

Industry & Waste Regulation Team
Natural Resources Wales
Rivers House
St Mellons Business Park
St Mellons
Cardiff
CF30EY

Date: 31st January 2018

Subject: Solutia UK Ltd, Newport Chemical Complex – EPR Permit Number: BR97151B
Updated on CAR items: [CAR_NRW0032252] – IC33 PCP Reduction

'NRW, as per the improvement condition, will expect to receive the written proposals on whether this treatment will work, when to be implemented and when to expect significant reductions in PCP. Any decision not to pursue this or other options, needs to be supported by a cost benefit analysis that demonstrates disproportionate cost verses environmental improvement'

Following recent receipt of the Phase I investigation report for soil & water tests carried out between 10/2017 – 12/2017, Eastman can confirm that on the basis of; lab-scale trials & sample results to date, the reed beds treatment proposal looks to be viable. 13 ground-water wells have been installed, and trial-pit soil samples taken at each location. The samples taken over the period have indicated varying degrees of PCP & decomposition derivatives, but nothing that should prevent a biological treatment solution from being effective

The next Phase scheduled to be completed in 02/2018, involves recharge & pumping tests in-order-to establish the: required treatment capacity, and design specification. This will involve the installation of a trench & sump pump arrangement initially, to then be followed by; modular reed-bed units, and groundwater recharge trench / sump. The use of a recharge trench / sump will mean that there would be no net abstraction

In terms of timescales (and subject to findings of the next phase), it is envisaged that the installation should be in place Q2/2018. There would be a period of 'establishment' to obtain the required biological conditions, but thereafter the reed-beds would be actively treating the groundwater. The timescale for when a 'significant' reduction would be realized would be dependent on a number of factors i.e: installation design & constraints, rainfall, hydrogeological factors etc. but it is intended that trends & performance indicators be established at the outset such that a better idea of such can be gained at the earliest opportunity

As discussed also, the intrusive investigation & installation works could encourage short-term mobilization of contaminants, which are monitored & reported via the site W1 discharge point



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