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Sent by email only

Dear Tanya,

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT SCREENING REQUEST
LAND AT CONESBY QUARRY, SCUNTHORPE**

1. **Introduction**

On behalf of Transwaste Recycling and Aggregates Ltd, we write to request a formal Screening Opinion under Regulation 6 of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England) Regulations 2017 (hereafter referred to as 'the EIA Regulations') for the above development proposal, hereafter referred to as 'the proposed development'.

To assist in your adoption of a Screening Opinion, we have provided a summary of the site location and a brief description of the nature and purpose of the proposed development.

We have also set out our view on whether the proposed development falls within Schedule 1 or Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations and following which considered the information we believe should be required to complete the EIA Regulations Screening Matrix. Each Section seeks to address the selection criteria for screening Schedule 2 development provided within Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations.

The following documents are enclosed with this EIA Screening Request: -

- Appendix 1 – Red Line Boundary Plan.

2. **Site and Surroundings**

Conesby Quarry sits in a largely rural/industrial fringe landscape on the edge of Scunthorpe. Conesby Quarry is a former ironstone quarry located off Normanby Road, Scunthorpe area within the administrative boundaries of North Lincolnshire. Historically it was part of the local ironstone mining landscape that contributed to Scunthorpe's steel-making industry. The quarry covers a large area (around 60+ ha) of former extraction land, much of which has been filled or partly restored following its closure.

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The site is currently accessed from Normanby Road which has a junction with Phoenix Parkway to the south and provides direct access into the Foxhills Industrial Estate. The nearest settlement is Dragonby which is located approximately 320 metres to the east.

Landform includes a deep depression in the eastern part with surrounding scrub and grassland habitats. Substrate and soils reflect its industrial past, with ironstone and associated mudstones underlying the site. The deep depression contains a currently unused waste cell which would need to be filled to enable the Phase 2 to be completed.

3. Planning History

The most relevant planning permission is **2000/1074**. Approval was granted on 2 February 2001 to “*excavate contaminated steelworks waste from the former Normanby Park Steelworks for deposition into Conesby Quarry, and associated restoration of at the former Normanby Park Steelworks and Conesby Quarry*”.

Conesby Quarry is a dis-used ironstone quarry. The ironstone was extracted for use in the local steelworks. Conesby Quarry can be sub-divided into three principal areas.

- Phase 1, at the western end of the quarry, was landfilled and restored in 1995.
- Phase 2, the middle section was landfilled with material from the Normanby Park Reclamation Site; and,
- Phase 3(the subject of 2000/1074) the final section, includes is to be landfilled alongside the completion of the Phase II area.

4. Proposed Development

The Proposed Development will comprise the continued operation of a fully engineered containment landfill for the disposal of non-hazardous and inert wastes. The construction of the lining system and the construction of other engineered features on the site would be subject of a Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) regime which would require prior approval of built landfill infrastructure by the EA.

It is understood there are still substantial reserves of limestone, ironstone and mudstone remaining within the Phase 3 area. Some of this mineral will have economic value and will be sold and exported off site which will then increase the potential landfill void in future years. Some of the mudstones have been considered suitable as landfill liner for non-hazardous waste but will be fully tested to meet the requirements for a non-hazardous landfill facility.

It is estimated the potential landfill void could be 3.7 million cubic metres, but this would be dependent on a number of factors not yet known such as economic mineral reserve, depths of landfill liner, final restoration level amongst others.

The proposed operations will complete the reclamation of Conesby Quarry, to a beneficial after use. The proposals extend the historic landfilling operations into the eastern part of Conesby Quarry, in a phased and similar operational manner to the completed Phases 1 and 2. The general principles of the reclamation and non-hazardous landfilling operations at Conesby Quarry are long established.

Principally, the waste types to be deposited will be inert and non-hazardous which will typically comprise:

- Inert construction and Demolition Wastes
- Non-Hazardous materials such as wood, plastic, glass
- Waste sludges from industrial processes

The full list of waste codes will be detailed in a permit variation application with the Environment Agency.

The volumes of waste imported per annum will be dictated by the Environmental Permit which will then dictate the number of HGV movements to be proposed in a pre-application submission.

5. EIA Regulations

The EIA Regulations define EIA development as that falling under either Schedule 1 Development, or Schedule 2 Development likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size or location.

The proposal is not Schedule 1 development. The proposal predominantly falls within the description of Category 2(a) of Column 1 of Schedule 2. The development will consequently only be EIA development where it will have significant effects on the environment by reason of factors such as its nature, size or location.

Exclusive Criteria

Under Schedule 2, paragraph 11(b), EIA may be required for installations for the disposal of waste (unless included in Schedule 1), if the area of the development exceeds 0.5 hectare, or if the installation is to be sited within 100 metres of any controlled waters.

The proposed development would fall under Schedule 11b 'Installations for the disposal of waste'. The applicable threshold and criteria of Paragraph 11b is set out in Table 1 below. The site is xxx therefore the relevant criteria at Part 11b (ii) is exceeded; further having regard for the EIA Regulations as whole and the likely environmental effects it is our position that an EIA is required. Accordingly, it is our client's intention to seek a scoping opinion from the North Lincolnshire Council.

Notwithstanding the above, this is a formal request for the Council to establish whether the proposal is considered EIA development under the 2017 Regulations and whether an Environmental Statement is required, and I trust that the information provided in this letter together with the enclosed plans I sufficient for you to formulate an opinion. We look forward to receiving your response within the statutory three week period. Should you have any queries or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,


Richard Mowat
Director