarge Aggregates Limited and transferred to Red Industries RM Limited on the 3 November 2016.
- Walley's Quarry Soil Treatment facility – issued on the 11 April 2012 for the treatment of waste to produce soil, soil substitutes and aggregates. The operator does not currently undertake this operation

We have received an application to increase the total quantity of waste accepted at the landfill from 250,000 tonnes per year to 400,000 tonnes. We will be consulting on our draft decision, further information on the consultation can be viewed by visiting the link below – <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/st5-6dh-red-industries-limited/>

What you have told us

We want to hear from you if you have an environmental incident or concern to report, including any odour concerns. To do this, call our free 24 hour incident hotline on: **0800 80 70 60**.

We undertake odour checks in the area and visit the site regularly to assess compliance with the permit conditions. Since March 2019 we have completed monthly tours of the area using equipment to monitor for landfill gas.

The operator is informed about complaints (although we never release personal data so they cannot identify complainants) and in accordance with their Odour Management Plan investigate and advise of the outcome of their investigations.

What is the health impact on local residents?

If residents have health concerns we advise they should contact their local GP, who can seek advice from Public Health England.

Our actions

In June 2019 we completed a detailed audit of the site landfill gas management system. The audit concluded landfill gas was being effectively managed at the site. During 2019 the operator installed an additional 19 gas extraction wells. These wells have been connected to the gas management system.

We carried out an ambient air monitoring study between the 6 July 2017 and 14 February 2018. The aim of the study was to assess the air quality at the nearest residential properties to the site and provide information to the local community.

We conducted a further monitoring study at Silverdale between the 15 January 2019 and 25 June 2019 near the northern boundary of Walley's Landfill site, on the grounds of Garners Garden Centre. The study involved continuous monitoring of substances expected to be in landfill gas including particulate matter, hydrogen sulphide, methane, oxides of nitrogen and volatile organic compounds.

Further information about the air monitoring can also be found by clicking on the link below:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lafarge-aggregates-limited-newcastle-under-lyme-staffordshire>

Our commitment

As part of our regulation of the site we will continue to carry out odour assessments and undertake routine visits to the site, which will be both announced and unannounced.

Red Industries RM Limited has confirmed that they are committed to the long term future of the site and compliance with their Environmental Permit. Community updates produced by the site operator can be found on their website at the following link:
<https://www.redindustries.co.uk/walleys-landfill-community/>

Our feedback to you

Often you will ask us for feedback following your report. We will endeavour to report back directly where we can, but this may not always be possible. We recognise the importance of providing feedback and will do this through the Walleys liaison meeting and updates such as this one. For further information on Walley's Quarry liaison group please view the link below:

<https://www.redindustries.co.uk/walleys-landfill-community/>

In order to log a call or report an issue, the best way is via our incident hotline **0800807060**.

Next update

If you would like to receive our newsletter, please email Engagement_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk and we will add you to our mailing list. You can follow us on twitter too at @EnvAgencyMids #WalleysQuarryLandfill as we will be tweeting about the work we are doing.

We will provide our next update the end of February 2020.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update.