

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: Colchester Quarry (including Stanway Hall Pit, Five Ways Fruit Farm; Bellhouse/Abbotstone Landfill and ECC land), Warren Lane, Colchester.

File Ref: 13.421.18/19

Operator: Tarmac; Enovert, ECC; SRC

Site Representative: For ECC: Andrew Brown (AB); For Tarmac; Kelvin Nichols (KN).
For Enovert: Matthew Norton (MN); For SRC: Matthew Yates (MY).

Also attended by Chloe Budd (Essex County Council); during Enovert visit by Alison Hart; Warren Douglas and Emma D'Aviler – Environment Agency)

Visit no: 3 of 4

Date: 14/12/23

Time on site: 09:00

Time off site: 16:05

Monitoring Officer: Terry Burns Tel No: 03330136440

Site Co-ordinator: As above Tel No:

Permission no's:

Bellhouse and Abbotstone

- ESS/48/01/COL/R – Bellhouse Farm ROMP for LEX/266/69
- ESX/66/92/COL – Cory gatehouse, weighbridge and wheel wash.
- ESS/52/94/COL – Cory site accommodation and car park.
- ESS/65/98/COL – Cory offices.
- ESS/27/17/COL – Variation of Condition Operating Hours

- ESS/03/22/COL – Extension of time – Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.
- ESS/04/22/COL Section 73 - Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

West of Warren Lane (Tarmac)

- ESS/104/20/COL & ESS/105/20/COL – Extension of time for office retention (expires 30/09/26).

ECC Land

- ESS/07/15/COL – Retention of post settlement contours
- ESS/86/21/COL – Power generation plant (located NW of Bellhouse) Expires 25 yrs from 06/12/21.

Stanway Hall Quarry

- ESS/24/00/COL – Power generation plant at Stanway Pit to utilise gas generated at Bellhouse landfill.
- ESS/09/12/COL – New generator, flare and back-up generator within existing electricity generation compound.
- ESS/09/12/COL/NMA.
- ESS/09/12/COL/NMA2.
- ESS/23/14/COL - Consolidation application, to extend into FWFF and to import inert waste material for restoration.
- ESS/29/14/COL – Prior approval for site office and welfare building at the Stanway Hall concrete plant.
- ESS/33/14/COL – New staff welfare building at DSM plant.
- ESS/31/21/COL – Clay removal.
- ESS/31/22/COL – CBGM plant Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

Warren Lane Tunnel

- COL/758/89 – Construction of a tunnel under Warren Lane for conveying aggregates.

Five Ways Fruit Farm

- ESS/52/17/COL – Continuation of use of land for mineral extraction etc and to extend DSM plant operating hours. Granted 04/01/19.

Romp Date Due: ESS/52/17/COL 04/01/2034

- ESS/05/22/COL – Section 73 Resolution to approve subject to completion of legal agreement.

Constraints:

- Weather: **Dry with negligent wind/** Windy / Rain / Snow
- Noise (as perceived by officer):
Acceptable/ Not acceptable / N/A – **see inspection result**
- Approach roads: **Combination of: Dry / Dusty / Damp/** Wet / Muddy / Flooded
- Ground: Combination of: Dry / Dusty / **Wet / Damp / Muddy /** Flooded
- Access: Obstructed / **Not Obstructed /** Mud on Road/ Ice / Slippery
- Wheel cleaning: **Washer** (Bellhouse side)/ Spinner / **Sweeper (operating along Warren Lane and Stanway haul road)/**none N/A
- Hose: In use / Not in Use / **N/A**
- Machinery: **Working /** Not working
- In correct position: **Yes /** No / N/A
- Stockpiles: Height = various levels across all sites where applicable.
- Bunds: **Profiled /** Grassed / weeds / NA

Planning Condition Actions from last site visit:

ECC Land

- Drainage ditch on northern site boundary at junction with ECC Land/Footpath entrance to be assessed for suitable gradient to enable water to be channelled westwards and not overtopping and impacting onto the land to the east. **Action: This is retained on the report to assess the situation during appropriate weather conditions.**
- Tree guards along Warren Lane boundary and within site, where necessary, to be cleared. **Update: Still awaited.**

Enovert:

- Program and action on the ground towards progressing the Abbotstone North land into aftercare. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Compound area to be screened bunded if being retained past next monitoring visit and bunding to obscure view of highest plant/machinery within. Mobile screener to be removed off skyline. **Update: Bunding in place. Plant and machinery now parked up just off crown of high point along with accumulating selection of site pipe; bentonite bags; membrane and other small items.**

Tarmac:

- Tightening up of sheeting condition requirement and state of nets being used. **Action: Kept on record as reminder and for clarity on what measures being taken.**
- Operator needs to be satisfied that an appropriate walkover survey has been undertaken by appropriate person/ecologist to confirm that no habitat/species likely to be impacted during the tree felling/ground clearance works on the land immediately north and north west of the main processing plant and main drainage ditch and alongside the previously started new lagoon feature. **Action: For operator to ensure.**
- DSMP plant external arrangements to be addressed. **Action: Still awaited.**
- Outstanding conditions for the Cement Bound Granular Plant to be actioned. **Action: Still awaited.**
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas. **Action: Awaited no dates confirmed.**

SRC Parcel

- The need for appropriate height markers once infilling begins to ensure correct infill levels are adhered to within the Stanway southern void area. **Action: To be placed as soon as.**
- Provision of planning permission/approved plans to be available on the site. **Action: To be confirmed next visit.**
- Clarity and programme for address established ecological interests before clearance of further ground in void area. **Action: Still awaited.**

All

- Clearing tree guards that are damaged/broken/clearly not needed/damaging tree by being too tight and cutting into bark and those littering ground around hedgerow bases and trunks throughout site perimeter to be undertaken around perimeter boundaries of the various land parcel interests. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**
- Maintaining road cleanliness. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**
- Can we all ensure vehicles are clean, and where appropriate sheeting is enforced (as well as state of sheeting that if in state of disrepair this matter is reported to visiting driver/company and what procedure in place to monitor/police) before exiting onto Warren Lane and that any potential for tyre carry out/discharges from vehicle loads is avoided. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**

For Bellhouse;

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 13 Noise Monitoring Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring to be undertaken, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: scheme to be submitted.**

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 21 Allowance Levels Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Settlement surveys to be submitted, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: Settlement surveys to be submitted.**

For Tarmac Bellhouse side:

Permission/Condition ESS/52/17/COL No: 28 Noise Monitoring: Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring **Action to be taken by Operator: Periodic noise monitoring reports required on a three-monthly basis.**

Planning applications – resolution to approve subject to legal agreement for the following three applications:

ESS/03/22/COL (Bellhouse)

Conditions 4 (Biodiversity) – Scheme within 4 months of permission date.

Condition 6 (Sensitive Lighting) Scheme within 6 months of permission date.

Condition 14 (Noise Monitoring) Surveys yearly and Quarterly.

Condition 24 (Landscaping) Scheme within 3 months of permission date.

ESS/04/22/COL (Bellhouse)

Condition 27 (Noise Monitoring) As per previously approved frequency.

Condition 29 (Dust) As per previously approved frequency/action.

ESS/05/22/COL (Five Ways)

Condition 26 (External Lighting) Prior to CGBM plant commissioning.

Condition 29 (Noise Monitoring) – Quarterly

Condition 45 (Surface Water) Within 12 months of soil replacement.

Inspection Results Summary:

ECC land

- All 4 leachate lagoons operational and about half full.
- Large amount of pipework; plastic panelling; drums excavator buckets, gravel stock pile and general miscellaneous parts continues to grow outside of compound entrance along with green skip.
- Low point in access road along with depressions in southern field most obvious now with water holding.
- Ponding also occurring in southern section of southern field around main growth of birch.
- Some pipework sunken below ground. AB to continue sinking of pipework in spring.
- Tracking on ground at various points including southern field along pipeline route and outside field to east of track near site entrance where previous works to install boreholes and manifold boxes has disturbed the ground.
- Some 6 of 10 wells provided across the site footprint.
- AB looking in future to cut back some of the bramble growth within the field areas.
- Smell of methane evident on footpath near pond/Warren Lane
- No cattle/sheep on site at present.
- Number of cuts have been made in lower parts of fenceline along the eastern side of site alongside footpath. These areas have been mended.
- Northern ditch line has holding water in places. AB contemplating raising banking in places to stop water overlapping onto land.
- Tree guards earmarked for removal on eastern boundary with Warren Lane.
- Water holding in pond area to east. AB looking at options for release of excess.
- PROW around site accessible and unobstructed.

Enovert - Bellhouse Quarry/Landfill

- Road sweeper travelling north on Warren Lane and part on footpath cleaning.
- Site entrance with public highway clear at time of visit other than for some carry out of debris appearing to arise from overrunning of verge on northern side of entrance.
- During visit site traffic vising was quiet then built up around midday. Mixture of dust carts and HGV's – Wasteaway. Number of rigid tippers of JKS and TMC livery delivering inerts to high point of landfill for cover material placement.
- Various low points within the site moving north towards footpath crossing that have water holding in the depressions.

- Segregated tipping on higher elevation with dust carts tipping to southern flank of Cell 10. Artics reversing across top of high point to continue the infilling on the western side of Cell 10.
- Abbottstone North area viewed from PROW. MN confirmed no works undertaken since last visit. Consultants on site in northern land parcel undertaking monitoring.
- See comments above about growing accumulation of items around compound area on high point.
- Work on going with final borehole being secured on high point with drill rig. Some maintenance occurring as appears some leachate spill from pipework was being addressed.
- North eastern slope of landfill being lined with adjacent depression being infilled and graded out.
- Western face has cover material and awaits liner. Some leachate evident on face. Ditch around base holding water in places. Additional outer ditch has been created. Some litter blow in trees around the western/north western working areas.
- Cell 11/12 now being constructed with basal clay being used to create slope batter on western side. Clay being layed in three layers and compacted with specified passe rates o achieve permeability factor. MN anticipating that a quarter of the cell will be made available first to allow continuity of infilling. Further “cells” being developed within the larger cell afterwards.
- Sump in north western corner of cell.
- All mineral extraction now stopped and stockpile of hoggin type material stockpiled adjacent conveyor hopper will now be used by operator for landfill use.
- KBB portacabin office remains above the void on south eastern side.
- Wheelwash operational at time of visit.

Stanway Hall Farm Quarry Land

- Access entrance off Warren Lane has tracking out of the entrance and this is emanating from the SRC operations. Internal haul road damp and despite road sweeper this is showing evidence of mud carry.
- Enoverts Gas compound area quiet no cars/vehicles present. Gate open into new extension area that has been created bar for the installation of the gas engine.
- SISK compound also quiet no work ongoing. On site although large number of cars in car park. Site has been tidied up since last visit. Layout still not in accordance with approved plans so this aspect needs rectifying.
- CBGM plant quiet, large stockpiles to its north of crushed and screened stone.
- Again, as from last few monitoring visits most tree guards around Stanway site had been cleared, others remained to be removed where appropriate.
- Processing plant operational. Mineral still being processed from the Bellhouse side stockpile surge located near SISK compound. This stock is being run down as it feeds through to processing plant.

- No restoration works in Five Ways given ground conditions. Land viewed from atop processing plant. Gulls perching across most of the sites plant and stockpiles.

SRC Activities

- Infilling has taken place within western central area of void, active tipping progressing towards western boundary.
- One dozer at far western end levelling material from visiting HGV.
- Clay liner extends about half way up western side wall; on southern wall it reaches just short of top of slope.
- Water collecting between western batter wall and advancing tipping. MY confirmed this being pumped out around periphery and into Tarmacs water management system.
- Around 15 – 20,000 tonnes per month infilling rate.
- Likely spring time advancement with southern clay wall extension out some 75 yards.
- A stockpile of apparent reject material/cleared vegetation sits on the eastern edge of active area. MY confirmed the vegetation would likely be sent to Birch composting site.
- Other non compliant material in delivered loads was evident though not in great quantity.
- Wheelwash and rumble strip commissioned alongside the weigh bridge. HGV seen at time of visit using the rumble strip and wheelwash. HGV parked up after finishing process with driver using hand brush to clean back tailplate gate.
- TB pointed out need to clean up surface post rumble strip and wheelwash where contaminated material lay after use of the rumble/wheelwash facilities.
- Post meeting note – The visiting site HGV drove past on the main quarry haul road and still had material coming off wheels contributing to the tracking out of the site entrance onto Warren lane.

Compliance with Conditions:

For Bellhouse;

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL. No: 13 Noise Monitoring Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring to be undertaken, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: scheme to be submitted.**

Permission/Condition ESS/27/17/COL No: 21 Allowance Levels Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Level surveys to be submitted, see decision notice **Action to be taken by Operator: Levels to be submitted.**

For Tarmac Bellhouse side:

Permission/Condition ESS/52/17/COL No: 28 Noise Monitoring: Scope of Condition and Action to be taken: Periodic monitoring **Action to be taken by Operator: Periodic noise monitoring reports required on a three-monthly basis.**

Actions to be taken before next site visit:

Enovert:

- Program and action on the ground towards progressing the Abbotstone North land into aftercare. .
- Compound area to be screened bunded if being retained past next monitoring visit and bunding to obscure view of highest plant/machinery within. Mobile screener to be removed off skyline.

Tarmac:

- Tightening up of sheeting condition requirement and state of nets being used. **Action: Kept on record as reminder and for clarity on what measures being taken.**
- Operator needs to be satisfied that an appropriate walkover survey has been undertaken by appropriate person/ecologist to confirm that no habitat/species likely to be impacted during the tree felling/ground clearance works on the land immediately north and north west of the main processing plant and main drainage ditch and alongside the previously started new lagoon feature. **Action: For operator to ensure.**
- DSMP plant external arrangements to be addressed.
- Outstanding conditions for the Cement Bound Granular Plant to be actioned.
- Regularising of the SISK compound area.
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas.
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the internal haul road and tracking onto Warren Lane.

SRC Parcel

- The need for appropriate height markers once infilling begins to ensure correct infill levels are adhered to within the Stanway southern void area.
- Provision of planning permission/approved plans to be available on the site
- Clarity and programme for address established ecological interests before clearance of further ground in void area.
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the surface post rumble strip and wheelwash to remove debris before it re-contaminates wheels and then tracking then carrying this out onto main siter haul road and onto Warren Lane.
-

All

- Clearing tree guards that are damaged/broken/clearly not needed/damaging tree by being too tight and cutting into bark and those littering ground around hedgerow bases and trunks throughout site perimeter to be undertaken around perimeter boundaries of the various land parcel interests. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**
- Maintaining road cleanliness. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**
- Can we all ensure vehicles are clean, and where appropriate sheeting is enforced (as well as state of sheeting that if in state of disrepair this matter is reported to visiting driver/company and what procedure in place to monitor/police) before exiting onto Warren Lane and that any potential for tyre carry out/discharges from vehicle loads is avoided. **Action: Kept on record as operator reminder.**

ECC Land

- Drainage ditch on northern site boundary at junction with ECC Land/Footpath entrance to be assessed for suitable gradient to enable water to be channelled westwards and not overtopping and impacting onto the land to the east. **Action: This is retained on the report to assess the situation during appropriate weather conditions.**
- Tree guards along Warren Lane boundary and within site around lagoon system, where necessary, to be cleared.

Date of next meeting: 21/03/24

ECC: 09:00

Enovert: 09:45

Stanway: 11:30

Stanway SRC: 13:15

Date of report: 15/12/23

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.