

Walley's Quarry Landfill Site, Silverdale- Community Update October 2020

Introduction

These updates are designed to provide residents with the latest information about our regulation of the Walley's Quarry landfill site in Newcastle under Lyme.

Keeping you up to date on our progress is very important to us and we hope our updates and frequently asked questions (FAQ) document will answer many of your questions.

Please see link below for our FAQ document:

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-silverdale/supporting_documents/Generic%20Landfill%20FAQs.pdf

Coronavirus: The Environment Agency response

We are working hard with Government and other emergency responders on protecting the public and the environment from the effects of Coronavirus. The Environment Agency remains fully operational and committed to adhering to all Government guidelines with the majority of our staff working from home. However we continue to visit permitted sites and complete amenities assessments.

Final Decision to issue variation to the environmental permit

In December 2018 we received an environmental permit variation application for Walley's Quarry Landfill Site, Cemetery Road, Silverdale, Newcastle under Lyme ST56DH, on behalf of Red Industries RM Ltd. The variation to the existing environmental permit, requested an increase in the annual waste inputs from 250,000 tonnes to 400,000 tonnes.

We ran our first public consultation on the variation application from 24 May 2019 to 20 August 2019. We then ran a public consultation on our draft decision to issue the variation from 19 August 2020 till 16 September 2020. Following our assessment of the variation application, including a review of all the comments received from our public consultations the variation was issued on the 30 October 2020. The business demonstrated within the application that the proposed change meets all the legal requirements therefore we are legally obliged to issue the permit variation.

To view the permit please follow the link below:

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/st5-6dh-red-industries-limited-dd/supporting_documents/Variation%20Notice.pdf

To view the decision document please follow the link below:

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/st5-6dh-red-industries-limited-dd/supporting_documents/Decision%20Document.pdf

Site regulation update

We continue to carry out odour assessments in the area. The latest assessment was carried out on the 19 October 2020, when an Environment Officer did detect a landfill type odour at the Silverdale cross roads traffic lights. However, we did not consider this to be in breach of the permit. We informed the operator which is our normal practice. Subsequently, we completed a site visit on the 23 October 2020 and undertook a monitoring exercise using a hand held Tuneable Diode Laser (TDL) monitor. Prior to the visit we detected a landfill type odour on Cemetery Road opposite the site entrance which we rated at 3 out of 6. The operator



Above: soils applied on site near the garden centre and site entrance.

advised us that the likely source of the odour was a gas well. A member of staff on site had reported that the gas well needed repair that morning. The site was already taking action and the repairs were completed during our site visit. Since our last visit additional soils had been applied to the part of the site which borders the garden centre and the near the site entrance.

Liaison Meetings

Regular community liaison meetings, facilitated by the operator Red Industries, continue to be held. Invitees to the meeting include the Environment Agency, local and parish councillors, representatives from the local community including residents associations, the local action group and a local resident. Resident's representatives are included on the group. If any further residents are interested in joining these meetings to represent the community please email:

enquiries@redindustries.co.uk.

We attended the last community liaison meeting which was held 8 October 2020. During the meeting Red Industries shared the following; a presentation with information on how they have been operating during Covid-19, a site update and an artist's impression of what the landfill might look like once the site has been completely capped off and restored.

If you would like to find out more about these meetings including the meeting notes please follow the link below:

<https://www.redindustries.co.uk/walleys-landfill-community/>

Scrutiny Committee

Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council have set up a scrutiny review working party to investigate and consider the concerns about Walleys Quarry Landfill raised by those living and working nearby. The latest Walley's Quarry Landfill scrutiny committee session took place virtually on 7 October 2020. The Environment Agency took part in this session during which we provided information on our regulation of the site and took questions from members of the working group. The Working Group comprised of the following members – Councillors Andy Fear (Chair) and Dave Jones, Amelia Rout, Gill Heesom and Marion Reddish.

If you would like to review the information the Environment Agency presented please follow the link to see the full presentation:

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-sliverdale/user_uploads/environment-agency-presentation-071020-1.pdf

If you wish to watch the recorded session please follow this link:

<https://youtu.be/dgigsaXsQII>

For further information on Walley's Quarry Landfill scrutiny committee please refer to Newcastle under Lyme council website:

<https://moderngov.newcastlestaffs.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=464&MId=3769>

Keeping local residents updated

During this period of restriction due to Coronavirus we will only update you if there are any significant changes we need to make you aware of.

Our online information page has been updated in line with this:

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-sliverdale/>

If you would like to provide feedback on how useful you have found this update, or be added to our mailing list to receive these updates in the future, please email Engagement_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environmental concerns

To report an environmental incident or concern, please call our free 24 hour incident hotline on:

0800 80 70 60

Please do not try to contact our officers directly - we cannot guarantee that your call will be logged and dealt with in a timely manner unless it is made through the incident hotline.

Thank you for reading.