

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 Shaun Long (SL)(ECC); Jackie and Piers Halsall (JH and PH Landowner); Hugh Westescy (Landowner agent)

Visit no: 4 of 4

Date: 13/02/25

Time on site: 10:15

Time off site: 10:55

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:

Overall no further works carried out since last monitoring visit.

Negligent breeze.

Site weighbridge; wheelwash and rumble strip all that remains of infrastructure at site entrance. Gas glare and portacabin office located within the southern half of the site. An amount of general site rubbish, pipes, telegraph poles and ISO container remain positioned alongside the eastern side of the clay stockpile.

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 has scaffolding around upright and CM confirmed this had been for the emission testing.

Site walked with initial visit to top of clay mound and then to eastern side of landfill site took place where JH and PH queried the delays in establishing the access along the northern boundary to gain access to the lakes; questioned progress on restoration on their land and depths of restoration profiles and whether this had changed.

In the discussion around the planning application CM confirmed that they had submitted all the information necessary to the Environment Agency and were awaiting the permit to be issued.

The northern slip area was visited and discussion between the landowner and CM as to progress on access. CM noting that the wet ground made access at present difficult and concern on making matters worse if the material was not moved. Also CM had about £10,000 available for this rectification work and fencing replacement.

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

Rest of site not walked as no further progress on site had taken place.

PH mentioned they had had gas smell and that others had stopped reporting the issue. SL advised that the reporting needed to be ongoing so that the Environment Agency had a complete picture of this issue. CM confirmed an odour issue about two weeks previous and he had investigated this matter although he did not elaborate on what or how the issue had been dealt with.

CM noted that there were new Directors in the company and that through the planning agent a separate meeting was being pursued with the ECC and Environment Agency on site issues. This matter was being taken up separate to the monitoring visits.

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: 15th May 2025 @ 10:15

Report Date: 13/02/25