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Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

GD Environmental Services Limited

Variation

The application number is: PAN-002393

The permit number is: EPR/XP3833UB

The Applicant / Operator is: GD Environmental Services Limited

The Installation is located at: Unit 18A, East Bank Road, Felnex Industrial Estate, Newport, NP19 4PP

We have decided to issue the variation for East Bank Road Treatment Facility operated by GD Environmental Services Limited.

The variation number is EPR/XP3833UB/V008.

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.

Structure of this document

- Table of contents
- Key issues

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Key issues of the decision

Our decision

We consider that, in reaching that decision, we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that a high level of protection is provided for the environment and human health.

1 How we reached our decision

1.1 Receipt of Application

The Application was accepted as duly made on 21 March 2018. 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.

1.2 Consultation on the Application

As this is a minor technical variation no consultation was required.

1.3 Requests for Further Information

In order for us to be able to consider the Application duly made, we needed more information. We requested further information relating to the proposed use of the additional tank. Upon receipt of this information we were able to consider the application Duly Made.

An updated site plan was requested via email on 12 April 2018.

A copy of the e-mails requesting further information were placed on our public register as were the responses when received.

2 The Legal Framework

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. In particular, the regulated facility is:

- an *installation* as described by the IED;
- subject to aspects of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 which also have to be addressed.

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 Installation in accordance with the permit conditions.

3 The Installation

3.1 Description of the Installation and related issues

3.1.1 The permitted activities

The Installation is subject to the EPR because it carries out activities listed in Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the EPR:

- S5.3 A(1)(a)(iii) Disposal of hazardous waste in a facility with a capacity exceeding 10 tonnes per day involving blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the other activities listed in this section or in section 5.1
- S5.3 A(1)(a)(ii) Disposal or recovery of hazardous waste in a facility with a capacity exceeding 10 tonnes per day involving physico-chemical treatment

An installation may also comprise “directly associated activities”, which at this Installation includes:

Recovery of hazardous waste

and

Recovery and disposal of hazardous waste

Together, these listed and directly associated activities comprise the Installation.

3.1.2 The Site

East Bank Road Treatment Facility is located on the Felnex Industrial Estate, South of Newport city centre. The facility is located at National Grid Reference ST 3252 8581.

3.1.3 What the Installation does

The operator has held an environmental permit since 2008. The facility carries out both waste storage and treatment operations.

3.1.4 Key Issues in the Determination

Within the boundary of the Facility there is a storage tank previously used by another operator. The permit for the storage tank, EPR/ZP3630EB (was EPR/CP3538MP) was surrendered on 27 June 2017. GD Environmental Services now want to “adopt” the tank into their own permit, using it for the storage of septic tank sludge. The permit already allows for the acceptance of this waste (20 03 04) so no changes are required. The storage capacity of the additional tank is 80 m³. The applicant has confirmed that current storage limits in the permit allow for the extra storage capacity and no changes are required.

4.1 The site and its protection

4.1.1 Proposed site design: potentially polluting substances and prevention measures

The tank shares a bund with the existing tanks on site used by GD Environmental Services Limited. Existing pipework will be extended to bring the additional tank into use. Before permit EPR/ZP3630EB was surrendered the tank was fully cleaned and inspected.

4.2 Operation of the Installation – general issues

4.2.1 Management

We are satisfied that appropriate management systems and management structures are currently in place for this Installation, and that sufficient resources are available to the Operator to ensure compliance with all the Permit conditions.

5 Minimising the Installation's environmental impact

5.1 Assessment of Impact on Air Quality

The permit allows emissions to air from tank vents but does not specify how many or set any limits. There is a vent from the tank that is being adopted but no changes are required to the permit. The tank is not new, although will be used to store different waste. We do not consider that there will be any significant change in the overall emissions from site.

5.2 Assessment of impact to surface and ground water

There will no emissions to surface or ground water as a result of the variation.

5.3 Emissions to sewer

Any emissions will go to the site effluent treatment plant via the existing emission point in the permit, S1.