

## **Rotherham MBC Scrutiny Committee: Grange Landfill**

### **Background**

Grange Landfill, also known locally as Droppingwell Tip, is now owned and operated by the Hague Family (Grange Landfill Ltd).

Although tipping ceased in 1998, the site Planning Permission and Waste Management Licence (WML) both remained in place, enabling the resumption of landfilling (subject to re-permitting under EPR).

### **Change to permit status**

In December 2015 Grange Landfill Ltd applied to vary the existing WML and the **variation was determined on 23 March 2016**. We issued a varied and consolidated permit in the modern condition format, bringing it in line with current European Landfill Directive requirements.

The varied permit is for an inert landfill. The permit has a number of pre-operational conditions that the operator is required to complete before they can begin tipping. The pre-operational work will establish baseline data and emission limit values for the permit. The variation provides us with tighter controls than the previous WML, and will enable us to monitor and regulate the site more closely.

### **Current Situation**

The operator has fulfilled all pre-conditions agreed by ourselves. The operator notified us of their intention to commence preparatory works on 4 September 2019 for eventual re-opening.

These preparatory works were suspended November 2019 due to poor ground conditions. The combined impacts of the winter storms and Covid19 emergency resulted in further delay and the preparatory works recommenced in January 2021.

The following works for the site preparation are now complete:

- ground investigation works to determine suitability of the in-situ ground conditions to meet the relevant engineering standards;
- engineering works to install a surface water management system.

In December 2021 works were again paused on site as the operator required the plant & equipment on another site. Once activities recommence on site, then work on completing the engineered containment bunds around Cell 1 will be finalised.

Although no dates have yet been confirmed we expect the operator to re-commence activities on site early in 2022.

## **Site Inspections**

In December 2019 we agreed with Rotherham MBC (RMBC) that we would seek to undertake routine site inspections on a quarterly basis. However with the restrictions that the Coronavirus epidemic placed upon us we were not able to commit to quarterly inspections during 2020. Following the easing of government restrictions we have now resumed site inspections on a quarterly basis during 2021/22. After each inspection we produce a Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) form which records our findings and any actions we have asked the Operator to undertake. Copies of these reports are available on our Information page.

## **What Happens Next**

Once all engineering works to comply with the permit conditions are complete the operator will submit a validation report to the Environment Agency. This report presents the final 'as-built' construction and engineering detail of the works and provides a comprehensive record that the engineered bunds were constructed to the agreed design and specifications.

If we are satisfied that all conditions have been met to the required standard, the Operator will be given permission to operate the landfill site.

**No waste disposal activities are to commence until we are fully satisfied that the landfill infrastructure has been engineered to the relevant standards.**

## **Community Engagement**

We continue to update the community on the continued development of the site. We recently updated the FAQ's on our Citizen Space on-line information page and shared the information with RMBC, the MP and representatives of the local community action group in advance of the publication.

[Grange Landfill Site, Rotherham \(Dropping Well Tip\) -Information Page - Environment Agency - Citizen Space \(environment-agency.gov.uk\)](#)

**December 2021**