

Site monitoring report

Please find detailed below the report for the site monitoring undertaken on 12th June 2023.

Site Name: Sheepcotes Farm, Sheepcotes Lane, Little Waltham, Chelmsford

File Ref: 23 421 51

Operator: SRC

Visit no: 1

Monitoring Officer: Tom Sycamore **Tel No:** 03330 321896

Permissions:

ESS/01/18/CHL – Construction of an agricultural reservoir

ESS/01/18/CHL/NMA1 – Revised alignment of the site access road

Constraints:

Weather: **Dry** / Windy / Rain / Snow

Noise: **Acceptable** / Not acceptable / N/A

Approach Roads: **Dry** / Dusty / Wet / Muddy / Flooded

Ground: **Dry / Dusty** / Wet / Damp / Muddy / Flooded / Frozen

Access: **Obstructed (gate open)** / Not obstructed

Wheel Cleaning: Washer / Spinner / Sweeper / **Not working**

Hose: In use / Not in Use / **N/A**

Machinery: **Working** / Not working

Stockpiles: Height = **Various**

Bunds: **Profiled** / Grassed / Weeds / **Soil**

Inspection results summary:

The access to the site from the A131 has now been constructed and is in full use by HGV and other traffic related to the site. The processing plant was also in full operation with different grades of material being produced from the extracted mineral (10mm, 20mm, 40mm, sharp sand).

Some material was stored in stockpiles ready to be exported. One particular stockpile, possibly soils, to the south of the site near the current extraction area appeared to taller than the others and possibly beyond the 5m maximum height limit as stated in the approved application documents.

Extraction was ongoing with material being extracted from the southern corner of the site. Water has still not been reached. Large amount of overburden.

Discussion again took place regarding archaeology and the pipeline that could have affected it, albeit unlikely. As a reminder it is firmly expected that the remaining investigation, required to be undertaken, will be completed to the satisfaction of the MWPA.

The additional (drainage) ditch that has been created around the western boundary of the plant area, to the extraction area (and presumably the dewatering pond) was inspected and discussed as no permission currently exists for this ditch. It was confirmed that the ditch was in place for drainage purposes. It was agreed that crossings should be put in place to allow deer to cross into the adjacent ancient woodland. Although drainage details have already been submitted and discharged, a second revised discharge of application will need to be submitted to the MWPA to include and regularise this ditch.

It was also noted upon exiting the site that a pond was located adjacent to the entrance of the site, possibly an irrigation pond of some sort. Clarification is sought as to what this pond is for. Is it possibly related to the S278 associated with works to the highway.

Action to be taken before next visit:

Operator to submit revised discharge of condition application to regularise drainage ditch along the western boundary.

Operator to confirm purpose and details of the pond adjacent to the entrance of the site.

Operator to submit noise monitoring report to MWPA as part of monitoring requirement.

Operator to ensure stockpiles do not exceed 5 metres in height.

Compliance with conditions:

On-going requirements:

- Noise monitoring (condition 19)