

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

Applicant: Marchwood Aggregates Ltd

Variation of condition 1 of Planning Permission 09/94538 to extend the time period of completion until 31 December 2025 at Marchwood Quarry, Jacobs Gutter Lane, Marchwood, Southampton SO40 4UD (No. 12/99110)

(Received: 14 August 2012)

General

The proposal is to extend the time limit condition for permission 09/94538, which permitted the extraction and processing of sand and gravel with progressive infilling with inert material together with ancillary plant and buildings and the erection of a concrete batching plant. As such the proposal for consideration is 67.9 ha of a sand and gravel quarry with progressive infilling with inert material and ancillary activities.

Therefore, the proposal is a Schedule 1 development as it is above the threshold for a quarry. This makes the proposal an EIA development as this is mandatory for any proposals that are within Schedule 1.

Planning permission for sand and gravel extraction was granted in November 1994 (049867M). Later, planning permission was granted to extend the site up to Tavells Lane in August 2004 (76732). Permission was granted to change conditions 3 and 5 of planning permission 049867M to allow removal of sand and gravel from new areas within the site, and extend the time period for working the site by three years, taking the workings until 2012 (09/94538).

Condition 2 of planning consent 76732 (southern extension) required the completion of extraction and tipping by 31 December 2009, but planning permission was granted (09/94843) to extend time to 31 December 2010. A further application was granted to extend the time for a further 18 months for working and restoring the southern extension (10/96508), extending the time limit to 2012.

Marchwood Quarry is located to the north west of Marchwood village. It lies between the railway line, Trotts Lane and Marchwood Road/Bury Road. To the east and south is residential development. To the west is forested land and to the north is mainly agricultural land. The nearest houses are along Trotts Lane, the nearest one being about 40 metres from the edge of the site.

Access is onto Marchwood Road, and there is a lorry routeing agreement directing lorries away from Marchwood Village.

Eling and Bury Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area/RAMSAR (SPA/RAMSAR) and Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC) lie on the other side of Marchwood Road/Bury Road, approximately 150m to the east. Approximately 500m to the south west is the New Forest National Park (NFNP) border.

Development Plan

Hampshire Portsmouth Southampton, and New Forest National Park Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (2007) is the adopted plan. The most relevant policies are:

S8 (Sand and Gravel)

DC2 (Sites with International and National Designations),

DC3 (Impact on Landscape and Townscape),

DC6 (Highways),

DC7 (Biodiversity),

DC8 (Pollution, Health, Quality of Life and Amenity),

DC10 (Water Resources),

DC12 (Restoration and Aftercare),

DC14 (Landfill) and

DC15 (Sand and Gravel).

Draft Hampshire Portsmouth, Southampton, New Forest and South Downs Minerals and Waste Local Plan is emerging policy.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is a material consideration. Consideration needs to be given to the presumption in favour of sustainable development and the Core Planning Principles.

Commentary

The principle of mineral extraction and restoration to agriculture for this site has been accepted in the previous planning permissions. The site has been an active quarry, with restoration and some ancillary recycling processes for a number of years.

The purpose of this Environmental Statement is to include the essential information and identify the key issues that have arisen at the site since the earlier permission was granted on 11 November 2010.

The key standard information to be included is as follows:

1. A description of the development comprising information on the site, design and size of the development.
2. A description of the measures envisaged in order to avoid, reduce and, if possible, remedy significant adverse effects.
3. The data required to identify and assess the main effects which the development is likely to have on the environment.
4. An outline of the main alternatives studied by the applicant or appellant and an indication of the main reasons for his choice, taking into account the environmental effects.
5. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 4 of this Part.

The issues considered to be key at this stage of the development, focus on the relationship between the current landscape, hydrology, proposed restoration and the sensitive ecological area to the north. Specifically, we suggest that the Environmental Statement should address the following issues:

- i. The extent to which the water recharge trench is impeded by the new pipes on the north east boundary and how this effects the RAMSAR, SPA, SAC and SSSI at Eling and Bury marshes.
- ii. Water related species and habitats established on site due to working activities- Phase 1 to assess any protected species or value.
- iii. Restoration from pasture to arable agriculture- assess the effect on hydrological connectivity and water quality on the RAMSAR, SPA, SAC and SSSI at Eling and Bury marshes.

- iv. Overall restoration and aftercare- high standard due to the proximity of the New Forest National Park, planting, management and benefits.
- v. Transport assessment – predicted numbers and highway safety/cycleways (Deed of variation for lorry routing).

Further information may be required by the Mineral Planning Authority, but this will be discussed if necessary.

Recommendation

This report and consultee responses attached constitutes the formal scoping opinion of the County Council as Mineral Planning Authority to extend the time period of completion until 31 December 2025 at Marchwood Quarry, Jacobs Gutter Lane, Marchwood, Southampton SO40 4UD (No. 12/99110)

Case Officer
Katherine Snell

Date...29/08/2012.....

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

.....P Chadwick.....

Date.....29/08/2012.....