

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: xxx); For Enovert: Sarah Holland (SH); Matthew Norton (MN); Brendan O Shea; For Tarmac; Kelvin Nicholls (KN). For SRC: Matthew Yates (MY).

Also attended by Emma Simmonds (County Ecology);

Visit no: 2 of 4

Date: 26/09/24

Time on site: 09:00

Time off site: 15:15

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 later with heavy rain/** 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/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:

Enovert:

- Program and action on the ground towards progressing the Abbotstone North land into aftercare. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Demarcation of site boundary, replacement of the soils alongside the vegetation on the Hanging Wood periphery and removal of offending infrastructure by 2nd July. **Update: Area cleared. Wooden marker posts placed intermittently to demarcate boundary. Pipework moved within boundary area.**
- Demarcation of southern boundary alongside proposed Cell 12 and clearance of overburden from beneath tree canopy line. **Update: As above point.**

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. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas including tree guard removal from all planting areas around quarry including the mature woodland behind maintenance shed and weighbridge. **Update: Still awaited.**
- Tightening up of the cleanliness of the internal haul road and tracking onto Warren Lane. **Update: At time of visit the entrance and highway clean.**
- Useful to have Ecology/Landscape representatives at next visit. **Update: KN to discuss with internal colleagues and their Ecologist consultant on suitable meeting dates.**

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. **Update: Still awaited. MY at time of last visit it was recorded that surveyors were due on site to install tipping level markers.**
- Provision of planning permission/approved plans to be available on the site. **Update: To be confirmed at next visit.**
- Clarity and programme for address established ecological interests before clearance of further ground in void area. **Update: Still awaited. See inspection report below.**
- 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. **Update: At time of visit the access road was clean.**
- Waterbodies within eastern void visited and noted as having established vegetation and holding wildlife. As reported previously these areas will need appropriate ecological surveys before being disturbed. **Update: Referred to above and in inspection report below.**

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. **Update: Still to be addressed.**

All operators

- 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.**

Permission Nos:

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/03/22/COL Conditions 4 (Biodiversity) – Scheme within 4 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Condition 6 (Sensitive Lighting) Scheme within 6 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

Permission/Condition ESS/03/22/COL Condition 24 (Landscaping) Scheme within 3 months of permission date. **Action to be taken by Operator: Scheme submission required.**

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

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

- Gate open at time of visit apparently to allow gas monitoring staff access.
- Grass looks like it had been strimmed.
- Pipework in southern field stored alongside track fenceline.
- Gas infrastructure pipes now below surface.
- Red Poll cattle in northern field.
- Lagoons active with two full nearest access track. One rear lagoon appeared low to empty.
- Number of the trees along the eastern side of the land parcel require their tree guards to be removed.
- Northern ditch line has holding water in places.
- Gas compound not visited this occasion and was checked between last visit and this one. Bird boxes/insect hotels attached to fenceline/building walls.

Enovert - Bellhouse Quarry/Landfill

- Highway outside site clean. Part of Warren Lane opposite site offices and on internal haul road outside site offices there was ponding of rainwater.
- A number of ClearAway artic HGV's and dust carts visiting site. All tipping in new cells.
- Previous stockpile of overburden left by Tarmac his being utilised for daily cover. Large stockpile of clay imported from off site located on overburden to be used for cell lining programme.

- Wheelwash was being used although those HGV's watched drove through wash without stopping resulting in the water jets activating after the vehicle had exited the wash.
- Ditch at base of rise up to tipping area, opposite the wheelwash and the road junction filled with waste about 10 metres wide.
- Abbottstone land viewed from active landfill. The land will be walked next monitoring visit. Vegetation growth obscuring sight of the tree planting locations. Wild flowers abundant across the northern land.
- Hardcore being tipped for stockpiling purposes, MN advised that they were required to keep on site an amount of hardcore for access maintenance through the Essex County Council contract. TB advised that the placing of the hardcore onto topsoiled/subsoiled area was bad practice and should have been scrapped away to create a proper base. Excavator was sitting atop the stockpile and dust was being generated and blowing towards the Public Rights of Way. Although not confirmed this was going off site; the point was that the public seeing the machine and stockpile in a visible location on the skyline and dust generation was not helpful. A revised location out of sight and off the skyline was to be encouraged.
- MN confirmed they were concentrating on the capping programme and advancing the new cells. The capping of the northern faces on the highground and around the north eastern sides of the site were welcome and improved the visual presence of the activities.
- Top road has been tarmacked and extends some way westwards across the top elevation. No tipping taking place here.
- Active traffic tipping in new cell. BOS/MN confirmed some 11 metres from top of waste in void to base. Since last visit.
- One excavator moving waste on western side. 3 compactors and 1 dozer in void grading/compacting waste.
- ES discussed provision of drainage ditch once required on southern perimeter and need to avoid root protection zone. MN/SH to address.
- Litter pickers out on western slope of new cell.
- MN advised that the new cell area which has now been clay lined now has waste catching up. New programme to have clay liner placed up most possibly all of remaining side slopes.
- Other than the general smell emanating from within the landfill process, there was more evidence of odour apparent when approaching the high point from the access road leading up to the summit and from the access track leading down to the hardcore stockpiling area.

Stanway Hall Farm Quarry Land

- Access entrance off Warren Lane similar to that reported for Enoverton above.

- Enoverts Gas compound area gas flare was operating. A number of HGV's and trucks parked up outside which appeared to be Tarmac liveried and transporting road construction plant.
- SISK compound entrance and down side of trees was an array of vehicles/plant storage. Internal to the site offices still present; CBGM plant closed down awaiting removal off site. Various plant and equipment stored within the footprint. Some stockpiles of crushed material in northern half and some rubble awaiting crushing.
- Concrete batching plant remains dormant.
- KBB now active in south eastern corner of the quarry moving overburden and to be preparing the ground for SRC take over. Vegetation/water bodies in south eastern corner KN advised had been cleared by their ecologist for clearance.
- Processing plant quiet and yard clear of stockpiles.
- Surrounding stocks of sand being marketed. DSM stockpile appeared low.
- Within FFFF mineral being removed from western side with one excavator where remaining mineral remains. Partially creation of the western pond area being formed. operational with large stocks of gravel in stocking area. Most sands being fed into the DSM plant.
- Again, as from last few monitoring visits most tree guards around Stanway site had been cleared, others remained to be removed where appropriate from opposite regional site offices and within wooded areas on southern perimeter together with the two mature woodlands behind maintenance shed and weighbridge.
- Southern end of reptile translocation area visited. Perimeter hedgerow needing management, Weed competition to be addressed. Tree planting in hedgerows appears predominantly to have failed. ES and KN discussed what the programme of works were to be. KN to action and clarify situation and arrange future meeting. KN advised company due in to do grass strimming in the reptile relocation area.
- DSM plant operational but not visited this time.

SRC Activities

- Infilling has mostly been completed within the western and central area of the present active tipping area.
- MY confirmed that southern perimeter exposed clay liner to be covered over to prevent degradation. That some marrying in of levels within site to be completed. Likely that the infill would run northwards through the access track once they had confirmation of all work to the west having been completed. The infill likely to tie into the base of the central quarry haul road and would then await the final removal of the haul road at the end of the main quarry life before the infill levels could be finalised.
- A void has been made into the clay on the eastern side to provide slope liner cover.
- Clay liner to then be continued along the southern and eastern perimeter ready for future infilling.
- Some visiting SRC HGV's using the site during site monitoring period.

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.
- Resiting encouraged of the hardcore stockpile off the skyline and into a more screened location.

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.
- Management and maintenance for the tree planting areas including tree guard removal from all planting areas around quarry including the mature woodland behind maintenance shed and weighbridge.
- Confirming suitable meeting dates with ecological/tree representatives.

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.

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: 5th December 2024

ECC: 09:00

Enovert: 10:00

Stanway: 12:00

Stanway SRC: 13:15

Date of report: 26/09/24

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.