

Lancashire County Council
Development Management Group
Environment Directorate
PO Box 100
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 0LD

Our ref: NO/2020/112968/03-L02
Your ref: LCC/2020/0052
Date: 18 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

**ERECTION OF RECYCLING WASH PLANT TO PROCESS SELECTED WASTES -
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION; COMMON BANK WORKS, COMMON BANK LANE,
CHORLEY, PR7 1NR**

Thank you for re-consulting us on the above application on 24 November 2020.

We note the revised NIA submitted by the applicant's consultants and their comments on our previous advice to the authority. We have the following additional comments.

The noise impact assessment for the proposed activity (wash plant and peripherals) indicates that this particular activity is likely to have an adverse noise impact (up to +8dB above background at noise sensitive receptors). The consultant attempts to justify this adverse impact by stating that existing operations are already having an adverse noise impact (up to +10dB above background). However, as the existing activities will continue to operate alongside the proposed wash plant, then the contribution from the wash plant will only increase the total noise from the site, possibly increasing the rating level over background to >10dB, which indicates a significant adverse impact according to BS4142. The report separates the proposed activities from the existing activities and individual BS4142 assessments are undertaken on each. To understand the noise impact from the site when both proposed and existing activities are operating together then the BS4142 assessment must consider the contribution from all activities.

With regard to the potential impacts on the four main residential receptors, there are various background noise sources in the area which are likely to impact on the NSRs 1&4 differently to NSR 2&3. We would advise the authority requests more robust justification that the measurement at MP1 is representative of all of these NSR locations.

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We remain concerned at the decision to use the lowest possible correction factors for the likely acoustic features of the proposed activities. Because this is subjective, then others, i.e. residents or nearby office workers, may feel that the tones/impulses are clearly or highly perceptible. We would reiterate to the authority that we continue to receive noise complaints from residents living in the NSR locations.

We would again emphasise that background levels should be measured when the entire site is not operating. The key concern for residents and other receptors will be whether the proposed combination of activities on site causes an adverse or significant adverse impact, therefore individual site activities should not be separated. Whilst the applicant has now stated that the background levels previously presented were measured when the site was not operating, they have also said that site preparation works were underway for installing the wash plant. No detail is provided on the type of work being undertaken, however any site noise is likely to have been measured in the background level therefore artificially raising this.

We would advise that the authority seeks further justification for the assertion that the ongoing site activity/preparation works did not contribute to the measured background level.

Yours faithfully

Mr Jeremy Pickup
Planning Advisor - Sustainable Places

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