

#### 4 NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY OF DETERMINATION

Avondale Environmental Limited applied to SEPA for a permit to undertake landfill activities in a new hazardous landfill cell at their waste management complex near Polmont, Falkirk, FK2 0YG adjacent to J4 of the M9 motorway

This activity is a listed activity within the Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2012 (as amended) (PPC), specifically within Section 5.2 Part A (a) of Schedule 1.

The wider site lies between the M9 motorway to the south and River Avon to the north, with the western boundary formed by Avondale Road.

The wider Avondale waste management complex is currently operated under two complementary permits covering different geographical portions of, and activities on, the wider site. These are:-

- PPC Permit number PPC/E/0020059 (issued to Avondale on 21 April 2005) covers non-hazardous landfill and associated activities at the site.
- PPC Permit number PPC/E/0020086 (issued to Avondale in October 2006) covers the hazardous landfill operations undertaken to the south west corner of the site.

This new application looks to increase the hazardous waste landfill operations within the wider waste management complex by utilising previously undeveloped land to construct a new cell area. The design will provide an extra 220,000m<sup>3</sup> of void space.

There will be no non-hazardous bio-degradable waste accepted at the site which should limit the generation of landfill gas from the cell.

Only hazardous waste that meets specific criteria in relation to its chemical and physical composition can be accepted at the site.

The only direct discharge from the site to the surface water environment will be treated surface water run-off. The discharge will consist of surface water run-off from the periphery of the landfill cell and access road to the cell. The surface water will be treated via swales and an attenuation pond prior to discharge into an existing watercourse, which is a tributary to the River Avon.

Leachate will be pumped out of the cell and transported off-site for treatment.

The direct emission of leachate from the cell to groundwater is not expected. Permit requirements relating to the cell design, construction and operation, such as lining, capping and leachate management, are measures designed to minimise the risk of environmental pollution for the expected indirect emissions via leakage through the liner. A detailed Hydrogeological Risk Assessment (HRA) has been provided and it confirms the risks to groundwater are acceptable based on the safeguards that the Operator will put in place as part of the landfill design.

There will be no point source emissions to air from the site. Should any landfill gas be generated, permit Condition 9.1.1 will require the Operator to monitor, collect, extract and dispose or utilise landfill gas arising from the Permitted Installation in such a way that minimises damage to or deterioration of the environment and risk to human health or serious detriment to the amenities of the locality.

The requirements of the Landfill (Scotland) Regulations 2003 will be met and demonstrated through a series of Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) plans and reports, which SEPA need to approve prior to construction of the cell, installation of the gas network and again following completion of these works. In addition, the

requirements of the Landfill (Scotland) Regulations 2003 regarding monitoring will be met and demonstrated by monitoring reports submitted by the operator to SEPA throughout operational and aftercare phases.

The Operator will work in accordance with in-house procedures that have been assessed by SEPA and are deemed suitable for undertaking the activity.

The requirements of the Landfill (Scotland) Regulations 2003 will be followed by the Operator and are viewed as Best Available Techniques (BAT) for the management, operation and design of landfills, including in relation to monitoring.