

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

G.D. Environmental Services Limited

Decision Document

(East Bank Road Treatment Facility)

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Part Surrender

The application permit partial surrender number is: EPR/XP3833UB/S010.

The applicant/ operator is: G.D. Environmental Services Limited.

The Installation is located at: East Bank Road Treatment Facility, Units 18a East Bank Road, Felnex Industrial Estate, Newport, NP19 4PP.

We have decided to accept the surrender of part of the permit for East Bank Road Treatment Facility operated by G.D. Environmental Services Limited.

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid any pollution risk and to return the site to a satisfactory state.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the application has been determined;
- provides a record of the decision-making process; and
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account.

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

Receipt of Application

Application Receipt and duly making

Originally NRW received two applications from the Operator, within a single submission (one application relating to this partial surrender and another for a normal variation). As each application required separate determination, the application submission was split into two, and the partial surrender application was accepted as duly made on 16 February 2022. This means the correct application fee was received for the partial surrender application; that we considered it was in the correct form; and that the application contained sufficient information to begin our determination, but not that it necessarily contained all the information we would need to complete that determination.

Confidential information

No claims for commercial or industrial confidentiality have been made by the Operator. We have not received information in relation to the Application that appears to be confidential in relation to any party.

Consultation

There was no requirement to carry out a consultation on this application, as this is a partial surrender, and the site is not registered as a Site of High Public Interest (HPI Site). Partial surrenders do not require consultation. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 6 High Profile Sites, our Public Participation Statement and our Working Together Agreements.

Legislation

The surrender notice and varied consolidated permit will be issued, under Regulation 25 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.

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 (SMNR) in relation to Wales and applying the principles of SMNR. 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 granting the Surrender Notice and varied Consolidated Permit a high level of protection will continue to 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.

A copy of the Application and all other documents relevant to our determination (see below) 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

The regulated facility carries out both waste storage and treatment operations. Permitted activities include:

- Storage, repackaging and bulking up of hazardous solid waste prior to its dispatch off-site for recovery or disposal;
- Storage, blending and treatment of hazardous liquid waste prior to its dispatch off-site for recovery or disposal;

- Storage, blending and dewatering of waste oil prior to its dispatch off-site for recovery or disposal; and
- Storage, blending and biological treatment of non-hazardous waste prior to its dispatch off-site for recovery or disposal.

The permitted activities have not changed as a result of the partial surrender. The activities taking place are unaltered.

Permit Conditions

Changes to Permit Conditions

The permit conditions have not been changed as a result of the partial surrender. The Permitted Site Boundary Plan provided within Schedule 7 (and linked to Condition 2.1) has been updated to reflect the new site boundary.

A correction has been made to the Site address. Reference to Unit 19 has been removed from the permit to reflect that the site only covers Unit 18a and not units 18a and 19.

Improvement Condition IPC23 has also been re-numbered within Table S1.3 correcting a typographical error issued under the previous variation (V009).

The Site

Extent of the Surrender Application

The extent of the facility and permit site boundary has changed as a result of the partial surrender.

The partial surrender relates to removal of land from the permitted area which now lies outside the ownership of GDE and has not been used for any site operations for many years.

The area of land to be surrendered covers approximately 84m² or 0.021 acres and is serviced with a concrete pad. The land has not been used for permitted operations for over 10 years with no equipment associated with the waste operations located in that area during that time. The segment of land was sold in 2015 and is currently occupied by a third party unrelated to the Operator or permitted activities, with no connection to the remaining permit area. The surrender allows the land to be used for other purposes.

The Regulating Officer for the site carried out a site inspection on 19/05/2021 and confirmed that the Operator used to use the parcel of land to house a centrifuge and a sludge skip for the de-watering of tank bottom residues from the settlement of septic tank wastes. The Regulating Officer has been regulating this site since 2012 and confirmed that they have not witnessed this segment of land having been used during that time. Full details are provided within the Compliance Assessment Report (CAR_NRW0038305).

The operator has provided a plan showing the extent of the area of land that is to be surrendered, as well as a plan of the revised installation boundary.. We have amended the plan within Schedule 7 of the permit to show the permit boundary after partial surrender. The plan reflects the surrender of the area described above and is included in the surrender notice.

We consider these plans to be satisfactory.

Site Condition Surrender Report

The operator has provided a description of the current condition and any known history of contamination or pollution of the areas of site to be surrendered.

We consider this description is satisfactory. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on site condition reports – guidance and templates (H5).

Pollution Risk

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility. We have assessed the application as a low-risk surrender. All permitted activities have ceased in this area, and the activities decommissioned with the removal of all equipment and materials relating to permitted operations. There is no residual pollution risk from ongoing permitted operations within the segment of land to be surrendered. There have been no reported incidents of contamination or pollution relating to the area of land to be surrendered during the operational phase of the permit, and no significant potential for ground contamination was identified.

Satisfactory State

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the area of land to be surrendered to a satisfactory state.

In coming to this decision, we have had given due consideration to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.

OPRA

There are no changes to the Opra score for the site, as a result of this partial surrender. The OPRA score at permit issue remains 82.