

22 October 2020
Our ref: BRE/BO/TJC/1744/01
Your ref: P/2020/0153

S Greenland
Planning and Enforcement Officer
Planning and Regulatory
Wrexham County Borough Council
The Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Greenland

Borras Quarry – Planning application reference P/2020/0153

Further to your recent discussions with my colleague, Laura Cherry, we are pleased to provide further comments on the consultation responses from Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in respect of drainage at the site.

We understand that NRW consider that a Drainage Strategy for the site is necessary which is based, at least in part, on the requirement in Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No.10 v6 that the operations should be carried out on a site with a sealed drainage system. We have been unable to identify Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No.10 v6 on the NRW website (<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/waste-permitting/apply-for-a-waste-permit/standard-rules-and-risk-assessments-for-waste-operations/?lang=en>).

It is proposed by Breedon that the operations at the site will be the subject of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 for the operation of an inert and excavation waste transfer station with treatment. We attach a copy of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 for your information which we have downloaded from the NRW website (<https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/692230/sr2008-no11-inert-and-excavation-waste-transfer-station-with-treatment-v60.pdf>). Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 provides for the acceptance of up to 75,000 tonnes of waste per annum and includes waste code 17 03 02 which comprises '*bituminous mixtures other than those mentioned in 17 03 01*'. Accordingly, Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 provides for the storage and recycling of up to 75,000 tonnes per annum of road planings at the site consistent with the proposals the subject of the planning application.

It is stated in Table S2.3 of Condition 2.3.1 of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 that '*Waste shall be stored and treated on hard standing or on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.*' Although there is no specific definition of hard standing in Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 it is distinct from an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system and is generally accepted to comprise a surface on



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which plant can operate. There is no requirement in Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 or any other Environmental Permit for hardstanding to be impermeable or be provided with a sealed drainage system. The surface at the site on which it is proposed that the activities will be carried out comprises a concrete surface from which incident rainfall will drain to ground. Such drainage is not a point source emission and is not subject to emission limits in Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11. Although the surface at the site generally is consistent with an impermeable surface even if it was considered to be hardstanding the storage and treatment of up to 75,000 tonnes per annum of road planings on this surface is entirely consistent with Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008.

Standard Rules Environmental Permits are supported by Generic Risk Assessments in which a range of issues associated with the operations the subject of the relevant Standard Rules Environmental Permits are addressed including the risk to groundwater. For your information we attach a copy of the Generic Risk Assessment in respect of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 which we have downloaded from the NRW website. As you will see in respect of groundwater it is stated in the Generic Risk Assessment that the magnitude of risk to groundwater is already 'low' and that given that the '*Permitted wastes unlikely to contaminate groundwater*' with the controls the subject of the Environmental Permit the residual risk to groundwater is '*very low*'.

There is no locational restriction in Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 related to the aquifer or the source protection zone in which a site is located and the Generic Risk Assessment does not identify these criteria as specific criteria. While we appreciate that the Borrás site is located within a Source Protection Zone 3 (SPZ 3) and on a principal aquifer the operations at the site the subject of the planning application are entirely consistent with the specification for Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11 which have been set by NRW and meet the criteria of the Generic Risk Assessment set by NRW for sites the subject of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11. Accordingly, it is considered that it is not necessary to submit a Drainage Strategy.

The other comments raised by NRW in their consultation responses are noted. In particular it is noted that NRW '*...concur with the observations and conclusions in the Technical Note (Wilkinson Associates Environmental Consultants, 13th July 2020)*'. It is confirmed that a liaison meeting was held with Matthew Ellis of NRW, Jan Wilkinson the site ecologist and representatives of Breedon on 16 October 2020. As far as we are aware, aside from the suggestion by NRW that a Drainage Strategy is needed there are no other objections or outstanding comments from NRW or any other consultee and as we have explained in this letter the suggestion by NRW that a Drainage Strategy is needed is inconsistent with the standards they have set themselves for the operation of facilities such as that the subject of the planning application.

Should you have any queries or need any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Guy Titman

cc J Davies, Breedon



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Enc A copy of Standard Rules Environmental Permit SR2008 No11
 A copy of Generic Risk Assessment in respect of Standard Rules Environmental
 Permit SR2008 No11



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