DOUGLAS J P EDWARDS

employing

Chartered Building Surveyors

Chartered Surveyors and Architects

Principal: Douglas J P Edwards FRICS C.Build E FCABE FIAS

PENFOLD VERRALL LTD THE HAULAGE YARD DIAL POST WEST SUSSEX RH13 8NY

PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF WASH PLANT EQUIPMENT

PLANNING STATEMENT

GENERAL COMMENTS.

This Variation of Condition Planning application is for the installation of high-tech wash plant equipment within the existing licenced yard at the Penfold Verrall reclamation yard in Dial Post, West Sussex.

The yard has operated the same treatment of CDEW waste for many years utilising crushing machines and separators as can be seen at other similar sites. Reference to the Operator's Statement, which forms part of this Application, confirms the existing site performance and the reasons why this major investment upgrade is considered necessary.

As an Agent acting for the Applicants, I have been fortunate to witness a working site elsewhere utilising similar equipment to that proposed and can report that the degree of recycling improvement is quite staggering. Indeed, in my opinion, there is no comparison between the two processes and the existing arrangements are antiquated by comparison. Not only is the proposed installation clearly far more efficient in reclamation terms but, environmentally, it is a much-improved and futuristic system.

From perusal of the Application plans it can be seen that the CDEW deposit and loading set-up remains the same in terms of site position and processes undertaken but, thereafter, the entire remaining processes are a marked improvement in relation to the current arrangements. For example, all materials to be treated travel by conveyor belts for separation purposes and then to deposit areas whereupon they are collected for re-sale. This markedly reduces site plant activities, stimulates reduction of noise and dust nuisances and, importantly, enhances site safety.

The Legend on Drawing No: 22-12-02 describes the various processes at each station and has been added in order to provide an easier understanding of the overall re-cycling sequences.

Towards the end of the CDEW treatment the final slurry mix is pressed to remove water content with the resultant 'slurry cakes' also destined for re-cyclable uses. We are told that this is a development process derived from the wine industry and it is a highly innovative way of converting the mud/silt/slurry residue into yet further re-cyclable material.

In terms of the overall proposed yard adaptation the installation does not require any site enlargement nor does it create throughput capacities beyond the existing approved limits.

VISUAL IMPACT.

The existing site is of mature appearance having been well established for many years. Earth bunding is apparent to the South, East and West elevations with an acoustic fence situated at the top of the bunds.

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NORTH VIEW INTO SITE.

This view is not affected at all by this proposal as the licenced yard is set to the South and beyond the approach yard areas where HGV parking takes place. Consequently, no impact is caused.

SOUTH VIEW INTO SITE.

The well-established Grinders Wood is set immediately to the South of the yard with the existing earth bund remaining in position. No harm is caused to any of these areas. Works to the inside of the bund, i.e. yard side, whereupon a retaining wall is proposed will not affect any external landscaping.

WEST VIEW INTO SITE.

This elevation will again be unaltered when perceived from external viewpoints. There is a substantial margin of land and mature landscaping between the existing bund and the edge of Grinders Lane. No alterations whatsoever are proposed to these areas so that when viewed from the lane it will not be apparent that any alterations have taken place within the Yard.

EAST VIEW INTO SITE.

This elevation is considered the most prominent elevation to protect and enhance as it adjoins open farmland and there is a public footpath set some 105 metres away, further to the East, which runs parallel to the Eastern site boundary.

Currently the Eastern slope of the existing bund is planted with landscaping which requires further landscaping reinforcement. It is proposed to provide semi-mature additional indigenous shrubs to the bund slope with concentrated planting where the taller Yard equipment is proposed. In reality, and because of the considerable distance the public footpath is set away from the site, the visual impact is minimal. This fact can be understood more clearly by reference to the Section B-B on Drawing No: 22-12-03.

CONCLUSION.

Penfold Verrall have an excellent record of being able to conduct their business in a wholly professional manner.

The whole world of re-cycling CDEW material revolves around dirt, dust, noise and disruption and a constant high element of control is essential at all times. A visit to the site immediately reveals their obvious attention to detail insofar as discipline, cleanliness and organisation are concerned. The introduction of this leading re-cycling equipment will continue that ethos and streamline the CDEW processing at the Yard enabling far more material to be reclaimed as well as reducing site activity.

There will be no increase in noise or dust generation and in some areas there will be an actual reduction.

This installation would be a 'first' in West Sussex which we consider should be encouraged by the County.

It is hoped that an Approval for the project will be forthcoming in the future.