

**Hampshire County Council
Director of Economy, Transport & Environment**

Applicant: Veolia ES Landfill Limited

The Installation of a Leachate Treatment Facility with Associated Plant and Machinery at Blue Haze Landfill Site, Verwood Road, Somerley, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 3QE (No. 12/98419)

(Received: 29 February 2012)

General

Proposal is for the installation of plant and equipment to treat landfill leachate at Blue Haze Landfill, which takes non-hazardous domestic, commercial and industrial waste. The proposed plant would be located alongside the temporary waste transfer station and the landfill gas engines which generate electricity. The nearest houses to the east are about 550 metres away and the nearest house to the west are about 600 metres away. The process involves pumping leachate from the landfill into the raw leachate balancing tank, which was permitted under a previous consent. The raw leachate is then dosed into the sequencing batch reactor treatment tank containing activated sludge and bacteria, where it is mixed and aerated. The liquor is then allowed to settle and the top metre of clear settled liquor is transferred to the treated leachate balance tank. A strong alkali is added to maintain pH as the treating bacteria prefer a slightly alkaline environment. Liquor is then discharged to sewer via discharge flow meter. After about 2 years the tank is desludged and sludge removed by tanker for treatment. The application is accompanied by a noise report, which predicted rating levels at nearest residential receptors well below the prevailing background noise levels during both daytime and the night time.

Development Plan

Hampshire Portsmouth Southampton and New Forest national park minerals and Waste Core Strategy (2007) policies DC3 (Landscape impact), DC6 (Highways), DC7 (Biodiversity), DC8 (Pollution, Health, Quality of Life and Amenity) and DC22 (Additional Plant Buildings and Minor Development are relevant.

Consultations

Councillor Heron no comments received.

New Forest District Council raise no objection.

Environmental Health New Forest no comments received.

Environment Agency raise no objection.

Natural England raise no objection.

Highway Authority raise no objection.

Ellingham Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council raise no objection.

Verwood Town Council raise no objection.

Commentary

The principle of having leachate treatment at the landfill site is in accordance with policy. It is an ancillary activity to the landfill and has significant environmental benefits. The proposed location is not visually intrusive alongside the waste transfer station and the landfill gas engines. In conclusion there is a clear need, which will in extend beyond the period of landfill and therefore it is considered a longer term temporary consent would be appropriate

Recommendation

That permission be granted subject to following reason for approval and conditions:

Reasons for Approval

It is considered that the proposal would be in accordance with the development plan (summary attached) as it is ancillary development at an active waste site (DC22) and would not be visually intrusive (DC3) nor have an adverse impact on the amenity of local residents (DC8).

Conditions

Commencement

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

Reason: To comply with Section 91(as amended) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Timescale

2. The use of the leachate treatment facility and associated plant and machinery shall cease by 22 March 2040. Within six months of cessation of the use all plant, equipment, tanks, foundations, hardstandings, and structures shall be removed and the land restored in accordance with a scheme to be approved by the Waste Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of local amenity

Layout

3. The leachate plant shall be constructed in accordance with the details shown on drawing numbers LTP001 Revision B and 7147/7 B.

Reason: In interest of local amenity.

Noise

4. The blowers and air compressor shall be within an acoustic enclosure, and noise from the plant at night shall not exceed 68 free-field dB as measured at 1m from the enclosure.

Reason: To ensure there is no noise nuisance for nearest residents.

Highways

- 5. Vehicular access will be via the existing Blue Haze Landfill Site access from the B3081 Verwood Road only.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety

Case Officer
Peter Chadwick

Date.....25/04/2012.....

Authorised on behalf of the Director of the Economy, Transport & Environment

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Richard Read

Date...25/04/2012.....

Annexe to Reasons for Conditions
(as required by Article 22 of the Town and Country Planning
(General Procedure) Order 1995 – as amended)

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2007

DC3 - Impact on Landscape and Townscape

Minerals and waste development will only be permitted if due regard is given to the likely visual impact of the proposed development and its impact on, and the need to maintain and enhance, the distinctive character of the landscape or townscape. If necessary, additional design, landscaping, planting and screening, including planting in advance of the commencement of the development, should be proposed.

DC8 - Pollution, health, quality of life and amenity

Minerals and waste development will only be permitted if due regard is given to the pollution and amenity impacts on the residents and users of the locality and there is unlikely to be an unacceptable impact on health and/or the quality of life of occupants of nearby dwellings and other sensitive properties. Where necessary minerals and waste developments should include mitigation measures, such as buffer zones between the site and such properties.

DC22 - Additional Plant, Buildings and Minor Development

Additional plant, buildings and minor developments at active minerals and waste sites, or the exploration of minerals (except oil and gas), will be permitted provided, where appropriate, they do not extend the timescale for completion of the development, they are ancillary to the operation of the site or they provide for the co-location of complementary minerals and waste activities.