

Dear Resident,

Odours in Lowton and Culcheth

March 2014

We have produced this newsletter as a means of keeping you informed with what is happening.

Progress has been made since the last update with the production of the odour management plan for Diggle Green Farm and many of you may have noticed visible changes on the site. The screening embankments have been planted with trees to create shelter, this is only a small part of the work being carried out to manage odour. In addition to the tree cover, the material piles have been reduced in height to prevent unnecessary exposure to high winds passing over the embankments.

These embankments are believed to be acting as a wind tunnel; increasing the wind speed through the site. This problem is being addressed by creating wind breaks and by sheltering both the entrance and exit to the permitted area.

Our Role

We are grateful for the information provided to us as it is used to form the basis of our investigation. Our responsibility lies solely with the permitted activities upon the site and not with issues such as the amount of traffic or their movements. This is not within the remit of the permit and we are unable to take action against it.

As part of our investigations, we identified a need to manage odorous material before it is transported off site. We have made this a priority for the operator as we believe that many of the latest reports relate to the transportation of odorous material.

Improvements to the site are ongoing and include both short and long term solutions. We will continue to monitor the site, work with the operator and inform you of progress through our regular updates. We have also chosen to communicate directly with other stakeholders within the area, such as the LENDF and various council members.

Other odours

Although we have identified that operations at Diggle Green Farm have the potential to create odour, we have also identified other potential sources of odour within the area. As we move through the year activities that have the potential to cause odour will increase in number and will be monitored by my team.

Feedback

We have made the decision to provide feedback through these updates rather than responding to individuals. We understand that this may be frustrating but hope you agree that it is better to spend more time investigating the problem and working to resolve the issues within our regulatory control. If there are any questions or matters you would like us to cover in future updates please contact us at;

NWInfoRequests@environment-agency.gov.uk

Regards,

Caroline Berry

South Central EPR Waste Team