

Seaton Port Dredge, Able UK

Waste Framework Directive Assessment


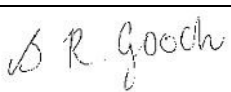
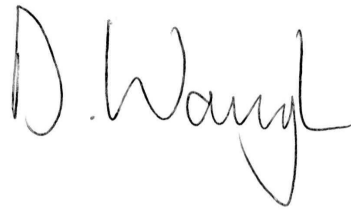
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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Waste Framework Directive Assessment has been prepared by Fairhurst on behalf of Able UK to accompany a Marine Licence application for a capital dredge for three years and maintenance dredging of ten years. The proposed development site is located adjacent to the existing Able UK Seaton Port Dry Dock facility on the north bank of the River Tees. Drawings ASC-001-00006-A and ASC-001-00007-A show the existing and proposed dredging area and depth respectively.

2.0 Applying the Waste Hierarchy

2.1 An order of preference is provided on the MMO's website which states that any waste generated by the proposed marine licence activity is dealt with in an environmentally friendly way before a marine licence can be granted. The order of preference for how waste is dealt with, or the waste hierarchy, is as follows:

1. prevention – this can include not carrying out an activity and the refusal of a marine licence;
2. re-use – finding an alternative, beneficial use for waste material;
3. recycling – this can include making high grade products from waste material;
4. other recovery – including treatment to alter the physical nature of the waste material; and
5. disposal at sea – this is the last resort.

Prevention

2.2 Able UK requires this dredging berth for operational purposes. To prevent the dredging from being undertaken would cause the channel to silt-up and would stop vessels and/or oil rigs from entering Seaton Port. As a result, Able UK would not be able to operate.

2.3 Thus, prevention of creating this waste is not possible.

Re-Use

2.4 To re-use the material dredged would not be cost effective. In addition, we are not aware of any other use for the material which would be of benefit to Able UK.

Recycling

2.5 The price and time it takes to remediate the material in order for it to be recycled is not cost effective for any possible client/customer/user of the material itself. In

addition, even if it was cost effective, no high grade products can be created from the material dredged.

Other Recovery

2.6 In relation to other means of recovery of the material dredged, the only option possible would be for the material to go to landfill. However, as the material is silt and other soft deposits / clay it is not suitable for any other use / landfill, for example:

- Shore protection - wrong sediment type;
- Beach nourishment - wrong sediment type;
- Agricultural - not practical;
- Displacement infill - wrong sediment; and
- Not suitable for landfill or construction.

3.0 Alternatives / Disposal at Sea

- 3.1 As shown in Section 2, by undertaking an assessment on the waste hierarchy, there are no feasible alternatives to situating the material dredged from the proposed application other than to dispose it at sea.

- 3.2 It is important note, dredging currently takes place in the proposed area and the material is currently disposed at sea. This application is to allow continuation of this existing activity and would not cause any additional effect.

- 3.3 Moreover, sampling has been undertaken which shows that material is suitable for disposal at sea. Please see Appendix A for a full list of these results.

4.0 Conclusion

- 4.1 Fairhurst consider that this report constitutes a valid Waste Framework Directive assessment and takes into account all relevant information required for the regulating authorities to make a comprehensive and concise recommendation on the outcome of the Marine Licence application.
- 4.2 This assessment has shown that the only feasible action is for the dredged material to be disposed at sea, and that the material is suitable for disposal at sea.

Appendix A: Cefas Sample Results

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