

# 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:** Birch Pit

**File Ref:** 13.421.13

**Operator:** Hanson

**Site Representative:** Ben Ayres (BA); James Hines (JH).

Also attended by Almudena Quiralte (Landscape Consultant Essex County Council)

**Visit no:** 2 of 3

**Date:** 12/09/23

**Time on site:** 09:00

**Time off site:** 10:35

**Monitoring Officer:** T Burns                      Tel No: 03330136440

**Site Co-ordinator:**        As above                      Tel No:

**Permission no's:**

- **Permission no: ESS/45/18/COL**

**Constraints:**

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

• Noise

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

• Approach roads:                      **Dry / 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 (Processing plant area)/ Not working**
- In correct position: **Yes / No / N/A**
- Stockpiles: **Height = /Acceptable**
- Bunds: **Profiled / Grassed / Weeds / NA**

**Actions from last site visit: Remain as per the last 2 monitoring visit as well as the update comments.**

- Height of site stockpiles to be maintained to their designated heights. **Update: Kept on record as reminder.**
- Stockpiling area only to be used for stocking purposes. Update: Still outstanding. **Use of the land for screening purposes requires either to be regularised or for the machinery/plant to be removed.**
- Tidying up of the plant/machinery parts located within the stockpiling area and concrete batching plant locations. **Update: Accumulations of redundant plant/machinery and odd items still stored in various points around site.**
- Demarcating boundary of aftercare/active as per the Plan B7m/178. **Update: No action taken.**
- Measures to address tree planting along northern site boundary. Update: BA confirmed from internal discussions that tree planting was undertaken by operator outside of planning control requirements. Monitoring consideration result – Unlikely further initiatives likely to address the establishment of trees on this boundary.
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**Inspection Results Summary:**

- Site bellmouth clean at time of visit.
- Stored portacabin remains in car park and earmarked for replacing existing toilet block. This portacabin has remained insitu awaiting its commissioning over a number of the previous monitoring visit periods. Existing portacabins still in use. Redundant portacabin still to be removed off site.
- Rear of offices still accommodating various items though not as many as previous.
- Lagoon nearest highway remains active with about three quarters filled with silt exposed at surface and with the silt drying out within eastern end and appears to be at a raised level vegetation establishing on periphery.
- Area of restored land remains in grass. Cover has been cut and growth low to ground.
- Transplanted trees/whips along northern edge already reported on above.
- Perimeter bunding significant weed growth around site perimeter.
- Southern end of former extraction void now mostly backfilled and grading down to future lake profile.
- Main extraction area quiet. One ADT parked up alongside hopper which was full but conveyor not operating during time of visit.
- Water in base of void appears from water marks on banking to have dropped from previous levels. Algal growth apparent within the northern end of water body. Sand Martin nests visible top of eastern side of basal void face.
- Stockpile of sand on first bench above water. Appears this western area still being extracted whilst extraction is taking place rather haphazardly to the east in the revised phasing 6 location. Here mineral has been removed from northern fenceline/tree line with slopes at/above 45 degrees whilst it appears better

quality/gravelly material has been chased around leaving varying mounds of partially extracted mineral. No apparent logical working method in this area. Undug mineral remaining on the lagoon side of the Phase.

- Lagoon situated between the Phase and conveyor run remains active.
- Within stockpiling area northern boundary now accommodates large volume of stocked gravel.
- Beyond the new bund created along northern edge of stockpiling area there stills needs to be clearance of material away from/and the hedge line tidied up.
- Remains of old machinery recorded in previous monitoring reports still in situ within the stocking ground.
- Southern end of stocking ground accommodating sand stock piles around screener plant and its radial arms.
- On far eastern side of site adjacent the water body a number of smaller sand stockpiles with a powerscreen to their south remains in place. The need for using this area was previously raised with BA and the potential for pulling back the active quarry boundary.
- Old float/platform lying between the stocking area and water body in north east corner remain.
- Processing plant area plant producing various grades with mainly gravel stocks being produced. .
- Concrete batching plant operational with one mixer truck observed.
- As per last visit request: **Would it be possible to arrange when surveyor next on site for the boundary between “active” and “signed off land” to be demarcated on ground?**

#### **Compliance with Conditions:**

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 4 Prior Archaeology

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No soil stripping until scheme agreed.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Partial discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 5 CEMP - Biodiversity

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: No further clearance of vegetation and/or topsoil stripping until scheme agreed.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 6 Ecology

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within 6 months of the date of the permission for an Ecological Design Strategy.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 7 Time Limit

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Prior to entry into any phase of working ecological surveys.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 9 Arboriculture

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within two months of the date of the permission for an Arboricultural Method Statement.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 10 Waste Importation

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: prior to importation scheme required.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 14 Revised Working Scheme

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within two months of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA: Scheme discharged.

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 21 Noise Monitoring

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within 6 months of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 26 Dust Suppression

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Within 3 months of the date of the permission

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 27 Additional Dust Control

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required prior to removal of the screen bunding or reinstatement activities of the silt lagoon.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 28 Lighting

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required for artificial lighting.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 49 Soil Replacement

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Notification required prior to commencement of the final subsoil placement on each phase, or part Phase.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 51 Restoration

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required within 6 months of the date of the permission

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 52 Landscaping

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme required within 6 months of date of permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 54 Agricultural Aftercare

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within one year of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

Permission/Condition No: ESS/45/18/COL; Condition 55 Amenity Aftercare

Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Scheme within one year of the date of the permission.

Action to be taken by **Operator** or MPA/WPA:

**Actions to be taken before next site visit:**

- Height of site stockpiles to be maintained to their designated heights.
- Stockpiling area only to be used for stocking purposes.
- Tidying up of the plant/machinery parts located within the stockpiling area; concrete batching plant locations and far eastern stockpiling footprint.
- Demarcating boundary of aftercare/active as per the Plan B7m/178.

**Note: The actions noted in this report are required to ensure adequate progress is made and to avoid potential enforcement action against a breach of planning control.**

Date of Next Meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 @ 09:00

Report Date: 12/09/23