

Site monitoring report

Please find detailed below the report for the site monitoring undertaken. If you should have any queries or require any photographs taken on site, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Site Name: Colchester Quarry (including Stanway Hall Pit, Five Ways Fruit Farm; Bellhouse/Abbotstone Landfill and ECC land), Warren Lane, Colchester.

File Ref: 13.421.18/19

Operator: Tarmac; Enover, ECC; SRC

Site Representative: For ECC: Andrew Brown (AB); For Enover: Sarah Holland (SH); Matthew Norton (MN); Brendan O Shea; For Tarmac; Dan Congton (DC). For SRC: Matthew Yates (MY).

Also attended by Chloe Budd (Essex County Council Planning) morning period; Emma Simmonds (County Ecology); Alumdena Quiralte (AQ) (County Landscape Officer);

Alison Hart (AH) (Environment Agency) (at ECC and SRC sites).

Visit no: 1 of 4

Date: 20/06/24

Time on site: 09:10

Time off site: 16:25

Monitoring Officer: Terry Burns Tel No: 03330136440

Site Co-ordinator: As above Tel No:

Permission no's:

Bellhouse and Abbotstone

- ESS/48/01/COL/R – Bellhouse Farm ROMP for LEX/266/69
- ESX/66/92/COL – Cory gatehouse, weighbridge and wheel wash.
- ESS/52/94/COL – Cory site accommodation and car park.
- ESS/65/98/COL – Cory offices.

- ESS/27/17/COL – Variation of Condition Operating Hours
- ESS/03/22/COL – Extension of time – Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.
- ESS/04/22/COL Section 73 - Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

West of Warren Lane (Tarmac)

- ESS/104/20/COL & ESS/105/20/COL – Extension of time for office retention (expires 30/09/26).

ECC Land

- ESS/07/15/COL – Retention of post settlement contours
- ESS/86/21/COL – Power generation plant (located NW of Bellhouse) Expires 25 yrs from 06/12/21.

Stanway Hall Quarry

- ESS/24/00/COL – Power generation plant at Stanway Pit to utilise gas generated at Bellhouse landfill.
- ESS/09/12/COL – New generator, flare and back-up generator within existing electricity generation compound.
- ESS/09/12/COL/NMA.
- ESS/09/12/COL/NMA2.
- ESS/23/14/COL - Consolidation application, to extend into FWFF and to import inert waste material for restoration.
- ESS/29/14/COL – Prior approval for site office and welfare building at the Stanway Hall concrete plant.
- ESS/33/14/COL – New staff welfare building at DSM plant.
- ESS/31/21/COL – Clay removal.
- ESS/31/22/COL – CBGM plant Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

Warren Lane Tunnel

- COL/758/89 – Construction of a tunnel under Warren Lane for conveying aggregates.

Five Ways Fruit Farm

- ESS/52/17/COL – Continuation of use of land for mineral extraction etc and to extend DSM plant operating hours. Granted 04/01/19.

Romp Date Due: ESS/52/17/COL 04/01/2034

- ESS/05/22/COL – Section 73 Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

Constraints:

- Weather: **Dry with negligent wind/** Windy / Rain / Snow
- Noise (as perceived by officer):
Acceptable/ Not acceptable / N/A – **see inspection result**
- Approach roads: **Combination of: Dry / Dusty /** Damp/ Wet / Muddy / Flooded
- Ground: **Combination of: Dry / Dusty /** Wet / Damp / Muddy / Flooded
- Access: **Obstructed / Not Obstructed /** Mud on Road/ Ice / Slippery
- Wheel cleaning: **Washer** (Bellhouse side)/ Spinner / Sweeper/none N/A
- Hose: In use / Not in Use / **N/A**
- Machinery: **Working** / Not working
- In correct position: **Yes** / No / N/A
- Stockpiles: Height = various levels across all sites where applicable.
- Bunds: **Profiled** / Grassed / **weeds** / NA

Planning Condition Actions from last site visit:

Enovert:

- Program and action on the ground towards progressing the Abbotstone North land into aftercare. **Update: Still awaited.**

Tarmac:

- Tightening up of sheeting condition requirement and state of nets being used. **Action: Kept on record as reminder and for clarity on what measures being taken.**
- Operator needs to be satisfied that an appropriate walkover survey has been undertaken by appropriate person/ecologist to confirm that no habitat/species likely to be impacted during the tree felling/ground clearance works on the land immediately north and north west of the main processing plant and main drainage ditch and alongside the previously started new lagoon feature. **Action: For operator to ensure.**
- DSMP plant external arrangements to be addressed. **Update: Still awaited.**

- Outstanding conditions for the Cement Bound Granular Plant to be actioned. **Update: Schemes are being progressed.**
- Regularising of the SISK compound area. **Update: Clearance of compound undertaken.**
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas including tree guard removal from all planting areas around quarry including the mature woodland behind maintenance shed and weighbridge. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the internal haul road and tracking onto Warren Lane. **Update: At time of visit the entrance and highway clean.**

SRC Parcel

- The need for appropriate height markers once infilling begins to ensure correct infill levels are adhered to within the Stanway southern void area. **Update: Still awaited. MY at time of visit mentioned that surveyors due on site to install tipping level markers.**
- Provision of planning permission/approved plans to be available on the site. **Update: To be confirmed at next visit.**
- Clarity and programme for address established ecological interests before clearance of further ground in void area. **Update: Still awaited. See inspection report below.**
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the surface post rumble strip and wheelwash to remove debris before it re-contaminates wheels and then tracking then carrying this out onto main siter haul road and onto Warren Lane. **Update: At time of visit the access road was clean.**
- Waterbodies within eastern void visited and noted as having established vegetation and holding wildlife. As reported previously these areas will need appropriate ecological surveys before being disturbed. **Update: Referred to above and in inspection report below.**

ECC Land

- Drainage ditch on northern site boundary at junction with ECC Land/Footpath entrance to be assessed for suitable gradient to enable water to be channelled westwards and not overtopping and impacting onto the land to the east. **Action: This is retained on the report to assess the situation during appropriate weather conditions.**
- Tree guards along Warren Lane boundary and within site around lagoon system, where necessary, to be cleared. **Update: Still to be addressed.**

All operators

- Clearing tree guards that are damaged/broken/clearly not needed/damaging tree by being too tight and cutting into bark and those littering ground around hedgerow bases and trunks throughout site perimeter to be undertaken around perimeter

boundaries of the various land parcel interests. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**

- Maintaining road cleanliness. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**
- Can we all ensure vehicles are clean, and where appropriate sheeting is enforced (as well as state of sheeting that if in state of disrepair this matter is reported to visiting driver/company and what procedure in place to monitor/police) before exiting onto Warren Lane and that any potential for tyre carry out/discharges from vehicle loads is avoided. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**

Permission Nos:

For Bellhouse;

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 13 Noise Monitoring Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring to be undertaken, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: scheme to be submitted.**

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 21 Allowance Levels Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Settlement surveys to be submitted, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: Settlement surveys to be submitted.**

For Tarmac Bellhouse side:

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Conditions 4 (Biodiversity) – Scheme within 4 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Condition 6 (Sensitive Lighting) Scheme within 6 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Condition 14 (Noise Monitoring) Surveys yearly and Quarterly. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission/s required.**

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Condition 24 (Landscaping) Scheme within 3 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

Planning applications – resolution to approve subject to legal agreement for the following three applications:

ESS/04/22/COL (Bellhouse)

Condition 27 (Noise Monitoring) As per previously approved frequency.

Condition 29 (Dust) As per previously approved frequency/action.

ESS/05/22/COL (Five Ways)

Condition 26 (External Lighting) Prior to CGBM plant commissioning.

Condition 29 (Noise Monitoring) – Quarterly

Condition 45 (Surface Water) Within 12 months of soil replacement.

Inspection Results Summary:

ECC land

- Small stockpile of soil/overburden material stored for use in grading out low spots positioned just in from site gate.
- Surface material has been partially lifted to create the access/storage area. Some of this stripped material pushed up against young tree and needs to be pulled back from its trunk.
- An amount of above ground pipework within the southern field has been buried. Trench areas created to hold the pipework have been infilled and the stored overburden material is being used to assist trench coverage. Anticipated sorting pipework by end of July in southern field.
- Some additional wells to be drilled to replace previous.
- Perimeter path has been strimmed.
- Number of the trees along the eastern side of the land parcel require their tree guards to be removed.
- AB advised some drilling planned to assess the localised spots of die back.
- Some 6 Red Poll cattle in northern field. AB stated that vandalism of one of the gates had resulted in cattle leaving field area. Also some trespass/depositing of human waste from travellers camping on adjacent land had taken place.
- Northern ditch line has holding water in places.
- AB advised some bunding to be placed along northern perimeter to alleviate localised flooding of low spots.
- Emergency gas flare regularly checked.
- Gas compound not visited this occasion and will be checked on next visit.

- Tree guards remain for removal along eastern site boundary and eastern pond area.

Enovert - Bellhouse Quarry/Landfill

- Highway outside site clean. During monitoring period to the complex queuing traffic noted on several occasions backing up outside of site entrance but off the highway.
- Previous stockpile of overburden left by Tarmac has now virtually been removed and utilised within both the landfill and ECC land.
- Abbottstone land viewed from active landfill. The land will be walked next monitoring visit. Vegetation growth obscuring sight of the tree planting locations. Wild flowers abundant across the northern land.
- Active traffic tipping both off the highpoint (dust carts) and within the new cell (HGV'S).
- Dumptrucks hauling overburden up onto highpoint as layering of the spoil progresses along the north western side of the highpoint in preparation for the temporary liner placement which has been extended along the flanks of the cells north of Hanging Wood.
- MN advised that a temporary paved haul road would be created over the highpoint to allow tipping to continue the new cell as the waste levels increase in height. Likely retention for about three to four months.
- MN advised that the new cell area which has now been clay lined to half its height and extending across the whole of the former and recently worked out mineral extraction void is now to be divided into 3 cells called 11a; 11b and 12. The orientation of the cells is to be east to west as opposed to the previously envisaged north to south split. Current infilling of Cell 11a which is progressing as a continuation of Cell 10 eastwards and has reached out just short of halfway through the width of the overall void.
- Within base of the rest of the void, membrane being placed above the granular base. Excavator spreading cover material onto membrane.
- Around top of batter on north western side of the void alongside the corner of Hanging Wood it was noted that the laying of the gas pipework had gone outside the permitted site boundary; taking place beneath the tree canopy and that soil had been dug into which would be exposing tree roots. MH advised that a site visit would be pencilled in for 2nd July to view rectification works of site demarcation and soil replacement. Along with removal of the pipework.
- ES noted placement of overburden beneath tree canopy along perimeter line south of Cell12. Appears this was undertaken by Tarmac and left when Enovert took possession. This material would need clearance before next monitoring visit. Also demarcation of this boundary would be beneficial especially as landfill activities would be taking place very close by.
- MH also to check ecological areas noted during the visit.

- Other than the general smell emanating from within the landfill process, there were only hints of odour within the site.

Stanway Hall Farm Quarry Land

- Access entrance off Warren Lane similar to that reported for Enoverth above.
- Enoverth Gas compound area gas engines running. Personnel were on site.
- SISK compound entrance clear of parked vehicles. Site active.
- Concrete batching plant remains dormant. Large stockpile of sand directly to its east.
- Grading out of the “Little Bob” lagoon whilst progressive infilling occurring on “Bob” lagoon in preparation for final overtipping as part of the infilling activities by SRC.
- Processing plant operational with large stocks of gravel in stocking area. Most sands being fed into the DSM plant.
- Again, as from last few monitoring visits most tree guards around Stanway site had been cleared, others remained to be removed where appropriate. These are particularly noticeable in the two mature woodlands behind maintenance shed and weighbridge.
- Within the Five Ways land archaeological watch brief being undertaken on the final unworked parcel in north western corner.
- Grading and soiling work being undertaken on northern slope face.
- Presence of numerous sand martin nests in sand faces.
- Southern end of reptile translocation area visited. Perimeter hedgerow needing management, Weed competition to be addressed. Tree planting in hedgerows appears predominantly to have failed.
- Southern water body shallow but covered/infested with Pigmy weed. This needs eradicating and removal off site. Strong weed growth needs management.
- 2 Hibernaculum’s made of man made material (what appears to be grey composite flooring that appears to be warping in the sun) viewed. Surrounding tree planting a failure. Previous presence of very tall hibernaculum made of branches and other wooded parts and about 10-15foot high could not be located. Possibly removed in past or now hidden within the weed growth.
- DC asked about management and advised that Landscape officer and Kedd Consultants would be handling the management programme. Would be beneficial at next visit to have interested parties available to have joint visit.
- Dumptruck passing along south end of translocation area and within the recycling location was raising dust. This was a previous issue identified when the translocation area was being established and for the need for effective dust control.
- DC confirmed that the crusher present south of the translocation area had been used to work some mineral. TB advised this is not the location for such activity. (Post meeting note – reminder that use of the crusher in this location would also have potential for dust emission onto the translocation area. The provision of the

bunding/standoff along the northern recycling parcel was one of the dust control features. Having a crusher located beyond this protection area would prejudice the translocation area.)

- DSM plant operational but not visited this time.

SRC Activities

- Infilling continuing within western void are with dozer spreading infill material along western end of void.
- MY confirmed that the existing partially clay lined side walls indicated the surveyed waste tipping levels and that the western half of the void was likely to be completed within the summer period.
- Tractor and water bowser operational along haul roads and within tipping areas.
- MY indicated they have pump on site ready for beginning dewatering within the eastern side of the void. TB highlighted the need for having the new phases cleared by qualified ecologists before disturbance to the new phasing.
- MY also noted they will be seeking to win clay from below the soil stockpile currently situated in the north eastern end of the tipping footprint behind the weighbridge. Clay would then be used to seal along the southern slopes continuing from the present central area eastwards to a point midway between the present end of clay batter and the eastern void side wall.

Compliance with Conditions:

For Bellhouse;

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 13 Noise Monitoring Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring to be undertaken, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: scheme to be submitted.**

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 21 Allowance Levels Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Level surveys to be submitted, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: Levels to be submitted.**

For Tarmac Bellhouse side:

Permission/Condition ESS/52/17/COL No: 28 Noise Monitoring: Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring **Action to be taken by Operator: Periodic noise monitoring reports required on a three-monthly basis.**

Actions to be taken before next site visit:

Enovert:

- Program and action on the ground towards progressing the Abbotstone North land into aftercare.
- Demarcation of site boundary, replacement of the soils alongside the vegetation on the Hanging Wood periphery and removal of offending infrastructure by 2nd July.

- Demarcation of southern boundary alongside proposed Cell 12 and clearance of overburden from beneath tree canopy line.

Tarmac:

- Tightening up of sheeting condition requirement and state of nets being used. **Action: Kept on record as reminder and for clarity on what measures being taken.**
- Operator needs to be satisfied that an appropriate walkover survey has been undertaken by appropriate person/ecologist to confirm that no habitat/species likely to be impacted during the tree felling/ground clearance works on the land immediately north and north west of the main processing plant and main drainage ditch and alongside the previously started new lagoon feature. **Action: For operator to ensure.**
- DSMP plant external arrangements to be addressed.
- Outstanding conditions for the Cement Bound Granular Plant to be actioned.
- Removal of the crusher from alongside the translocation area and no further crushing in this location.
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas including tree guard removal from all planting areas around quarry including the mature woodland behind maintenance shed and weighbridge.
- Useful to have Ecology/Landscape representatives at next visit.

SRC Parcel

- The need for appropriate height markers once infilling begins to ensure correct infill levels are adhered to within the Stanway southern void area.
- Provision of planning permission/approved plans to be available on the site
- Clarity and programme for address established ecological interests before clearance of further ground in void area.
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the surface post rumble strip and wheelwash to remove debris before it re-contaminates wheels and then tracking then carrying this out onto main siter haul road and onto Warren Lane.
- Waterbodies within eastern void visited and noted as having established vegetation and holding wildlife. As reported previously these areas will need appropriate ecological surveys before being disturbed.

ECC Land

- Drainage ditch on northern site boundary at junction with ECC Land/Footpath entrance to be assessed for suitable gradient to enable water to be channelled westwards and not overtopping and impacting onto the land to the east. **Action: This is retained on the report to assess the situation during appropriate weather conditions.**

- Tree guards along Warren Lane boundary and within site around lagoon system, where necessary, to be cleared.

Date of next meeting: 26/09/24

ECC: 09:00

Enovert: 10:00

Stanway: 12:00

Stanway SRC: 14:00

Date of report: 21/03/24

Note: The actions noted in this report are required in order to ensure adequate progress is made and to avoid potential enforcement action against a breach of planning control.