

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

Thorncliffe Building Supplies Limited

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Variation

Variation number is: **EPR/JP3894FM/V005**

The operator is: **Thorncliffe Building Supplies Limited**

The Installation is located at: **The Windmill Site, Rhuddlan Road, Abergele, LL22 9SE**

We have decided to issue a variation for The Windmill Site Waste Transfer Station operated by Thorncliffe Building Supplies Limited.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account
- justifies the specific conditions in the permit other than those in our generic permit template.

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

Key issues of the decision

Receipt of application

The Application was accepted as duly made on 18 July 2019. This means we considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination, but not that it necessarily contained all the information we would need to complete that determination.

Consultation

No consultation has been carried out as this is a minor technical variation.

A copy of the Application and all other documents relevant to our determination are available for the public to view. Anyone wishing to see these documents could arrange for copies to be made.

The Facility

The regulated facility is a Waste Transfer Station (WTS), allowing the operator to transfer, treat and temporarily store primarily non-hazardous and inert waste materials. Treatment consists of manual and mechanical sorting. The permit allows for the acceptance of some hazardous waste consisting only of cement-bonded asbestos, waste oils, lead/acid batteries, refrigeration equipment and gas bottles. No clinical waste is permitted. The description of activities for waste operations are:

- R13: Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced);
- R3 Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents;
- R4: Recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds;
- R5: Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic compounds;

- D15: Storage pending any of the waste operations numbered D1 to D14 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced);
- D9: Physico-chemical treatment of waste not specified elsewhere in this Annex which results in final compounds or mixtures which are discarded by means of any of the operations numbered D1 to D12.

The permit also allows acceptance and treatment of wastes for the production of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) as a Schedule 1 listed activity.

The maximum quantity for waste to be accepted on is 200,000 tonnes per year for the site as a whole.

Proposed changes

This variation notice removes S5.4A1(b)(ii) Schedule 1 listed activity from the Permit along with all references to the acceptance and treatment of wastes for the production of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF). The Operator has never commenced operations under this activity and has requested the activity be removed from the permit without the need for partial surrender. There are to be no changes to waste throughput capacity. The Permit Boundary is also to remain unchanged as a result of this variation. The site will continue to operate under a waste activity.

Legislation

The variation will be issued, under Regulation 20 of the EPR. The Environmental Permitting regime is a legal vehicle which delivers most of the relevant legal requirements for activities falling within its scope.

We address the legal requirements directly where relevant in the body of this document. NRW is satisfied that this decision is consistent with its general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales, and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources. In particular, NRW acknowledges that it is a principle of sustainable management to take action to prevent significant damage to ecosystems. We consider that, in issuing the variation

a high level of protection will be delivered for the environment and human health through the operation of the facility in accordance with the permit conditions.

NRW is satisfied that this decision is compatible with its general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources

Monitoring

There is no change to any existing monitoring conditions in the permit as a result of this variation.

Emission limits

There is no change to any existing emission limits in the permit as a result of this variation.

Reporting

There is no change to any existing reporting requirements in the permit as a result of this variation.

The permit conditions

Waste types

The permit already contains permitted waste types, descriptions and quantities, which can be accepted at the regulated facility. The variation removes Table S2.1 of the permit which lists waste types and quantities for the RDF production process.

There is no change to Table S2.2 in the permit as a result of this variation.

The maximum quantity for waste to be accepted at the facility will remain unchanged at 200,000 tonnes per annum.

Environment management system

The sites environmental management system is to be updated to remove all references to the Schedule 1 listed activity and processing of RDF materials. This requirement has been included as an Improvement Condition (IPC2) within Table S1.3 – Improvement programme requirements.

OPRA

As the activities have transferred from Installation to Waste, an updated Opra Spreadsheet has been completed. The new Opra score at permit issue is 57.