

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: Martell's Landfill, Slough Lane, Ardleigh

File Ref: 14.421.12

Operator: OPES MRF 2013 Ltd

Site Representative: Chris Morton (CM)

Also attended by Jackie Halsall (Landowner); Grahame Ellis (GE) (Landowner agent) and Ben Peresson (Environment Agency). Trevor Tayman (TT) (GPS Ltd - to discuss land slippage remedial works with landowner)

Visit no: 3 of 4

Date: 21/11/24

Time on site: 10:15

Time off site: 11:55

Monitoring Officer: T Burns Tel No: 03330136440

Site Co-ordinator: As above Tel No:

Permission no's:

ESS/30/16/TEN: Continued restoration.

ESS/42/22/TEN: Gas flare

Constraints:

• Weather: **Dry/ Windy / Rain / Snow**

• Noise

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

• Approach roads: **Combination: Dry/Damp / Dusty / 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** / Not working
- In correct position: Yes / **No** / N/A
- Stockpiles: Height = Perimeter mounds acceptable
- Bunds: **Profiled** / Grassed /**Weeds**/ NA

Actions from last site visit:

- Topographical Survey to include identifying and characterising on site stockpiles and their quantities. How this resource meets the remaining restoration material shortfall/surplus when set against the approved Pre Settlement Plan. **Update: Still outstanding under lapsed permission.**
- Working programme setting out defined timescale for achieving site reinstatement. **Update: Still outstanding under lapsed permission.**
- Amenity Aftercare scheme outstanding. **Update: Still outstanding.**
- scheme outstanding.
- Outstanding schemes required by planning permission ESS/42/22/TEN. **Update: Still outstanding**
- Clay/waste mixing in north eastern corner of the clay stockpile needs to have the waste material returned to the waste cell. **Update: Still outstanding**
- Overtipping on the eastern site area to be removed in line with Environment Agency requirements. **Update: Still outstanding**

Inspection Results Summary:

Slight breeze mainly from south west.

Site weighbridge and office removed and land being used by adjacent operator for groundworks access. Rumble strip now back in place and has been cleaned out.

Again, as reported at last monitoring visit, no commitment to progress restoration of the land has progressed since July 2023 meeting on site.

Only visible plant on site a box scraper still parked up on cell 1 by the flare.

Flare operational, TT confirmed it had been down recently.

Site walked with initial visit to top of clay mound and then to eastern side of landfill site took place where discussion between parties on actions that were still awaited.

BP outlined some of what had been discussed at a recent Teams meeting between ECC/EA and operator. Reiteration that works on old pre landfill permit cells had resulted in old landfill material being moved across to part of Halsalls land and that similar material placed on north eastern clay mound corner. Both deposits were required to be removed and this was still awaited.

BP restated that in the meeting the EA were unlikely to be permitting further importation. Materials on site and any importation of topsoils to complete restoration would need to be

addressed both through the planning process and via a restoration plan (written methodology) agreeable with the Agency.

CM confirmed that a permit was still outstanding with the Agency also the situation was as per the recent Teams meeting.

CM confirmed that the company needed to make monies to enable progress on restoration works.

BP raised with CM as to potential priority restoration be given to the Halsall land area followed by OPES land.

Continuing with the monitoring visit it was noted that an ISO container and 2 no grey coloured tanks together with green fuel/oil (?) containers and some gantry infrastructure had been placed within the footprint of the compound that had previously been created UG World, applicants for gas engine application. Water had gathered in the south western corner of the compound.

TB asked about whether liaison between OPES and UG World was taking place particularly around the screening provision offered by the existing vegetated overburden mound situated adjacent the proposed gas engine compound. CM confirmed that Rick Bright had not to date received any of the planning documents requested from UG World to be able to clarify matters.

The Cells 1-4 footprint remained untouched since last visit. Across the northern flanks of Cell 8 there was evidence of erosion on the surface running towards the field to the north east. A strong gas presence was noted along most of the Cell 8 footprint.

Bare ground arising from gas/leachate coming to the surface was evidenced on part of the Cell 8 surface.

The northern slip area was visited and discussion between the landowner/Trevor on work to be done to move material back off her land and reinstate fence line. This work to be undertaken in immediate future as some monies had been made available some local work to removing.

Contaminated material in north eastern end of clay stockpile remains insitu.

Pipe work and ISO containers (3 no) and fuel/water tank located adjacent clay stockpiles eastern edge.

The eastern half of the landfill site, (Halsall land) walked and the overtipped area comprising the north eastern segment was discussed.

BP asked about the latest topographic survey results across the site and whether there was information giving the contour heights in relation to the overtipped area on the eastern side of site.

BP reiterated what had been said in the recent Teams meeting on whether a Local Enforcement Position could be supported by the EA although this was doubtful.

The northern boundary of the overtipping was viewed and looked to be some 1 metre above the previously capped ground level. BP advised that survey work be undertaken to ascertain depth of overtipping to avoid disturbance to the underlying capping layer.

Rest of northern part of the site continues to have birch springing up across the cover surface and gorse on the land to the south.

Compliance with Conditions:

Planning Permission ESS/30/16/TEN whilst time expired had ongoing commitments to achieve restoration and these were expected to be progressed.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/30/16/TEN: 8

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: See decision notice relates to ecology check prior to cell entry.

Action to be taken by Operator: Operator needs to assess the submission of the next ecological submission.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/30/16/TEN:10

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Submission of topographical surveys

Action to be taken by Operator: Survey submission is outstanding.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/30/16/TEN: 43

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme for Amenity Aftercare

Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme to be submitted.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/42/22/TEN: 5

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No ground disturbance until approved scheme to address Biodiversity Method Statement.

Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme required.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/42/22/TEN: 6

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within 6 months a scheme for Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy.

Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme to be submitted

Permission/Condition No: ESS/42/22/TEN: 7

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No site preparation works until approved scheme for Protecting Existing Trees and Vegetation.

Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme to be submitted

Permission/Condition No: ESS/42/22/TEN: 10

Within 2 months of date of permission a scheme for Restoration and Landscaping.

Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme to be submitted

Actions to be taken before next site visit: These actions have been requested for some time and not been addressed.

- Up to date Topographical Survey to include identifying and characterising on site stockpiles and their quantities. How this resource meets the remaining restoration material shortfall/surplus when set against the approved Pre Settlement Plan.
- Working programme/s setting out defined timescale for achieving site reinstatement.
- Amenity Aftercare scheme outstanding.
- Outstanding schemes required by planning permission ESS/42/22/TEN.
- Clay/waste mixing in north eastern corner of the clay stockpile needs to have the waste material returned to the waste cell.
- Overtipping on the eastern site area to be removed in line with Environment Agency requirements.
- CM to check whether the topographic survey has included the overtipping levels and how the overtipping impacts on final restoration contours.

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.

Date of Next Meeting: 13th February 2025 @ 10:15

Report Date: 21/11/24