1. **BACKGROUND**

1.1. The location of the application site is shown on Plan No GPP/SWM/WC/08/01 and the application site is shown on Plan No GPP/SWM/WC/08/02. The latter is based on an up-to-date survey of the site and shows the buildings, location of the sorting ‘Redox’ equipment and the areas for storage of materials in the yard.

1.2. Planning permission KE/04/1336C was granted to Mr S D Simms for the change of use from industrial/storage building and land to Materials Recycling Facility, on 11 March 2005. This permission has been implemented. It contains two conditions that the new site owner wishes to vary.

Condition 8 of the planning permission stated that:

‘Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority the development hereby approved and all operations relating thereto shall be restricted to between the hours of

07.00 – 18.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 – 13.00 Saturdays

with no working on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Condition 3 of the permission stated that:

All tipping, sorting and waste processing operations shall be carried out within the building via an automated system of conveyors and screens to provide for the bulking, shredding and compacting of the materials’

1.3 On 29 March 2007 a second planning permission was granted at the site, for the erection of a new shed to provide a tipping hall to facilitate the transfer and bulking of waste; reference KE/07/113. This permission has been implemented. It contains one condition that the new site owner wishes to vary.

Condition 7 of the planning permission stated that:

‘Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority the development hereby approved and all operations relating thereto shall be restricted to between
the hours of
07.00 – 18.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 – 13.00 Saturdays
with no working on Sundays. Bank Holiday working shall be confined to municipal waste contracts only.

2. PROPOSED CHANGES

Condition 8 of KE/04/1336C to be reworded as follows:
‘Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority the development hereby approved and all operations relating thereto the receipt of waste shall be restricted to between the hours of
07.00—18.00 05.00 — 22.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 — 13.00 Saturdays
with no working on Sundays. Bank Holiday working shall be confined to municipal waste contracts only. And
The processing of waste inside the buildings and associated conveyors and screens shall take place at any time. And
The processing of waste outside in the yard shall be restricted to between the hours of
07.00 — 18.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 — 13.00 Saturdays
with no working on Sundays or Bank Holidays

Condition 7 of KE/07/113 to be reworded as follows:
‘Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority the development hereby approved and all operations relating thereto receipt of waste shall be restricted to between the hours of
07.00—18.00 05.00 — 22.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 — 13.00 Saturdays
with no working on Sundays. Bank Holiday working shall be confined to municipal waste contracts only. And
The processing of waste inside the buildings and associated conveyors and screens shall take place at any time. And
The processing of waste outside in the yard shall be restricted to between the hours of
07.00 — 18.00 Mondays to Fridays
07.00 — 13.00 Saturdays
with no working on Sundays or Bank Holidays
Condition 3 of permission KE/04/1336C to be reworded as follows:

"All tipping, sorting and waste processing operations shall be carried out within the building and via an outside automated system of conveyors and screens to provide for the bulking, shredding and compacting of the materials except for occasional chipping of timber, crushing and screening of aggregates and tipping of clean loads of timber, glass and cans.

3. NEED

Operating hours

3.1. The need to vary the operating hours of this site has arisen as a result of the increased need to process materials to maximise the efficiency of the sorting operations and thus the proportion of materials segregated for recycling elsewhere. There is also a need to extend the hours for the receipt of waste at the site, to enable collection vehicles, especially those handling commercial waste, to service premises outside the normal working day.

3.2. The proposed, unrestricted operating hours for processing waste inside the buildings and the associated conveyors and screens would permit two additional shifts to be run at the site. Currently, the sorting that is facilitated by using the conveyors, screens and picking lines is restricted to the construction and demolition waste delivered to the original building on site. By allowing additional shifts, once the C&D waste has been processed through the equipment, the conveyors and reception bays will be cleaned to enable the mixed material from the second building to be processed.

3.3. The second building receives Commercial and Industrial and Municipal waste, where it is pre-sorted to remove wood, paper, card and plastics. The remaining material is then bulked up and taken off-site for disposal. The lightweight materials suitable for recycling would then be moved in to the first building using a bucket-loader and processed through the sorting equipment.

3.4. Initially, a two shift system would work with the C&D waste being sorted between the hours of 06.00 to 14.00 and the C&I waste between 14.00 to 22.00. If a third shift were to be justified, the C&D sorting, which includes the heavy bricks and stones, would stop half way through the second shift i.e at 18.00, so that only the lightweight and less noisy material would be processed from 18.00 to 06.00. The operator is prepared to accept a limit that prevents sorting of C&D waste before 06.00 or after 18.00.
3.5. The segregated materials will then be collected by the bucket-loader for transfer back to the second building, where they will be baled. Bales will be stored outside pending collection for recycling elsewhere.

**Outside operations**

3.6 At the time of the original permission, no outside operations were anticipated. The success of the site in serving the local market has meant that the site is handling significant quantities of timber and hardcore. These materials are separated from the mixed loads with which they are delivered, both by hand and through the sorting conveyors and picking line. They are stockpiled outside, as they are not adversely affected by the weather, thus maximising the use of the floor area within the buildings for materials that are unsuitable for handling outside.

3.7 Loads of clean hardcore or timber are also delivered directly to the outside storage areas, as are clean loads from Kettering’s source-segregated collection of glass and cans. For transfer off-site for re-use or recycling, it is necessary to chip the timber to reduce its bulk and to crush and screen the hardcore to provide a quality, recycled aggregate for sale direct to the local builders. For half a day a week, a mobile chipper or mobile crusher and screen is used to process the stockpiles of material. Such operations only take place during normal site operational hours as originally permitted.

3.8 For the avoidance of doubt, it is proposed that the condition referring to outside operations be modified so that the use of the conveyors and picking lines is clearly authorised by this condition.

**4 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

**Planning Policy**

4.1 The recycling of waste materials is required by National and Local Policy. The opening of the waste management facility at Kettering for longer hours will ensure that the capacity for recycling the area’s waste is increased. As a result of, inter alia, the Landfill Directive requirement for non-hazardous waste (including commercial and industrial wastes) to be pre-treated before landfilling, which was introduced in October 2007, and the general LATS targets driven impetus to divert materials from landfill, there is an increasing volume of material that will need to be processed through such a facility.
Traffic Movements

4.2 The traffic movements on and off site due to the extended periods for the receipt of waste will not increase beyond those that were predicted when the initial permission was granted, as the consented volume of 125,000 tonnes per annum for the site does not need to be increased. Spreading the vehicle movements over a longer working day will help to reduce the movements during peak periods of the day.

Site Location and Protection of Amenities

4.3 The site is located within an industrial estate with easy access from the strategic highway network within and surrounding the town, therefore the HGVs do not need to access the site via residential roads.

4.4 The closest residential receptors will be the housing estate to the east, with some new houses only 30m away; these properties are below the level of the waste handling site and the 3m screening bund that runs alongside the railway along the eastern boundary. The railway is built on an embankment at this point. Generally the houses that are in a direct line of sight from the site and thus be most at risk to noise are over 200m away and therefore unlikely to experience a nuisance as a result of the proposals. The Environmental Health Officer of Kettering Borough Council has been consulted on the proposed changes and has advised that a noise management plan be submitted with the application; a copy is attached at Appendix 1.

4.5 There are already several sites in the area operating for 24 hours, including GDS (Greggs Distribution), Eclipse, David Bletsoe Brown, Target Express and Interlink Express and Sealed Air, Greenshires and H B Humphries work 2 shifts, so the area is already established as suitable for later hours of operation, involving traffic movements and industrial processes.

4.6 The site is already floodlit during hours of darkness, so there will be no additional impact from this aspect of the proposal.

4.7 During the proposed extended hours of operation materials will be delivered directly into the waste handling buildings, where they will be sorted. All subsequent movements will be by bucket loader, which will be fitted with white noise, or similar, vehicle reversing warning sounders. No processing of material will occur outside of the buildings or conveyors/picking line.
4.8 Although the conveyors and picking line are outside the first building, they are covered, which will prevent the escape of litter; in the event that litter does escape, regular site tidying is carried out to prevent escape off-site. Only lightweight material will be processed through the conveyors/picking line before 06.00 or after 18.00, minimising the noise from the operation.

4.9 Although the baling would take place at any time, the building in which the baler is located is clad full height with fully insulated panels and the baler will operate behind the 3m high concrete push walls that have been installed inside the building. This will minimise the noise from this operation at and beyond the site boundary.

4.10 The outside operations involving mobile plant e.g. chipper, crusher, will be limited to normal operating hours. Plant is fitted with dust suppression units to minimise the impact beyond the site boundaries.

4.11 All operations are controlled by the Waste Management Licence for the site, which contains conditions that will ensure that impacts such as noise, dust and litter are properly managed. There is very little risk of odour from the site, as the green waste is all now delivered and handled inside the second building.

5 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The opening of the waste management facility for additional hours will permit the area to increase its recycling rates for its municipal, commercial and industrial waste arisings. By increasing the facility’s recycling capacity this will reduce the volumes of waste being sent to landfill, which will assist Kettering Borough Council to achieve its LATS targets.

5.2 There will be no increase in vehicle movements above those already permitted, but the existing movements will be spread out over a longer period.

5.3 Processing activities for which unrestricted hours are requested are justified as the site is in an established industrial estate with late night and 24-hour operation already in place on several sites in the vicinity.

5.4 A noise management plan is submitted as part of the application, which sets out the measures to be taken to protect the amenity of the residential receptors on the east side of the railway line. Also, the existing Waste Management Licence contains conditions to minimise impacts beyond the site boundary.
Appendix 1

Noise Management Plan

In order to reduce the possibility of noise nuisance arising from activities on the Kettering MRF site between the hours of 6.00pm and 7.00am the following measures will be taken.

1. All site staff will be instructed on noise control measures during their inductions. Any member of staff wilfully contravening this plan will be subject to disciplinary action according to Shanks disciplinary procedure.
2. A noise risk assessment for the site has been prepared highlighting the most likely causes of noise during night time operations. All site staff will be inducted in this risk assessment; a copy is attached below.
3. The noise risk assessment covers the use of signage around the site reminding all staff of the need to keep all noise to a minimum.
4. All mobile plant on site will be fitted with “white noise” reversing alarms as an alternative to audible bleepers.
5. All waste handling activities will be carried out within the buildings on site unless it is necessary to clear out product bays from underneath the sorting cabins. When waste needs to be removed from the picking bays all efforts will be made to minimise the potential for noise.
6. Doors to buildings will be kept shut at all times. Where mobile plant needs to enter or leave a building the doors will be opened and then closed immediately after the plant has passed through.
7. All static plant will be well maintained to ensure that there is no unnecessary noise.
8. Any mobile plant or vehicles on site will switch off their engines when stationary.
9. No radios (for site communication or entertainment) will be used in such a way as to result in noise nuisance.
10. Audible alarms for start up on the sorting plant (required under PUWER) will be replaced with white noise alarms or, where possible, visual alarms to warn of impending start ups.

The site General Manager has been given the responsibility of responding to all complaints from any interested party. All complaints will be dealt with according to Shanks Non-Compliance Company Standard (SMS001WM – Issue 1). All complaints will be recorded on Shanks Non-Compliance Report Form (FS001WM – Issue 1). Copies of both of these documents are provided below.
### General risk assessment form

**1. General details**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site/operation/office etc:</th>
<th>Assessor/s:</th>
<th>Date of assessment:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shanks Kettering MRF</td>
<td>Simon Bailes</td>
<td>14th February 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Description of task assessed:**

Noise Levels During Night Time Operations 6.00pm to 7.00am

**Assessment ref number and issue number:**

---

### 2. Risk assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazard/s</th>
<th>Risk/s from hazard/s</th>
<th>Person/s potentially affected</th>
<th>Current controls already in place (engineering, physical, procedures/rules, monitoring and checking, mitigation etc)</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Likelihood</th>
<th>Risk factors</th>
<th>Additional controls required</th>
<th>Resp' perso n</th>
<th>Tim e scal e</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noise from Mobile Plant</td>
<td>Nuisance to neighbours</td>
<td></td>
<td>All mobile plant to be fitted with “white noise” reversing alarms rather than audible bleepers. Use of mobile plant outside buildings to be kept to a minimum. Waste handling outside the buildings to be restricted to emptying picking bays of clean product for transport to storage area. Radios in mobile plant not to be used in such a way as to cause nuisance. Horns on mobile plant not to be used during the night time period. Mobile plant to have their engines switched off when stationary.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Low Med High</td>
<td>All existing staff to be inducted in this risk assessment. All new staff to be inducted in this risk assessment as part of their basic site induction.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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28/2/08

GPP
The stone crusher and wood chipper must not be used during night time operations.

Signage to be installed around the site reminding staff of the need to reduce noise to a minimum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noise from Static Plant</th>
<th>Nuisance to Neighbours</th>
<th>Doors to all buildings to be kept shut at all times unless mobile plant needs to enter or leave the building</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maintenance of static plant to be up to date to avoid unnecessary noise such as squeaky bearings.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 2 2

Comments (include any weather, lighting, other environmental etc issues):

PPE requirements (delete not applicable):

- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]

Other/RPE (specify type): ...........................................

3. Overall risk rating, review date and confirmation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall risk rating (low/medium/high):</th>
<th>Date review due (dependant on risk rating):</th>
<th>Manager/supervisor signature:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>13th February 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scoring reminders: Severity: 1 = no injury likely, 2 = minor injury (no time lost) likely, 3 = time loss up to 3 days likely, 4 = time lost above 3 days (RIDDOR Injury) likely, 5 = severe incapacity or death likely. Likelihood: 1 = rare, 2 = unlikely, 3 = probable, 4 = very likely, 5 = certainty. Risk factor: This is obtained by multiplying the numbers in columns "severe" and "likely" and is categorised into three factors: high, medium and low (Hazard x risk = risk factor). The number arrived at should be recorded in the right column (1 to 6 = low, 7 to 14 = medium, 15 to 25 = high). Overall risk rating. This is the overall risk rating for the task being assessed. If all the risk factors identified are low, then the overall risk rating is low. If any of the risk factors identified are high and/or medium the overall risk rating is high/medium.