

PLANNING PERMISSIONS AT RADIOACTIVE RELATED SITES IN CUMBRIA

1. Sellafield Site

Re CO36 'Land within Sellafield', this is a site with existing planning permissions for radioactive waste management. See paragraphs 3.11, 3.17 and 3.15 - "sites that have been approved". The Calder Landfill Extension Segregated Area [CLESA] is not the only facility that has been approved, with other planning permissions including:

4/78/0976 South Tip
4/96/9002 adjacent to North group
4/81/0797 Calder tip
4/87/0384 re-profiling of Calder
4/07/9007 waste retrieval facility.

There are also several permissions for extensive landscape mounds using excavated on-site wastes (e.g. 4/07/9011 and 4/97/9013).

Calder Landfill has permission until 2027 under permission 4/07/9009 and has 80,000m³ remaining capacity (as of March 2011).

2. Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR)

The Planning status of LLWR dates from 1957 - when there was an unconditional planning permission for storage of radioactive waste. Trenches 1-7 were used initially, then from 1980's onwards. Vault 8 is a 4ha concrete box. Permission 4/87/1136 relates to a landscape cap over the trenches and Vault 8. The only existing disposal capacity is a very small space within Vault 8.

There are temporary permissions for storing waste above Vault 8 until the end of 2013, permissions for grouting plant and other ancillary plant, and to retain previous Plutonium Contaminated Materials (PCM) project buildings and compounds for assay and storage of ISO containers of LLW.

Vault 9 permitted for storage to 2018.

Current planning application is for disposal not storage, plus six new vaults providing approximately 1 Million cubic metres capacity with a life anticipated by the applicant to be until 2079.

3. Studsvik Material Recycling Facility (MRF), Lillyhall

Studsvik at Lillyhall was given Planning Consent (2/07/9002) on the 27 July 2007. This involved the reclamation of LLW contaminated metal wastes from decommissioning - residues sent to LLWR after metal cleaned up and put back into the supply chain. Generally achieves 95% recycling/reuse.

4. Lillyhall Landfill

My understanding is that the Environmental Permit (EP) is for all the remaining cells. Planning permission 2/93/9033 was stage 3 of the landfill granted 31 March 1995 for a temporary period to 01 June 2014, by which time the site has to be fully restored.

Originally granted on the understanding that it was for a “relatively modest” 1 million cubic metres, that figure is now known to be a considerable underestimate. The original landfill permission was granted in 1975 (under permission ref 2/75/0872), so landfilling has already been going on for around 35 years, together with the adjoining Distington Landfill Site (Permission Ref. 4/81/9002) where landfilling has recently been completed.

Cumbria County Council, April 2012