



Development Management Group
Lancashire County Council
County Hall
Preston
PR1 0LD

10 June 2024

via Planning Portal

Dear Sirs

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Non Material Amendment application for the variation of the approved restoration landform to allow localised reprofiling to allow formation of the approved restoration scheme including the retention of an established earth bund and at Whitemoss Landfill, Skelmersdale, Lancashire

Please find enclosed the following documents in respect to an application for the above development-

- Completed application forms;
- Revised Contour Plan
- SE Cross section
- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Heatons)

Whitemoss landfill is an important part of the UK's hazardous waste management infrastructure for the disposal of residues from waste treatment, recycling activities and the remediation of contaminated land. Veolia plc acquired Whitemoss Landfill in January 2019. Veolia is the UK's leading resource management company which provides, among others, a wide range of specialist hazardous waste collection, advanced treatment, recycling and recovery services.

The proposal makes no change to day-to-day operations of the landfill, which continues to operate within the terms of both Environmental Permitting Regulations and the Development Consent Order 2015.

The current restoration proposals have drainage from the southern corner of the site to both the north west and north east. The current landform and levels in the southern area of the site do not presently allow for the drainage of this area as required, preventing the required restoration scheme from being established. The restoration proposals in this area of the site are peripheral marshland/moss landscape and habitats including ponds, scrapes and ditches.

In order to achieve suitable restoration contours some localised filling will need to be undertaken to areas of the landfill surface to generate levels allowing for the drainage to function properly. This localised infilling will be undertaken using 'site won' soils and there would be no importation of material. The level change would remain

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within the limits of deviation (2m) contained within the DCO. The final surface restoration details / planting / land use would remain unchanged from the approved plans. It is anticipated that the works would commence in Q3 2024 and the placement of soils should be complete within 2-3 months, subject to suitable weather conditions. Restoration should commence in the planting season of 2025.

Furthermore, the current perimeter screening bund to part of the south eastern and south western boundaries has been in-situ from many years, predating the DCO. Within the current restoration plan the bund currently needs to be removed. However, the bund is now well established with significant tree and vegetation cover that is considered to be of some ecological interest. The proposal is to retain the bund and well established tree and vegetation cover and incorporate it as a part of the planned final restoration of the site to complement localised filling mentioned above.

An ecological appraisal has been undertaken of the areas in question to ensure that the proposals protect ecological features and to identify any mitigation that should be taken into account during the infilling and restoration works. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the recommendation of the appraisal.

The proposed localised infilling will also require re-siting of the current landfill gas flare located in the southernmost corner of the site. The flare operates as part of the landfill gas controls required by the Environmental Permit. In order to improve accessibility and security it is proposed to relocate the flare further to the north east. This element will be subject to a separate planning application in due course.

As per DCO Requirement 34(3), this application seeks approval of the LPA for a non material amendment to allow for retention of the screening bund to achieve the approved restorations scheme.

Payment of the application fee will be made via a direct BACS payment to the Planning Portal. I trust the application contains relevant information in order to be duly validated but should you require any further information in order to determine the application please don't hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Yours faithfully

For and on behalf of Whitemoss Landfill Ltd

[Redacted signature]

Jon Woodhall
Planning Manager (North)

[Redacted contact information]