Highway Development Control Consultation Response

Planning Application Ref: PL/2023/07529

Site Address: Parkgate Clay Extraction and Landfill Site, Mopes Lane, Purton, Wilts

Proposal: The above application seeks to vary condition 2 and 31 of N/05/07021/FCM to (i) extend the completion of the clay extraction and landfill for hazardous waste to 31st August 2036, (ii) extend the completion of the subsequent restoration to 31st October 2037, and (iii) update the approved restoration and phasing plan for the hazardous waste landfill to those for which approval under application PL/2023/07531 are sought.

Date of Revised Consultation Response: 17th October 2023

The following consultation response has been updated to reflect the revised application description.

I refer to the above planning application received on 15th September 2023 which seeks the variation of conditions 2 and 31 of N/05/07021/FCM to extend the end date of clay extraction and landfill on the hazardous waste landfill, together with revisions to the phasing and restoration plan.

An EIA Scoping Opinion for an increase in the duration for the landfill operations by a further 12 years and for the acceptance of hazardous waste disposal, was submitted in January 2023, under application reference PL/2022/09600. In respect of highway matters, the recommendation was for the submission of a Transport Assessment/Statement.

The application site and an existing industrial estate are accessed via the private industrial access road of Mopes Lane, which connects to the C414, Cricklade Road.

The landfill site is located west of the industrial estate and to the south of the railway line. An access road runs between the industrial estate and the landfill site with a bridge over the railway.

The current proposals are, however, different to that in the Scoping application as the site is now proposed to operate as two landfills. The subject application site would include hazardous wastes, but the other landfill site (considered under the variation application 2023/07531) does not include hazardous waste.

The Planning Statement describes the planning history of the site, stating that *"The site was originally granted planning permission in 1996 as a source of oxford blue clay and as a non hazardous waste landfill. In 2005 the site was subject to further applications to establish approximately one third of the site specifically to be used for hazardous waste disposal as a direct replacement for the adjacent Purton Landfill. In doing so, the site has worked with two operational areas under two parallel planning permissions."*

The planning permission for the hazardous waste landfill, under application N.05.07021, was limited to 18 years, and therefore is due to expire on 14th August 2024.

The submitted Planning Statement, in its conclusion, describes the purpose of this current variation application as to *"extend the life of the hazardous waste landfill."*

The proposed extension would allow for the disposal of wastes that are described as not being able to be treated, recycled or re-used and contain properties which mean they cannot be disposed of with non-hazardous wastes.

The proposed extension would allow for the operations to cease on 31st August 2036, with a subsequent year required for land restoration.

The proposed variations of the permission on N05.07021 are:

2 All operations granted by this permission shall cease 31st August 2036 and the site shall be fully restored by 31st October 2037. All infrastructure not required for on going management of the site shall be removed.
31 Clay Extraction and tipping operations shall take place in accordance with the phases shown on drawing P11_LAN_03. Upon completion of tipping waste operations in each phase the previous phase shall be capped and covered with a layer of subsoil to a finished depth of not less that 1m, and thereafter finished with a layer of not less than 0.3m of top soil. The restored areas shall be graded to accord with the final post settlement contours shown on P11_LAN_04.

It is understood that the maximum import and export rates across the entire site would be unchanged from that previously permitted, with the import of 150,000 tonnes of waste and the export of up to 40,000m3 (circa 80,000 tonnes) of clay each year.

The traffic generation would be in line with the current levels, equating to 27 loads of imported material (54 HGV movements), and extraction of up to 14 loads (28 HGV movements), with a total of up to 82 (two-way) HGV trips per day.

There would also be vehicle movements associated with staff movements, advised as around 6 per day.

The Environmental Statement Chapter 6 relates to the Transport aspects of the proposed extension of time and this covers both the subject application and the application PL/2023/07531 referred to above.

It is understood that traffic surveys were carried out in June 2023 to record all traffic and HGVs at key locations, indicating that on average there were 19.4 loads per weekday at the landfill facility, equating to 40 (two-way) HGV movements, which is below the maximum permitted level of 82 daily HGV movements.
.
The proposals would result in the same patterns of HGV movements associated with the existing landfill operations associated with the site, but extended by a further 12 years. It is acknowledged that the distribution of traffic on the local roads has, and will, vary depending on the origins of waste, and therefore there is no change in this respect.

The previous permission restricted the annual tonnage of material, and this in turn has restricted the number of HGV movements to the site. This level of movements has previously been accepted, and whilst the proposal seeks to extend the end date for these operations, this is still considered acceptable in highway terms.

I therefore recommend that no highway objection is raised to the proposed variations in conditions 2 and 31.

If you have any queries regarding the above advice, please contact Amanda Hall on 01225 713323, amanda.hall@wiltshire.gov.uk