

# Briefing Note and FAQ

July 2014

## Old Ferry Wharf - Environmental Permit Application EPR/BB3401SX/A001

The purpose of this briefing note is to inform interested parties what is happening and how you can provide comments as part of the public consultation for the Old Ferry Wharf permit application. It also includes a frequently asked questions section.

Under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010, Old Ferry Wharf Limited have applied to us for an Environmental Permit to store and export a waste derived fuel known as solid recovered fuel (SRF) from their site at Barrow Haven in North Lincolnshire. This SRF is compressed into large bales and wrapped in plastic before being brought to Old Ferry Wharf where it will be stacked and stored in a designated area prior to being shipped. Each consignment will consist of up to 3,000 tonnes of SRF with 30,000 tonnes being the maximum permitted tonnage each year.

We have deemed this application to be of High Public Interest which means that it may take longer than the normal 13 week determination period. It will also be advertised in the Scunthorpe Evening Telegraph on 10 July 2014.

We are currently determining the application to decide whether to grant the permit. As part of this process we consult with other organisations such as North Lincolnshire Council, Natural England, Public Health England, Hull and Goole Port Health Authority and the Health and Safety Executive. Local communities and individual members of the public also have the opportunity to put forward their comments on this application.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### When will the public consultation period be?

The consultation will start on 10/07/2014 and will close on 21/08/2014.

### How can I comment on this application?

You can either write to us at the Environment Agency, Permitting and Support Centre, Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Sheffield. S9 4WF quoting application reference **EPR/BB3401SX/A001** or online via our website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/environmental-permitting-notice-of-applications-made>

The application is listed by postcode so you will need to look for DN19 7ET.

### What information will I be able to see on the website?

The entire application and supporting documentation which also comprises the management system.

### Am I able to provide comments without the operator knowing my details?

Yes. All comments will be passed onto the operator however we will withhold all names and contact details.

### What happens after the consultation period?

We assess the technical and supporting documents which accompanies the application together with all the comments from the consultation exercise. We will then decide whether to grant the permit.

### **What happens if you grant the permit?**

The operator will be expected to adhere to the conditions of the permit at all times which also cover nuisance arising from odour and flies. We will also expect them to operate in accordance with their management system. We undertake routine unannounced inspections of the site and respond to incidents which are reported to us via our Incident Hotline. If the operator fails to comply with their permit, we would take enforcement action.

### **What is a Management System?**

A Management System is a site specific document that the operator produces. It details how they will operate the site to make sure they comply with their permit and includes a number of procedures covering key elements such as waste acceptance, emergency actions, control of drainage and protection of amenities. You can view this with the application.

### **What about planning permission?**

Planning permission falls under different legislation dealt with by North Lincolnshire Council. As part of our determination of the permit we are not obliged to check the planning status for the site however the applicant will need to make sure they have the correct planning permissions in place before operations begin.

### **What wastes will the permit allow?**

All wastes are listed in a document called the European Waste Catalogue (EWC) where they are referenced numerically. SRF is an inert dry compressed non-hazardous waste wrapped in an industrial grade plastic film primarily consisting of paper, cardboard, textiles, wood and plastic. It falls under the EWC code "19 12 10" and this will be the only code in the Old Ferry Wharf permit if we grant it. Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) is another waste derived fuel that falls under the same code and this is the material that the company exported during 2013. The applicant has stated that they are only applying to deal with SRF and not RDF.

### **Why is the waste exported and not used in this country?**

As less waste is landfilled compared to a number of years ago market forces generally determine where waste is sent and what it is used for. Energy from waste facilities are becoming more commonplace in the UK however they have been used for some years on the European mainland. Waste derived fuel is currently shipped from a number of ports in England, including Immingham, Grimsby and Hull locally.

### **Will the SRF cause odour, litter and fly problems?**

As SRF lacks moisture and organic matter it is less likely to present amenity issues such as odour and flies. If the bales become ripped we expect the operator to take immediate action to prevent the waste escaping from the site due to the sensitivity of the surrounding area. There are conditions in the permit covering odour, litter and fly nuisance. The management system must also detail how the operator will control these factors.

### **How long does a permit last?**

There is no fixed lifespan to a permit. It remains active unless the operator surrenders it or we revoke it following enforcement action.