

WALLEYS QUARRY

PRESS INFORMATION

Date: 07.04.2022

As we approach the better weather of spring and summer, there are a number of projects which are moving at pace. Firstly, WQL are continuing with the preparation of the eastern flank, in readiness for the capping works planned to commence in quarter 2 of 2022. This will involve the capping of a significant area of Cell 3. The work involves the grading of the landfill surface and covering with suitable materials, prior to the installation of the permanent cap. In the case of Walleys Quarry, the cap will be formed through the installation of a LLDPE plastic membrane, which is welded to form a single cap over the pre-prepared area.

The LLDPE cap has an exceptionally low permeability, reducing the ingress of rainwater whilst at the same time controlling the release of gases and allowing their effective capture within gas control infrastructure.

The LLDPE cap is installed under a Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) plan, which will be approved by the Environmental Agency ahead of the works commencing and details the specification, installation and testing methodologies required to complete the works to a high standard. The installation programme is supervised by an independent CQA engineer to ensure that the highest standards are met, and compliance with the approved CQA plan is achieved.

Running contemporaneously with the permanent capping, the area of the western flank is being prepared for temporary capping with clay. The clay is sourced locally and has been rigorously tested to ensure that the clay meets the strict requirements to be used in landfill engineering and specifically having an extremely low permeability. In the same way as the LLDPE permanent capping, this reduced the ingress of rainwater to the facility.

Ahead of the capping works, a programme of drilling is due to commence on 11 April with the aim of installing additional vertical gas extraction wells to areas of the eastern and western flanks of WQ. The works will be undertaken utilising a drilling rig with local extraction around the drilling head. The local extraction, alongside the method of installing a single well within the day and sealing the well annulus with bentonite clay ensures that there should be minimal increased risk of landfill gas generation.

Ahead of the drilling and capping works, planned within Cell 1 and Cell 3 WQ has been in the process of creating the access to the next area of landfill operations within Cell 4. This area has been previously engineered, under the CQA process and approved by

the Environment Agency for non-hazardous landfill disposal. As the active areas of Cell 1 and Cell 3 become infilled, the focus of operations will move to Cell 4.

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For press information please contact press@walleysquarry.co.uk

Notes to editors:

Website: <https://www.walleysquarry.co.uk>

About Walleys Quarry:

Walleys Quarry in Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire is a landfill site, offering safe disposal of waste that cannot otherwise be re-used or recycled.