

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: Birch Pit

File Ref: 13.421.13

Operator: Hanson

Site Representative: Alexandra Hemming (AH), Ben Ayres (BA).

Also attended by Megan Cowell (Essex Landscape Officer) and Megan Garwood (Essex Arboricultural Officer)

Visit no: 2 of 3

Date: 05/11/24

Time on site: 10:00

Time off site: 13:30

Monitoring Officer: T Burns Tel No: 03330136440

Site Co-ordinator: As above Tel No:

Permission no's:

- **Permission no: ESS/45/18/COL**

Constraints:

• Weather: Combination of **Dry**/ Windy / Light Rain / Snow

• Noise

(officer perception): **Acceptable**/ Not acceptable / N/A

• Approach roads: **Combination: 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 / Spinner / Sweeper / **none** N/A

- Hose: In use / Not in Use / N/A
- Machinery: **Working (Extraction void excavator long reach/processing plant front loader/conveyor line operating)/** Not working
- In correct position: **Yes** / No / N/A
- Stockpiles: **Height =** /Acceptable
- Bunds: **Profiled** / Grassed / **Weeds** / NA

Actions from last site visit: Remain as per the last 3 monitoring visit as well as the update comments.

- Height of site stockpiles to be maintained to their designated heights. **Update: Kept on record as reminder.**
- Stockpiling area only to be used for stocking purposes. Update: Still outstanding. **Use of the land for screening purposes requires either to be regularised or for the machinery/plant to be removed.**
- Tidying up of the plant/machinery parts located within the stockpiling area; concrete batching plant and north western corner on perimeter of site where lake float raft elements are stored now outside the fencing line whilst various other pieces of metal and blue plastic barrels now becoming engulfed as sand from the stockpile area is blown by the wind over the redundant items. Three large drainage pipes upended and located in sand stocking area. **Update: Accumulations of redundant plant/machinery and odd items still stored in various points around site.**
- Measures to address tree planting along northern site boundary. Update: Appears most of the remaining trees transplanted either dormant or dead. Ground vegetation growth cleared as if someone has been in fenced off area and cut any growth to ground level. **Update: Replanting to be looked at.**

Inspection Results Summary:

- Site bellmouth clean at time of visit.
- Site office/welfare block operational. Redundant portacabin unit has been removed.
- As noted at previous monitoring visit report "Ground from the back of the offices westwards to silt lagoon despite having the red and white chain fencing in places the path, as was the rest of the site bunds and hedgerow planting areas heavily weed infested and trip hazards. Weeds growing on safety path alongside site haul road opposite site offices meant you had to walk either on the road or up the banking."
- Processing area busy at start of visit with a number of Tipper/Artics visiting and receiving sand.
- Western lagoon has started to have some silt removed from north eastern corner. Recovery potential of the silt for marketability was being assessed.
- Restored land between lagoon and conveyor walked over and good ground cover established. AH considering topping later next year.
- Gorse growth continues to spread on soil bund slopes along road side and Palmers Cottage.
- As per last monitoring visit report and with no apparent action then the following points remain valid "Perimeter hedgeline to Palmers Cottages growing out into site and in need of tree guard removal.

- Perimeter tree belt planting on western perimeter due for thinning. Tree guards also to be addressed.”
- Western void area now worked out with clay base showing and water level down. Long reach excavator taking out final mineral from base. Dump truck and front loader feeding conveyor hopper.
- Last remaining mineral, forming an island, being worked from the void with the long reach excavator sitting on top. Base of void uneven with islands of overburden surrounded by water and establishing vegetation.
- Final unworked Phase 7 and 8 remains covered with thistle as are the bunds to the north.
- Transplant planting on northern perimeter not visited during this visit.
- Working continuing in Phase 6b with front loader transporting mineral to far hopper on western end of conveyor run.
- Stock piling area accommodating varying stocks of sand and stone approximately 5 – 8 metres at highest elevation.
- Stockpiling of redundant items of miscellaneous nature continues to grow in the south western corner. 3 red Biffa liveried skips placed nearby. One large black coloured RO-RO skip to the north. Alongside the redundant items delivery has taken place of the bagging plant infrastructure which is scheduled for construction in this location.
- Former silt lagoon on eastern side of site that has had settlement, AH confirmed that soils to be stripped and depression to be infilled.
- Eastern side of the site the remnants of the floating platform/pipework/concrete pipe parts and other discarded items remain lying around.
- Eastern stockpiling area now accommodating a further sand stockpile approximately 3-4m metres high.
- One or two HGVs (one artic and one tipper) leaving site appearing to be speeding and creating dust. Photographs taken.

Compliance with Conditions:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 4 Prior Archaeology

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No soil stripping until scheme agreed.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Partial discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 5 CEMP - Biodiversity

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No further clearance of vegetation and/or topsoil stripping until scheme agreed.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 6 Ecology

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within 6 months of the date of the permission for an Ecological Design Strategy.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 7 Time Limit

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Prior to entry into any phase of working ecological surveys.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 9 Arboriculture

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within two months of the date of the permission for an Arboricultural Method Statement.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 10 Waste Importation

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: prior to importation scheme required.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 14 Revised Working Scheme

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within two months of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 21 Noise Monitoring

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within 6 months of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 26 Dust Suppression

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within 3 months of the date of the permission

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 27 Additional Dust Control

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required prior to removal of the screen bunding or reinstatement activities of the silt lagoon.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 28 Lighting

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required for artificial lighting.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 49 Soil Replacement

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Notification required prior to commencement of the final subsoil placement on each phase, or part Phase.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 51 Restoration

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required within 6 months of the date of the permission

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 52 Landscaping

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required within 6 months of date of permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 54 Agricultural Aftercare

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within one year of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 55 Amenity Aftercare

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within one year of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Actions to be taken before next site visit:

- Height of site stockpiles to be maintained to their designated heights.
- Stockpiling area only to be used for stocking purposes.
- Tidying up of the plant/machinery parts located within the 2 stockpiling areas; concrete batching plant locations and far eastern stockpiling footprint. Rubbish behind offices to be cleared.

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

Date of Next Meeting: 25th February 2025 @ 10:00

Report Date: 05/11/24