

STAGE 1 – INITIAL EIA SCREENING ASSESSMENT

1 Case Details	
A	Application case reference 3211904
B	Brief description of development Installation of 2no Gas Engines.
2 EIA Screening Details	
2A Schedule 1	
	Is the project Schedule 1 development as described in Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations? No
	<i>If Yes, under which description of development? If No, consider whether project is 'Schedule 2' development below in part 2(B).</i>
2B Schedule 2	
(i)	Is the project listed as a description of development under Column 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations? Yes
	<i>If Yes, under which description of development? If No, EIA is not required.</i>
	13(a) – Change or extension to existing Schedule 1 Development (18. Industrial plants for— (b) the production of paper and board with a production capacity exceeding 200 tonnes per day).
(ii)	Does the project change or extend development described in paragraphs 1 to 12 of Column 1 of schedule 2, where the change or extension may have SIGNIFICANT* adverse effects on the environment? No
	<i>If Yes, provide reasons for your answer below. *If unsure, discuss with PET. Proceed to point (iii).</i>
	Choose an item.
(iii)	Is the project located wholly or partly within a ' Sensitive Area ' as defined by Regulation 2 of the EIA Regulations? No
	<i>If Yes, state which area and more to Question 3. If No, proceed to point (iv) below.</i>
(iv)	Are the applicable thresholds/criteria in Column 2 exceeded / met? N/A
	<i>If Yes, note which applicable threshold/criteria. If No, EIA is not required.</i>

3	LPA / Welsh Ministers' Screening	
(i)	Has the LPA issued a Screening Opinion (SO)?	No
(ii)	Have the Welsh Ministers issued a Screening Direction (SD)?	No
4	Environmental Statement (ES)	
	Has the applicant/appellant supplied an ES for the current or previous (if reserved matters or conditions) application?	No

Is a detailed screening assessment (Section 5) required?

If Yes has been answered in response to either 2B(iii) or 2B(iv), send to relevant team to undertake detailed screening assessment.

If No has been answered for both questions, or the questions are not applicable, start.

Sign-off

Signature	C Sweet
Date	16/10/2018

STAGE 2 – DETAILED EIA SCREENING ASSESSMENT

As per Schedule 3, Para 3: When considering the potential impact, take into account; (a) magnitude / spatial extent / population likely to be affected; (b) nature of impact; (c) transboundary nature; (d) intensity & complexity; (e) probability; (f) expected onset / duration / frequency & reversibility; (g) cumulation with existing and / or approved development; (h) the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.

5 Detailed Screening Questions		
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant? <i>Include consideration of features or measures to avoid or prevent what might otherwise be significant effects</i>
CRITERION 1. CHARACTERISTICS OF DEVELOPMENT		
Question 1(a) Size and design of the Development		
Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc.)?	Yes. The proposal involves the installation of two gas engines, which will result in some physical change. However, the scale of the actual development involved would be such that significant effects in this respect are unlikely.	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 1(b) Cumulation with Existing and/or Approved Development		
Are there any other factors which should be considered such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consequential development which could lead to environmental effects? the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality? any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project? transfrontier impacts? 	Yes. There is potential for the proposed development to result in cumulative impact when combined with existing development on the site, particularly in relation to noise and air quality. However, there is an existing environmental permit that already covers the proposed development in combination with the existing. NRW are therefore satisfied that no significant effects are likely to arise from cumulation. Given the scale of additional development proposed and the fact that emissions in these areas can be readily controlled, I see no reason to disagree with that view.	Significant effect unlikely .

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
Question 1(c) Use of Natural Resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity		
Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?	Yes, the proposal would involve the use of natural resources for construction and ongoing operation of the gas engines. However, it would also deliver some improvement in the efficiency of the overall operations on the site. In any event, the use of resources would not result in significant environmental effects.	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 1(d) Production of Waste		
Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes, some solid waste likely to be produced during construction and installation; this would add to that already produced by existing operations on site. However, given that it would be limited in time and scale, I am satisfied this would not result in significant effects.	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 1(e) Pollution and Nuisances		
Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	Yes. The proposed engines would be powered by the combustion of natural gas. However, it can reasonably be expected that the unit would be operated in accordance with relevant safety legislation and there is nothing to suggest that the unit would pose a risk in these respects during the normal course of operation. Given the location of the proposed engines and the degree of separation from populated areas, the perception of risk is also likely to be limited. Overall, significant effects in these respects are unlikely.	Significant effect unlikely .
Will the Project cause noise and vibration or	Yes. Noise and vibration likely during	Significant effect unlikely .

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	<p>construction, but this would be time-limited and localised in nature.</p> <p>Operation of the proposed engines would result in some noise, but there are readily available options for noise attenuation that could be easily achieved by an appropriate condition. Given the existing noise climate at the site, any increase in residual noise levels is unlikely to be significant.</p>	
Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air , or lead to risks of contamination of land or water (including surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea)?	<p>Yes. There would be some potential for dust emissions during construction; best practice management techniques that would minimise such impacts can reasonably be expected and as such, any effects are unlikely to be significant.</p> <p>NRW are content that the additional emissions arising from the proposed development, in combination with those from existing operations, would not result in significant effects and I see no reason to disagree with that view.</p>	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 1(f) Risk of major accidents and/or disasters relevant to the development concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge		
Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment?	<p>Yes. Some risk of accident both during construction and ongoing operation of the proposed gas engines. However, best practice in managing that risk at all stages of the project can reasonably be expected.</p> <p>Given the scale of the project and the extent</p>	Significant effect unlikely .

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
	of the potential impact, I am satisfied that effects in this respect would not be significant.	
Question 1(g) Risks to Human Health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)		
Will there be any risk to human health during the construction and/or operation of the development	Some risk in terms of accident, as described above. Other than that, given the controlled nature of the operation, any other potential risks to human health are likely to be limited and therefore unlikely to be significant.	Significant effect unlikely .
CRITERION 2. LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT		
Question 2(a) Existing and Approved Land Use		
Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	Yes. The project would likely generate some benefit in terms of additional employment during the construction phase. Given the scale of the project and the time limited nature of the benefit, such effects would not be significant.	Significant effect unlikely .
Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location, which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	<p>There are a number of PRow in the wider area and there may be some visual impact for users of those routes. However, the scale of those impacts would be such that they would not be significant.</p> <p>The site is located some 160m to the east of the scheduled monument Pontcysyllte Aquaduct and Canal, which is within the buffer zone of the Pontcysyllte Aquaduct and Canal World Heritage Site. Impacts on these assets are described below.</p>	Significant effect unlikely .
Are there any transport routes which are	No. The increase in transport movements	Significant effect unlikely .

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	that would arise from the proposal would be small in scale and restricted to the construction phase. Significant effects are therefore unlikely.	
Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No.	N/A
Are there any areas on or around the location occupied by land uses which could be affected by the project, particularly sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities?	Given the siting of the proposal, within the existing site, significant effects in this respect are unlikely.	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 2(b) Relative Abundance, Availability Quality and Regenerative Capacity of Natural Resources in the Area and its Underground		
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	No likely significant effects identified in these respects.	Significant effect unlikely .
Question 2(c) Absorption Capacity of the Natural Environment		
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology, or are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The site is located some 1.2km from the River Dee SAC/SSSI and some 0.68km from the Chirk Castle and Parkland SSSI. However, NRW are satisfied that the proposal, taken in combination with existing operations on the site, would not result in significant effects on those designated sites. I see no reason to disagree with that view.	Significant effect unlikely .
Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No.	N/A

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The site is located close to the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB. However, the scale of additional development proposed and its position within the existing compound are such that it is unlikely to have a significant visual effect on the AONB.	Significant effect unlikely .
Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No.	N/A
Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	The site is located close to a built up area. However, the scale of the proposal, its positioning and the limited degree of additional impact involved are such that it would be unlikely to result in significant effects in this respect.	Significant effect unlikely .
Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The application site is located within the buffer zone of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site and a related SAM. It is also located close to listed buildings and to Brynkinalt and Chirk Castle Registered Historic Park and Gardens. However, Cadw is satisfied that, due to the positioning of the proposed development, it would be unlikely to have a significant effect on those historic assets or their settings. I see no reason to disagree with that view.	Significant effect unlikely .
Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	None identified.	N/A

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects likely to be significant?
Is the project location susceptible to subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	None identified.	N/A
Has there already been a failure to meet environmental quality standards that is relevant to the project?	NRW are responsible for licensing and have raised no concerns about the operation of the existing site. As a licence has been granted that includes the development now proposed, I am satisfied that significant effects in this respect are unlikely.	Significant effect unlikely .

Statement of reasons

The proposed gas engines would be installed on an existing site that is used to manufacture a variety of wood-based panel and board products and would constitute a change or extension to that operation. Whilst the proposed development has the potential to result in environmental impacts in a number of areas, the scale of the proposal and the limited extent of those impacts would be such that, even when taken in combination with the existing operations on the site, significant environmental effects would be unlikely. As such, I am satisfied that the proposal constitutes a change or extension that would not be likely to result in significant environmental effects and that EIA is not required.

6		Outcome of assessment	
(ii)	If a SO/SD has been provided do you agree with it?		N/A
(iii)	Is EIA required?		No
Outcome		Action	
Schedule 2 development – threshold exceeded/ criterion met or Sensitive Area but not likely to have significant effects on the environment		Issue direction stating EIA Not Required (Letter 1)	✓
Name and Job Title of Assessor	Chris Sweet		
Date of Assessment	16/10/18		