

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; Enovert, ECC; SRC

Site Representative: For ECC: Andrew Brown (AB); For Enovert: Matthew Norton (MN); Brendan O Shea; For Tarmac; Andy Compton. For SRC: Matthew Yates (MY).

Also attended by Megan Cowell (County Landscape) on the ECC land.

Visit no: 3 of 4

Date: 05/12/24

Time on site: 09:00

Time off site: 15:15

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/ 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: This land likely to be addressed next spring.**
- Resiting encouraged of the hardcore stockpile off the skyline and into a more screened location. **Update: Stockpiles of recycleate continue to accumulate just off the haul road brow on the northern high point. MN advised stocks are being lowered as material is being used to provide all weather access along the haul roads.**

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.

- 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.
- Confirming suitable meeting dates with ecological/tree representatives.

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.

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.

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 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

- AB advised they have a traveller sleeping in a tent on the eastern side of the lower field near Warren Lane. Appears traveller considers the site as common land. AB to advise Tarmac.
- There has been bramble and general clearance along the eastern and northern perimeter of vegetation. AB to organise for tree guard retrieval now that leaves are off trees and guards more visible.
- Within lower field AB advised that all above pipework is now redundant and will be removed.
- Pit around a new monitoring well on eastern side to be cleaned up.
- Two monitoring points installed on eastern side above dead ground where vegetation has died away. AB said that nearby leachate pipe had been ruptured and replaced. Time would tell whether this was source of escape affecting the dead ground.
- Within northern field one sheep found dead, apparently dog inflicted. AB in touch with farmer to remove. TB asked about long term safety of sheep here. AB advised sheep on 2 of a 3 week spell on site.
- Gas compound visited and gas engine operational.
- Compound in main site visited. All lagoons operational. AB confirmed that there had been previous damage/throwing of items into lagoons from teenagers trespassing and interfering with the material/paraphernalia located outside the fenced compound.
- Number of the trees along the eastern side of the land parcel require their tree guards to be removed.
- Northern ditch line has holding water in places but AB confirmed that the water had not infringed the path to its north.

Enovert - Bellhouse Quarry/Landfill

- Highway outside site clean.
- Site being used by dustcarts and skip lorries. All articles were being diverted to other landfill sites during course of a police incident within the new cell area.
- Previous stockpile of overburden left by Tarmac is being actively used and extraction is taking place at a lower level. TB questioned depth and MH advised that current water level in base was level they were working down to and they would be utilising overburden from perimeter screen mound located behind the Tarmac offices.
- Smell of gas evident from Tarmac car park as well as when walking the ECC land.
- Odourisers were operational on north eastern side of the landfill between the site and ECC land.
- Infilling taking place of open water body just before wheelwash to minimise potential for pollution of surface waters.
- Infilling active on Cell 10 with tipping and spreading from the high point pushing down the southwards facing face.

- Additional gas line being installed on the northern flank.
- Ditch at base of rise up to tipping area, opposite the wheelwash and the road junction remains infilled with waste about 10 metres wide.
- 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.
- Litter pickers not in evidence at time of visit..
- Other than the general smell emanating from within the landfill process, there was more evidence of odour apparent when approaching the high point from the access road leading up to the summit and from the access track leading down to the hardcore stockpiling area.

Stanway Hall Farm Quarry Land

- Access entrance off Warren Lane clean at time of visit.
- Enoverts Gas compound area gas flare was operating. A number of utility vans at back of the compound presumably maintenance activities.
- SISK compound footprint clear of infrastructure and left cleared bare level ground. CBGM plant still present at back of recycling area awaiting removal offsite.
- Large stockpile of processed gavel in northern area of recycling land parcel footprint.
- Concrete batching plant remains dormant.
- Processing plant operational.
- Surrounding stocks of sand being marketed. DSM stockpile appeared low.
- Within FWFF mineral being removed from the northern end of the western side with one excavator in action and one ADT.
- Western most lake in northern area now about half formed with the southern half of the lake footprint awaiting extraction works.
- Again, as from last few monitoring visits most tree guards around Stanway site had been cleared, others remained to be removed where appropriate from opposite regional site offices and within wooded areas on southern perimeter together with the two mature woodlands behind maintenance shed and weighbridge.
- Perimeter hedgerow around translocation area remains to be actioned. A meeting between respective County and Company ecologists has taken place between the last monitoring visit and this one.
- DSM plant operational but not visited this time.

SRC Activities

- Infilling has mostly been completed within the western and central area of the present active tipping area.

- MY confirmed that western infill mound now up to restoration level. Intention to retain access along the northern edge into the western end of the footprint until clarity on final contour levels discussed. Appears approach likely to Planning Authority to discuss options for revisions at this end before footpath reinstated.
- Central track and haul road line created running eastwards up through the tipping area from the weighbridge and then branching eastwards has been prepared. Track made up of basal suitable rubble covered by thin layer of concrete which, when covered by rubble, will allow HGV access to eastern tipping area during bad weather.
- Dozer on eastern side of current tipping face with 2 “cells” beyond. The smallest nearest the tipping face used for clay removal and now separated from the larger “cell” beyond by a small berm. Both voids currently filled with surface water.
- Infilling likely to continue in a “cell” configuration from the southern perimeter back northwards. Clay lining has been prepared to allow infilling over next few months. Progression in spring with the next “cell” progressing eastwards once clearance/surveying by ecologist.
- Two HGVs visiting site during monitoring visit period.
- Wheelwash being monitored by weighbridge operator. Internal haul road through quarry clean.

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.
- Resiting encouraged of the hardcore stockpile off the skyline and into a more screened location.

Tarmac:

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

Date of next meeting: 20th March 2025

ECC: 09:00

Enovert: 10:00

Stanway: 12:00

Stanway SRC: 13:15

Date of report: 05/12/24

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.