

Wallington Waste Recycling & Transfer Facility

Section 73 Application to vary
Conditions 3 and 4 attached to
Permission P/98/0376/CC

July 2012



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Drawing Fhm-EGA-0712-01: Site Location Plan

Drawing Fhm-WSA-0712-01: Wood Shredding Area

Drawing 297/12: Previously Approved Site Layout

1.0 Introduction

Background

- 1.1 SITA UK Ltd (SITA) is applying to Hampshire County Council (HCC) for planning permission under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to continue the operation of the Walling Integrated Waste and Recycling Facility approved under P/98/0376/CC without complying with conditions 3 and 4.
- 1.2 Condition 3 states that:

No external activity, operations, vehicular access or lorry movements shall take place on site except during the hours of 0600-2200 on Monday to Saturday. None of these activities shall take place at all on Sundays or recognised public holidays. Between the hours of 2200 and 0600 the only activities carried out shall be waste management operations wholly within the buildings identified for that purpose and the use of a loading shovel within the aggregate stockpile enclosure on the north elevation of the main building. During this period all external doors except the tipping hall door on the north elevation shall be kept closed.
- 1.3 A variation of this condition is now required in order to extend the operating hours of the site to allow vehicles to deliver waste to the sites on Bank Holidays. There will be no processing of waste on these days only access to the building where material will be deposited prior to being processed on the following working day.
- 1.4 Condition 4 states that:

The wood chipper shall only be operated in the north-east corner of the site as indicated on Drawing NO 297/12D and shall operate only between the hours of 0730 and 1800 Monday to Saturday. It shall not operate on Sundays or recognised Public Holidays.
- 1.5 A (retrospective) variation of this condition is now required to extend the footprint of the wood chipping area. The operation now extends along the eastern boundary of the site. No extension to the hours of wood chipping is sought as part of this proposal.
- 1.6 This statement has been prepared in support of the application and outlines the need for the proposal, demonstrates that it will not give rise to any adverse environmental impacts and that it also complies with relevant planning policies.

The Applicant

- 1.6 SITA provides a wide range of waste management services to numerous local authorities throughout the UK as well as to commerce and industry. Every day, over 12 million residents and 40,000 business customers nationally benefit from SITA's knowledge and experience in managing waste.
- 1.7 SITA's services include: recycling, composting, business waste, security shredding, residential waste, energy from waste, green energy generation, landfill engineering, environmental compliance, bulk haulage, street cleansing, civic amenity site management and transfer station management.

2.0 The Site and Surrounding Area

- 2.1 The application site is located north of military road on the eastern edge of the village of Wallington (grid reference SU 591,070). The site has an area of approximately 2.7ha and is well screened on all sides by attenuation bunding and established tree planting. The M27 motorway runs adjacent to the northern and eastern boundaries. Immediately west of the site is an industrial estate and to the south an area of open fields.
- 2.2 The site is accessed via Standard Way road, which links directly to the A27.
- 2.3 The nearest residential properties are located approximately 180m west of the site, beyond an existing business park.
- 2.4 The site is not located within the flood plain or an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).
- 2.5 The site is located 800m north of the Portsmouth Harbour SPA, Ramsar and SSSI designations.
- 2.7 The site and its immediate surrounding area is shown in Drawing Fhm-EGA-0712-01

3.0 The Proposal

Variation of Condition 3 (Operating Hours)

- 3.1 The extant permission allows for the site to accept waste between the hours of 0600 and 2200 Monday to Saturday, but at no time during Sundays or Bank Holidays
- 3.2 Many of SITA's customers still require waste to be collected on Bank Holidays and in order to ensure we can provide this service, a variation of the current Condition is sought to allow the site to be open between 0700 and 1700 on Bank Holidays.
- 3.3 On the Bank Holidays, the site would be open only for the receipt of waste. No processing, bulking or transporting of the material would take place. Material will be delivered and tipped into the shed ready for processing on the following working day.
- 3.4 The wood chipping operation will not take place at any time on Bank Holidays.
- 3.5 It is estimated that approximately 30 loads will be delivered to the site over the 10 hour period, equating to 3 loads per hour.
- 3.6 The material will comprise of various trade and inert wastes, the same as that delivered to site each day. The Environmental Permit allows for the acceptance of up to 300,000 tonnes per annum of materials. The current site throughput is significantly lower than this meaning the additional material delivered on Bank Holidays (should permission be granted), will not result in an increase in the overall consented capacity.

Variation of Condition 4 (wood chipping)

- 3.7 Condition 4 of the extant permission requires that the wood chipping operation take place only within the north east corner of the site.
- 3.8 The extant permission (P/98/0376/CC) was granted in 1998 and since then, changes in legislation, increases in landfill tax and the increased use of sustainable fuels (such as wood) has meant that SITA has seen increases in the amount of waste wood being delivered to site.
- 3.9 As a result, a larger area is required to store the raw material and finished product. A retrospective variation is sought to increase the currently approved area.
- 3.10 The wood chipping area now extends along the eastern edge of the site as shown on the attached plan – Drawing Fhm-WSA-0712-01.
- 3.11 As part of the extension of the area, additional free standing push-wall blocks have been installed along the eastern edge of the site. These have been installed to allow stockpiling of material and ensure no wood falls outside of the site boundary.
- 3.12 Planning Permission (NMA/2010/0335) for a Non-Material Amendment which involved the installation of 60m of free standing blocks along the north eastern boundary was granted in February 2011.
- 3.13 Despite the additional material processed on site, the hours of operation will still take place between 0730 and 1800 on Mondays to Saturdays.
- 3.14 In order to reduce dust arising as a result of the wood chipping operation, the screening device has been installed with a sprinkler. As shown in Drawing Fhm-WSA-0712-01, SITA also intend to install 6 no. sprinkler heads within the processing area. Three of these will be located over the raw material and three over the chippings.

- 3.15 A sweeper also visits the site daily to remove any dust from areas of hardstanding and access roads.
- 3.16 The operation enables a significant amount of wood to be converted into a sustainable fuel and ensures that material does not end up in landfill.

4.0 Environmental and Policy Considerations

Dust

- 4.1 As stated above, the wood screening unit has been installed with a sprinkler to reduce dust emissions from the process. The area will also be installed with 6 no. sprinklers at either end of the chipping areas (attached to the top of the push-wall).
- 4.2 The sprinklers will be used periodically and more regularly during dry/windy periods.
- 4.3 To date no complaints have been received in relation to dust and SITA believe that the additional measures proposed will further reduce the risk of dust emissions.
- 4.4 Given the above, it is not considered that the proposal will give rise to any adverse impacts upon amenity and therefore aligns with Policy DC8 (Pollution, health, quality of life and amenity) of the Waste Core Strategy.

Ecology

- 4.5 The site does not support any ecological interest and although located near to a designated nature conservation site, the operations are considered unlikely to impact upon any nearby biodiversity.
- 4.6 As a result, the proposal aligns with Policy DC7 (Biodiversity) of the Waste Core Strategy.

Hydrology

- 4.5 The site does not lie within the flood plain and no additional floor space will be created as part of this proposal.

Landscape & Visual

- 4.7 No external changes are proposed to the buildings. The wood chipping operation is well screened by the existing tree planting. Stockpiles will not exceed 5m in height at any time.
- 4.8 The proposal is considered to align with Policy DC3 (Impact on Landscape and Townscape) of the Waste Core Strategy.

Noise

- 4.9 The site currently has permission to accept waste between 0600-2200 Mondays to Saturdays (although deliveries usually cease around 1800). No complaints have been received in relation to noise from the site as a result of both delivering and processing waste.
- 4.10 The proposed Bank Holiday working hours will involve only the delivery and tipping (inside the building) of waste. There will be no processing, bulking or onward transportation of waste.
- 4.11 Given the above, it is considered that these deliveries will not adversely impact upon the amenity of nearby residents.
- 4.12 Although the area required for wood chipping has been increased, the operation remains the same as was originally proposed.
- 4.13 SITA do not intend to undertake wood chipping outside of the hours currently permitted by Condition 4 (0730-1800 Monday to Saturday)

- 4.14 The operation is located in the eastern part of the site, as far from the residential properties as possible. To date, there have been no complaints with regards to noise from the operation.
- 4.9 Given the above, it is considered that the proposals align with Policy DC8 of the Waste Core Strategy.

Traffic

- 4.11 As stated above, the maximum amount of deliveries expected during Bank Holidays will be 30. The vehicles delivering to the site do not pass directly by the nearby properties so any noise associated with the movements will be negligible.
- 4.12 It is considered that the additional movements will not adversely impact upon the highway network or increase the risk of accidents. As a result, the proposal aligns with Policy DC6 (Highways) of the Waste Core Strategy.

5.0 Conclusion

Summary

- 5.1 The proposal seeks permission to accept waste on Bank Holidays in order to ensure that a number of businesses within the surrounding area can deposit and recycle their waste, ensuring Hampshire County Council contributes towards the regional and national waste reduction and recycling targets.
- 5.2 As demonstrated above, the acceptance of waste during Bank Holidays will not adversely impact upon traffic, noise or amenity of nearby residents and businesses and therefore aligns with the relevant policies set out within the Waste Core Strategy.
- 5.3 The (retrospective) expansion of the wood chipping area is being sought to regularise the current operation, which has expanded due to the amount of wood available for chipping.
- 5.4 The wood chipping will continue to take place within the permitted hours and to date, has not given rise to any complaints. The addition of several sprinklers will help further reduce the risk of dust emissions and the additional push-wall blocks will allow more efficient management of the material and stockpiles.
- 5.5 SITA therefore respectfully requests that planning permission for the additional operating hours be granted.