

26th March 2025

Dear

Request for Information

ATISN 24463 – Maendy Quarry Information and Correspondence

Thank you for your request which was received on 27 February. It concerns correspondence between Welsh Government officials and several organisations regarding Maendy Quarry landfill, Upper Church Village, Rhondda Cynon Taf. You asked for:

- All information regarding the sampling and analysis of effluent carried out by Veolia that is referred to in ATISN 18757 (section (6)(e), page 12): 'Sampling and analysis of effluent leaving the site which joins a small stream was undertaken by Veolia during 2021 did not identify elevated levels of PCBs'.
- All correspondence, communications and/or meeting notes (i) Between the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales (ii) Between the Welsh Government and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (iii) Between the Welsh Government and Veolia regarding any testing and/or presence of PCBs at Maendy Quarry – within the last five years.

Our Response;

- 1) Information regarding the sampling and analysis of effluent carried out by Veolia**
- 2) Correspondence between Natural Resources Wales and Veolia shared with Welsh Government**

Thu 02/12/2021 09:57

Maendy Quarry

General Manager, Technical Operations Landfill
XXXXXXXXXXXX@veolia.com>

Hannah

As discussed during the last call with you on 5th November 2021, when we updated you on the progress of the restoration of Maendy Quarry, we indicated that we would share some data from sampling that had been completed by Veolia at and in the vicinity of the site.

This sampling was undertaken in order to establish a baseline in water quality in advance of the completion of the site works, and also to assist in providing information in light of recent public interest in wastes that potentially contained PCB's, that were allegedly deposited at Maendy Quarry during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The data enclosed was collected on three separate monitoring visits during October 2020 and September 2021. This monitoring includes the following points listed below, with their locations also shown on drawing ref: Maendy_0717-monitoring:

1. The 2 discharge points (001 and 002) which are regulated via Permit AN0236801
2. Three off site surface water locations (012, 015, 017), which are all located downstream of the two discharge points
3. Seven groundwater monitoring points (101, 102, 103, 104, 107, 108 and 110), that are installed surrounding the Eastern and Western Quarry.

PCB testing was completed specifically to check for the presence of particular PCB congeners by GCMS, these being:

- WHO-12 PCB congeners - these are dioxin-like PCB's often used for evaluation purposes in risk assessments; and
- EC-7 PCB congeners - these congeners were selected by the EU as *"indicators as they make up 20% by weight of PCBs in commercial mixtures, they have a wide chlorination range, and one dioxin-like congener is included (BZ118). They are more likely to be found in environmental samples and at higher concentrations compared to the WHO-12."*

The analysis undertaken covered a range of determinands, which are discussed in further detail below.

Sampling completed on 28th October 2020 was initially undertaken to identify the presence of PCBs in the two permitted discharge points (001 and 002), with samples also undertaken at several off-site surface water locations further downstream of 001 and 002, namely at points 012, 015 and 017. The sampling undertaken represented average to higher flow conditions, noting the samples were collected in autumn when flow conditions tend to be higher.

The results of this testing are set out in the enclosed laboratory certificate reference 201030-68. This shows that all the selected PCB congeners were not detected above the laboratory limit of detection (LOD) of <0.015ug/l.

Other monitoring visits were carried out on 8th and 27th September 2021. These were undertaken to establish additional data to that collected in October 2020, and was extended to include groundwater monitoring points surrounding the Eastern and Western Quarry, as well as a covering a more extensive range of determinands. The conditions at the time of sampling represented relatively low flow conditions and some of the surface water points, including 002 and 014, were unable to be sampled as there was no water present. The analysis undertaken included PCBs, VOCs, SVOCs, pesticides and herbicides. The results of this testing are enclosed in laboratory certificate 210928-28 for groundwaters and Laboratory certificate 210910-50 for the surface waters and the site discharge points.

The following summarises the data from the September monitoring:

1. The repeated analysis at discharge location 001 and the off-site surface water locations downstream did not detect any PCB congeners above the LOD of 0.015ug/l. It should be noted that at the time of monitoring 002 was observed as dry i.e there was no flow, so no sample could be obtained.
2. The PCBs congeners analysed were not detected in any of the groundwater monitoring locations above the LOD of 0.015ug/l.

3. With the exception of 1,2,4 trichlorobenzene (0.228ug/l), isopropylphenol (0.03mg/l), MCPA (0.11ug/l) and Cresol (10ug/l) no substances on the extensive list of organic substances tested were observed above the LOD at discharge point 001.
4. Of the substances listed in 3 above, none were identified above the LOD at 012 or 015, which are surface water points located downstream of 001 and 002 respectively. Nor were they detected at point 015 which is a surface water point located downstream of both 001 and 002.
5. Groundwater locations 101, 103 and 110 were generally free from any contaminants.
6. Some organic substances were observed above the LOD at groundwater locations 102, 104, 107 and 108. It should be noted that some of these locations are nominally up gradient and we do not see a link to current waste mass behaviour, but may need some further monitoring to investigate.

Further sampling and testing of groundwater, surface water and discharge points is planned to improve the data set and understanding of current conditions.

During our last discussion we indicated we had discussed the current site works and the recent data with the xxxxxxxxxxxx, and will be providing him with a copy of this data and notes of our meeting with NRW.

Regards

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

General Manager, Technical Operations Landfill

www.veolia.co.uk



Maendy_0717-monit 210928-28-MCERTS-210910-50-MCERTS-201030-68-MCERTS-oring.pdf



COMPLETE-2021-10-COMplete-2021-09-COMplete-2020-11-



3) Correspondence between Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales – Maendy Quarry

Re: Quick Chat

Thu 29/10/2020 10:45

Goddard, Hannah NRW

James, Trystan; Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment)

Llewhellin, Matthew

Hi all

Yes happy to have a skype to discuss.

Thanks

Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

[xxxxxxxxxx](#) / xxxxxxxxxxxx

[Plas yr Afon, Caerdydd](#) / Rivers House, Cardiff

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: James, Trystan
Sent: 29 October 2020 10:25
To: Andrew Williams; Goddard, Hannah
Cc: Llewellyn, Matthew
Subject: RE: Quick Chat

Hi Andy. If its around the permit specifically then Hannah Goddard is probably the best contact. Do you want us to set up a skype to discuss Andy?
There are a number of queries around PCBs circulating the organisation at present so would be good if we could all keep each other in the loop.
Tryst

From: Andrew Williams>
Sent: 29 October 2020 10:23
To: James, Trystan
Cc: Llewellyn, Matthew
Subject: RE: Quick Chat

Morning both

We were looking to talk NRW colleagues responsible for the permit and establish more details on it and if it's a different policy team here that also needs to be involved...

From: James, Trystan
Sent: 29 October 2020 08:53
To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment)
Cc: Llewellyn, Matthew
Subject: FW: Quick Chat

Hi Andy,
I might be able to help with Maendy Quarry.
What's the query about?
Tryst

From: Griffiths, David
Sent: 28 October 2020 13:19
To: James, Trystan
Subject: FW: Quick Chat

Hi Trystan
We have had this request through from WG regarding PCB's XXXXXXXX Maendy Gareth in my Team is calling back regarding XXXXXXXX but is unable to discuss Maendy Quarry. Can someone from your team discuss that site with WG
They are after a quick follow up chat
Dave

From; Andrew Williams
Sent: 28 October 2020 13:09
To: Griffiths, David NRW
Subject: RE: Quick Chat

Great thanks Dave. Also is it possible to speak with the NRW officer who oversees the Maendy Quarry landfill and its permit in RCT?

Thanks Andy

From: Griffiths, David NRW >

Sent: 28 October 2020 13:04

To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment) <

Subject: RE: Quick Chat

Afternoon Andy

I have asked my colleague Dr Gareth Richards to give you a call. Dr Richards is best placed to answer your queries as he is our Technical Specialist and the Regulatory officer XXXXXXXX

Dave

From: Andrew Williams >

Sent: 28 October 2020 12:57

To: Griffiths, David NRW>

Subject: Quick Chat

Hi David

Hope all is well with you.

We've had some further enquiries about the issue discussed previously. Would you be available for a quick chat at some point today or tomorrow?

My number's XXXXXXXXXX

Thanks

Andy

Andy Williams

Environment Quality and Regulation Branch / Y Gangen Ansawdd Amgylchedd a Rheoleiddio

**Environment & Communities Division / Yr Is-adran Amgylchedd a Chymunedau
Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru**

Cathays Park / Parc Cathays

Cardiff / Caerdydd CF10 3NQ

E-mail/ E-bost: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Maendy Quarry

Tue 03/11/2020 15:11

Goddard, Hannah

Hi there

Please find attached the permit for Maendy Quarry.

The main contact for Maendy is XXXXXXXXXX. I've included his details below:



Permit AN0236801

(1).pdf

XXXXXXXXXXXX

Area Aftercare Manager - North

United Kingdom

XXXXXXXXXX@veolia.com

t. +XXXXXXXXXXXXm. +XXXXXXXXXX f. XXXXXXXXXX

Highmoor Landfill Site, Doctor Lane, Scouthead, Oldham, OL4 3SA

Thanks
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)
[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales
XXXXXXXXXXXX / XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
[Plas yr Afon, Caerdydd](#) / Rivers House, Cardiff
Siaradwr Cymraeg
[cyfoethnaturiol.cymru](#) / [naturalresources.wales](#)

Hi Andy

Thank you for compiling this timeline. We'll keep you update regarding any developments.

Please feel free to contact us regarding any queries you might receive regarding this site.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)
[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales
XXXXXXXXXXXX / XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
[Plas yr Afon, Caerdydd](#) / Rivers House, Cardiff
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[cyfoethnaturiol.cymru](#) / [naturalresources.wales](#)

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 01 February 2021 14:40

To: Goddard, Hannah >; De Longhi, Nadia <Nadia DeLonghi>

Cc: Richard Clark >; James, Trystan <<Matthew Llewellyn >; Eifiona Williams

Subject: Landfill permit and controlled waters - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah, Nadia

Thank you for meeting with us to discuss the site and the permit requirements last week. As discussed I've summarised the actions and expected milestones concerning the site below. I would be grateful if you could keep us updated with the site.

- NRW to continue to request historical monitoring data from Veolia for the site.

- Veolia to implement a surface water treatment plant installation – by August 2021 (as required within NRW permit).
- NRW to request Veolia expand contaminant monitoring (once treatment plant is installed) with guidance on relevant parameters from NRW geoscience team colleagues.
- NRW to review surface monitoring requirements (including parameters) when existing permit requires renewal (2023?) with guidance from Geoscience colleagues.
- NRW to keep WG updated with works and information status of the site.
- WG /NRW to meet during September 2021 to review site status.

Many thanks
Andy

Andy Williams

Environment Quality and Regulation Branch / Y Gangen Ansawdd Amgylchedd a Rheoleiddio

**Environment & Communities Division / Yr Is-adran Amgylchedd a Chymunedau
Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru**

Cathays Park / Parc Cathays

Cardiff / Caerdydd CF10 3NQ

E-mail/ E-bost:

Hi Andrew

Yes, we know about the 3rd party sampling but obviously can't comment on or verify the results as we weren't involved in the collection of the samples.

You're right. The current parameters are mono-hydric phenol, toluene, COD and pH. The monitoring over the next 2 years is required to include a much broader suite of analysis which will include PCBs and we'll likely be looking to increase the required suites for monthly sampling at the end of the 2 years.

NRW haven't undertaken any recent sampling at this site.

Thanks
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) < Spiller, Olwen (ESNR - ERA – Environmental Protection Division) < James, Trystan Llewellyn, Matthew < Hand, Scott

Fri 04/02/2022 12:03

Hi Andrew,

I just wanted to get in touch to provide an update.

As requested, please find attached the data submitted by Veolia in December.

The deadline for Improvement Condition 3 in the permit "IC3 - Restoration scheme to be built and commissioned in accordance with outline construction programme agreed in IC2 and no later than 21 months from final approval of IC2, unless otherwise agreed with NRW." was originally for August 2021 but has been approved to be extended until July 2022.

During a site visit in December, we have had some informal discussion with RCTCBC and Veolia around a possible voluntary agreement under Part 2a. We agreed we would all welcome a submission from Veolia, but there was no confirmation this was Veolia's intention. We explained groundwater impact as well as surface water impact would also need to be fully investigated before it could be signed off under Part 2a, and that we would provide more guidance and feedback when required.

We have had lots of media interest and correspondence from the public over the past few months, including the Telegraph and Afonydd Cymru.

There were a few incidents reported at both XXXXX-and Maendy. XXXXXXXXXXXX and the Maendy incident, we are awaiting January's self-monitoring data from Veolia to confirm no impact to water (as they would be within their permitted thresholds). This data is due to be shared next week, but all data in 2021 was within the permitted thresholds.

Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 18 November 2021 14:17

To: Goddard, Hannah

Cc: [Richard Clark](#), [Olwen Spiller](#) <James, Trystan < De Longhi, Nadia < Llewellyn, Matthew < >
Subject: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for coming back with feedback on the status of this site and the work undertaken in order to try and meet the requirements of the NRW permit.

From your email I gather the surface water treatment system is not fully operational and has therefore drifted beyond the deadlines set within the requirements of the NRW permit. I wondered in light of this (and the likelihood of it being pushed back until summer 2022) whether this creates any concern for NRW, or triggers any regulatory consequence for Veolia? Has a revised deadline subsequently been agreed?

I'd be grateful if you could keep us updated on the potential for the site to be considered further via a voluntary agreement under Part 2a with RCT. Additionally I'd appreciate sight of the results from analysis of the groundwater and surface water monitoring undertaken at the site by Veolia (or a summary of them) when they are provided. An update from you following the meeting with Veolia in December would also be very helpful and would allow us to brief the Minister, or respond to further media requests on the status of the site (and NRW's regulatory actions) if required.

Many thanks
Andy

Results

Wed 15/06/2022 12:51

Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division)
Llewellyn, Matthew

Hi Matt, here's what's been provided.



22-40420-01.XLSX



22-40420-01.PDF

Andy Williams

[Y Gangen Ansawdd Amgylchedd a Rheoleiddio](#) / **Environment Quality and Regulation Branch**
[Diogeli'r Amgylchedd](#) / **Environmental Protection Division**
[Llywodraeth Cymru](#) / **Welsh Government**
[Parc Cathays](#) / **Cathays Park**
[Caerdydd](#) / **Cardiff CF10 3NQ**

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 19 August 2022 13:00

To: Goddard, Hannah

Subject: RE: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for coming back so quickly with an update about the site.

We're in receipt of some correspondence which suggests other parties have been sampling the site specifically looking at PCB and other POP compounds.

I appreciate from past meetings and correspondence with you that the existing permit does not require sampling and analysis of PCBs and that the permit would require revision in the future to include this. I wondered if NRW had undertaken any sampling looking at PCB since we were last in touch or if Veolia have provided anything since their email back in December so I can make sure my briefing is fully up to date?

Many thanks
Andy

From: Goddard, Hannah <
Sent: 18 August 2022 19:21
To: Williams, Andrew (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) <
Cc: Spiller, Olwen (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) Clark, Richard (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) >; Williams, Eifiona (CCRA - ERA - Water, Flood and Coal Tips Safety) <>; James, Trystan Llewellyn, Matthew >; De Longhi, Nadia
Subject: Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Andrew

Maendy Quarry has been submitting monthly water quality results as per the permit requirement and all results have been within the permitted thresholds. The surface water treatment work has been completed apart from some vegetation to be added e.g., common reeds. The next phase is Improvement Condition 4 of the permit, which is a 2-year monitoring phase detailed below and the permit is attached for ease:

Please let me know if we can help further.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 17 August 2022 18:30

To: Goddard, Hannah <>; De Longhi, Nadia <

Cc: Richard Clark; Olwen Spiller <Eifiona Williams James, Trystan <
Subject: RE: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

I'm currently pulling together information to provide an update on the current status of the Maendy Quarry and XXXXXX following some urgent Ministerial questions that have been raised.

Your email below from February provided some results from analysis of water sampling at the Maendy site (and I'd welcome any further update in relation to monitoring), but I would also be grateful for an update (before the end of the week if possible) on the status of the surface water treatment work required by the NRW permit that has been proposed previously but has suffered some setbacks? I've attached some previous correspondence on this for reference.

REDACTED - not captured by request.

Many thanks in advance
Andy

From: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division)
Sent: 08 February 2022 17:40
To: Goddard, Hannah
Cc: Spiller, Olwen (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) <Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) <Williams, Eifiona (ESNR - ERA - Water & Flood Division)
Subject: FW: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for providing the update and for forwarding the information provided by Veolia.

It's reassuring to learn that from the surface water testing undertaken by Veolia there isn't currently a significant cause for concern to surface water receptors from PCBs leaving the site, although I note a small number of elevated levels of some of other chemicals. Hopefully the treatment works will help mitigate this when completed. I also note the monitoring of groundwater didn't identify the PCB congeners selected by Veolia for analysis either, although like with surface waters, it did identify some other elevated compounds. However, the suite of chemicals analysed within this round of groundwater monitoring was very limited, and therefore unlikely to ascertain the broader presence of compounds typically associated with landfill leachate.

It's encouraging therefore that Veolia acknowledge that further groundwater investigation is required to fully determine offsite risk. I think this would be beneficial and help resolve the uncertainties associated with groundwater impacts from the site. If a voluntary assessment under Part 2A EFA 1990 does go ahead, I would recommend that the Geoscience team get the opportunity to input to the design of the assessment with Veolia from the start I also think we need to ensure it gets regulatory input from them in terms of what is required xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx to adequately categorise the groundwater regime and adequately risk assess the site, given the LA is unlikely to have sufficient controlled waters expertise in this respect.

Grateful if you could continue to keep us in the loop.

Many thanks
Andy

From: Goddard, Hannah
Sent: 04 February 2022 12:03
To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division)
Cc: Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) Spiller, Olwen (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) <Olwen.Spiller; James, Trystan; Llewellyn, Matthew <Hand, Scott NRW
Subject: Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

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We have had lots of media interest and correspondence from the public over the past few months, including the Telegraph and Afonydd Cymru.

There were a few incidents reported at both xxxxxx and Maendy.xxxxxxxxxxxx; and the Maendy incident, we are awaiting January's self-monitoring data from Veolia to confirm no impact to water (as they would be within their permitted thresholds). This data is due to be shared next week, but all data in 2021 was within the permitted thresholds.

Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams>
Sent: 18 November 2021 14:17
To: Goddard, Hannah <

Cc: < Richard Clark, Olwen Spiler, James, Trystan ; De Longhi, Nadia Llewellyn, Matthew
Subject: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for coming back with feedback on the status of this site and the work undertaken in order to try and meet the requirements of the NRW permit.

From your email I gather the surface water treatment system is not fully operational and has therefore drifted beyond the deadlines set within the requirements of the NRW permit. I wondered in light of this (and the likelihood of it being pushed back until summer 2022) whether this creates any concern for NRW, or triggers any regulatory consequence for Veolia? Has a revised deadline subsequently been agreed?

I'd be grateful if you could keep us updated on the potential for the site to be considered further via a voluntary agreement under Part 2a with RCT. Additionally I'd appreciate sight of the results from analysis of the groundwater and surface water monitoring undertaken at the site by Veolia (or a summary of them) when they are provided. An update from you following the meeting with Veolia in December would also be very helpful and would allow us to brief the Minister, or respond to further media requests on the status of the site (and NRW's regulatory actions) if required.

Many thanks
Andy

From: Goddard, Hannah
Sent: 16 November 2021 10:37
To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division)
Subject: Fw: BBC Countryfile Article PCBs and Landfill permit and controlled waters - Follow Up Actions

Hi Andrew,

Apologies you didn't receive a response to this; I hadn't realised until Trystan flagged it with me last week.

Please find an update below:

- **NRW to continue to request historical monitoring data from Veolia for the site**
 - Recent GW & SW sampling completed by the site owner for PCBs and other parameters. At my last meeting with Veolia, they said they were happy to share the PCB data with NRW, but we have yet to see the analytical data. The site confirmed their sampling came back with no PCBs present.
- **Veolia to implement a surface water treatment plant installation – by August 2021 (as required within NRW permit)**

Mostly complete, but activity around this has halted for winter. They require a deployment permit to transport compost-like material to site to finish, but the deployment application was rejected by NRW due to lack of supporting information. I believe they will be reapplying for this permit prior to starting works again in Spring.
- **NRW to request Veolia expand contaminant monitoring (once treatment plant is installed) with guidance on relevant parameters from NRW geoscience team colleagues.**

This will be a sensitive conversation. They have generally agreed this is what they will do, but I haven't discussed formally. Waiting for completion of the treatment scheme on site which is likely to be pushed back to summer 2022.
- **NRW to review surface monitoring requirements (including parameters) when existing permit requires renewal (2023?) with guidance from Geoscience colleagues.**
- As above, to be discussed following the completion of improvement condition 3 (IC3).

- **NRW to keep WG updated with works and information status of the site.**
Aug - some queries about legality of waste/ non-waste products on the site. Deadline for IC3.
Oct - discussions around the permit from NRW, highway and planning permissions from RCT, and the missed deadline.
Nov - discussions around correspondence received from a 3rd party. Exploring the possibility of Veolia meeting the part 2a voluntarily - meeting next week with RCT to discuss.
Dec - meeting to be organised with Veolia for status of site over winter
- **WG /NRW to meet during September 2021 to review site status.**
A site visit likely won't occur until spring/summer 2022 as it would be beneficial to see the scheme completed.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)
[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales
XXXXXXXXXXXX / XXXXXXXX
[Plas yr Afon, Caerdydd](#) / Rivers House, Cardiff
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[cyfoethnaturiol.cymru](#) / [naturalresources.wales](#)

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams >

Sent: 18 August 2021 17:15

To: Goddard, Hannah >; De Longhi, Nadia

Cc: Richard Clark; James, Trystan Llewellyn, Matthew >; Eifiona Williams

Subject: BBC Countryfile Article PCBs and Landfill permit and controlled waters - Follow Up Actions

Importance: High

Afternoon Hannah, Nadia, Hope you're both well.

As you may know we've been liaising with your NRW Comms colleagues Angharad Selway and Lynette Bowley regarding a BBC Countryfile article featuring a piece on the PCB manufacture and disposal at sites across England and Wales and its potential impacts to the environment. I'm currently finalising a briefing for the Deputy Minister to make him aware of the programme, and in readiness for potential questions after it is aired on the 29th of this month.

Maendy quarry has been mentioned along with a number of other sites suspected of receiving PCB waste by the BBC researchers working for the programme and consequently it would be helpful if you were able to provide an update in relation to additional regulatory interventions which were scheduled to be completed by the end of this month, so I can include the sites current status within my briefing. I have included a summary of our last meeting actions below.

Many thanks
Andy

From: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment)
Sent: 01 February 2021 14:41
To: Goddard, Hannah; Nadia DeLonghi
Cc: Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment) >; James, Trystan <Llewhellin, Matthew <>>; Williams, Eifiona (ESNR - ERA - Water and Flood Division)
Subject: Landfill permit and controlled waters - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah, Nadia

Thank you for meeting with us to discuss the site and the permit requirements last week.

As discussed I've summarised the actions and expected milestones concerning the site below. I would be grateful if you could keep us updated with the site.

- NRW to continue to request historical monitoring data from Veolia for the site.
- Veolia to implement a surface water treatment plant installation – by August 2021 (as required within NRW permit).
- NRW to request Veolia expand contaminant monitoring (once treatment plant is installed) with guidance on relevant parameters from NRW geoscience team colleagues.
- NRW to review surface monitoring requirements (including parameters) when existing permit requires renewal (2023?) with guidance from Geoscience colleagues.
- NRW to keep WG updated with works and information status of the site.
- WG /NRW to meet during September 2021 to review site status.

Many thanks
Andy

Andy Williams
Environment Quality and Regulation Branch / Y Gangen Ansawdd Amgylchedd a Rheoleiddio
Environment & Communities Division / Yr Is-adran Amgylchedd a Chymunedau
Welsh Government / Llywodraeth Cymru
Cathays Park / Parc Cathays
Cardiff / Caerdydd CF10 3NQ
E-mail/ E-bost:

Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Goddard, Hannah

Fri 19/08/2022 13:21

Hi Andrew

Yes, we know about the 3rd party sampling but obviously can't comment on or verify the results as we weren't involved in the collection of the samples.

You're right. The current parameters are mono-hydric phenol, toluene, COD and pH. The monitoring over the next 2 years is required to include a much broader suite of analysis which will include PCBs and we'll likely be looking to increase the required suites for monthly sampling at the end of the 2 years.

NRW haven't undertaken any recent sampling at this site.

Thanks
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

XXXXXXXXXXXXX / XXXXXXXXXXXXX

[Plas yr Afon, Caerdydd](#) / Rivers House, Cardiff

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[cyfoethnaturiol.cymru](#) / [naturalresources.wales](#)

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 19 August 2022 13:00

To: Goddard, Hannah < >

Subject: RE: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for coming back so quickly with an update about the site.

We're in receipt of some correspondence which suggests other parties have been sampling the site specifically looking at PCB and other POP compounds.

I appreciate from past meetings and correspondence with you that the existing permit does not require sampling and analysis of PCBs and that the permit would require revision in the future to include this. I wondered if NRW had undertaken any sampling looking at PCB since we were last in touch or if Veolia have provided anything since their email back in December so I can make sure my briefing is fully up to date?

Many thanks

Andy

From: Goddard, Hannah

Sent: 18 August 2022 19:21

To: Williams, Andrew (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) <

Cc: Spiller, Olwen (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) < >; Clark, Richard (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) < Williams, Eifiona (CCRA - ERA - Water, Flood and Coal Tips Safety) < >; James, Trystan < >; Llewellyn, Matthew >; De Longhi, Nadia >

Subject: Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Andrew

Maendy Quarry has been submitting monthly water quality results as per the permit requirement and all results have been within the permitted thresholds. The surface water treatment work has been completed apart from some vegetation to be added e.g., common reeds. The next phase is Improvement Condition 4 of the permit, which is a 2-year monitoring phase detailed below and the permit is attached for ease:

IC4 - Operator to submit report to NRW reviewing monitoring data and make recommendations for improvement works if required. The report shall also review the compliance limits, parameters and monitoring frequencies, 2 years from completion of the commissioning of the works carried out in accordance with IC3

REDACTED - not captured by request

Please let me know if we can help further.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: [Andrew Williams](#)

Sent: 17 August 2022 18:30

To: Goddard, Hannah <>; De Longhi, Nadia <

Cc: <[Olwen Spiller](#); [Richard Clark](#)>; Eifiona.Williams17 [Eifiona Williamss](#)>; James, Trystan

Subject: RE: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

I'm currently pulling together information to provide an update on the current status of the Maendy Quarry and xxxxxxxx sites following some urgent Ministerial questions that have been raised.

Your email below from February provided some results from analysis of water sampling at the Maendy site (and I'd welcome any further update in relation to monitoring), but I would also be grateful for an update (before the end of the week if possible) on the status of the surface water treatment work required by the NRW permit that has been proposed previously but has suffered some setbacks? I've attached some previous correspondence on this for reference.

REDACTED -not captured by request.

Many thanks in advance
Andy

From: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division)

Sent: 08 February 2022 17:40

To: Goddard, Hannah

Cc: Spiller, Olwen (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) >; Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) Williams, Eifiona (ESNR - ERA - Water & Flood Division)

Subject: FW: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for providing the update and for forwarding the information provided by Veolia.

It's reassuring to learn that from the surface water testing undertaken by Veolia there isn't currently a significant cause for concern to surface water receptors from PCBs leaving the site, although I note a small number of elevated levels of some of other chemicals. Hopefully the treatment works will help mitigate this when completed. I also note the monitoring of groundwater didn't identify the PCB congeners selected by Veolia for analysis either, although like with surface waters, it did identify some other elevated compounds. However, the suite of chemicals analysed within this round of groundwater monitoring was very limited, and therefore unlikely to ascertain the broader presence of compounds typically associated with landfill leachate.

It's encouraging therefore that Veolia acknowledge that further groundwater investigation is required to fully determine offsite risk. I think this would be beneficial and help resolve the uncertainties associated with groundwater impacts from the site. If a voluntary assessment under Part 2A EFA 1990 does go ahead, I would recommend that the Geoscience team get the opportunity to input to the design of the assessment with Veolia from the start, xxx I also think we need to ensure it gets regulatory input from them in terms of what is required to adequately categorise the groundwater regime and adequately risk assess the site, given the LA is unlikely to have sufficient controlled waters expertise in this respect.

Grateful if you could continue to keep us in the loop.

Many thanks
Andy

From: Goddard, Hannah >

Sent: 04 February 2022 12:03

To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) >

Cc: Clark, Richard (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) < Spiller, Olwen (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) James, Trystan < >; Llewellyn, Matthew < Hand, Scott <

Subject: Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Andrew,

I just wanted to get in touch to provide an update.

As requested, please find attached the data submitted by Veolia in December.

The deadline for Improvement Condition 3 in the permit "IC3 - Restoration scheme to be built and commissioned in accordance with outline construction programme agreed in IC2 and no later than 21

months from final approval of IC2, unless otherwise agreed with NRW." was originally for August 2021 but has been approved to be extended until July 2022.

During a site visit in December, we have had some informal discussion with RCTCBC and Veolia around a possible voluntary agreement under Part 2a. We agreed we would all welcome a submission from Veolia, but there was no confirmation this was Veolia's intention. We explained groundwater impact as well as surface water impact would also need to be fully investigated before it could be signed off under Part 2a, and that we would provide more guidance and feedback when required.

We have had lots of media interest and correspondence from the public over the past few months, including the Telegraph and Afonydd Cymru.

There were a few incidents reported at both xxxxxx and Maendy. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx and the Maendy incident, we are awaiting January's self-monitoring data from Veolia to confirm no impact to water (as they would be within their permitted thresholds). This data is due to be shared next week, but all data in 2021 was within the permitted thresholds.

Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

[Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol](#) / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 18 November 2021 14:17

To: Goddard, Hannah

Cc: <Olwen Spiller; Richard Clark; James, Trystan < De Longhi, Nadia < Llewellyn, Matthew

Subject: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Hi Hannah

Thank you for coming back with feedback on the status of this site and the work undertaken in order to try and meet the requirements of the NRW permit.

From your email I gather the surface water treatment system is not fully operational and has therefore drifted beyond the deadlines set within the requirements of the NRW permit. I wondered in light of this (and the likelihood of it being pushed back until summer 2022) whether this creates any concern for NRW, or triggers any regulatory consequence for Veolia? Has a revised deadline subsequently been agreed?

I'd be grateful if you could keep us updated on the potential for the site to be considered further via a voluntary agreement under Part 2a with RCT. Additionally I'd appreciate sight of the results from analysis of the groundwater and surface water monitoring undertaken at the site by Veolia (or a summary of them) when they are provided. An update from you following the meeting with Veolia in December would also be very helpful and would allow us to brief the Minister, or respond to further media requests on the status of the site (and NRW's regulatory actions) if required.

Many thanks
Andy

RE: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

De Longhi, Nadia

Mon 22/08/2022 11:44

Hi Andrew

Just for awareness, I have changed roles in NRW and am now not involved with operational matters as Maendy/xxxxxxx, so I don't need to be included in any further correspondence. Please include Fiona Hourahine as the Operations Manager when needed.

Thanks

Nadia

From: Goddard, Hannah

Sent: 18 August 2022 19:21

To: [Andrew Williams](#)

Cc: [Olwen Spiller](#); [Richard Clark](#); Eifiona.Williams17 <[Eifiona Williams](#)>; James, Trystan <Llewhellin, Matthew <>>; De Longhi, Nadia

Subject: Re: NRW / Veolia Landfill permit and controlled waters monitoring - Follow Up Actions

Have forwarded to Fiona for awareness of response – Chris

Hi Andrew

Maendy Quarry has been submitting monthly water quality results as per the permit requirement and all results have been within the permitted thresholds. The surface water treatment work has been completed apart from some vegetation to be added e.g., common reeds. The next phase is Improvement Condition 4 of the permit, which is a 2-year monitoring phase detailed below and the permit is attached for ease:

IC4 - Operator to submit report to NRW reviewing monitoring data and make recommendations for improvement works if required. The report shall also review the compliance limits, parameters and monitoring frequencies, 2 years from completion of the commissioning of the works carried out in accordance with IC3

REDACTED – Not captured by request

Please let me know if we can help further.

Kind regards
Hannah

Hannah Goddard MCIWEM

Uwch Swyddog Amgylcheddol / Senior Environment Officer (Cwm Taf & Bridgend Environment Team)

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

xxxxxxxxxx / xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

Correspondence between Welsh Government and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council – Maendy Quarry

FW: Maendy / xxxxxx / xxxxxx

Tue 02/07/2024 13:53

Hi Andy,
I hope the following information is of assistance.

Maendy Quarry (west) is a closed waste disposal site in private ownership. Its operators received waste from a number of sources, including Monsanto in Newport, which was associated with PCB manufacture.

There are two consented water discharges from the site which are regulated by Natural Resources Wales under the Environmental Permitting Regime. The site has not been formally investigated or determined as contaminated land under Part 2A, Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Part 2A regime is one of several ways in which land contamination can be addressed. In line with Statutory Guidance, the Council also needs to consider the interaction of Part 2A with other Regulatory regimes and voluntary remediation by the site owner in addressing land contamination issues. Section 1.5, Welsh Statutory Guidance (2012) states: 'Enforcing authorities should seek to use Part 2A only where no appropriate alternative solution exists.'

There is an ongoing and constructive relationship between Rhondda Cynon Taf Council, Natural Resources Wales, and the landowner on matters of remediation, investigations and enforcement of environmental permits. Our current approach is to continue working with the site owners, who have undertaken investigations to inform improvement works at Maendy Quarry, and with Natural Resources Wales in respect of compliance with the Environmental Permit for the site. The impact of the improvement works needs to be assessed in line with

requirements of the Environmental Permit. While this work is ongoing, the Council will continue to consider any Part 2A Statutory Guidance implications.

REDACTED – outside scope of request

Kind regards,

Sarah

S. Illsley
Senior Environmental Control Officer
Public Health & Protection
Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

Pronouns: she/her

From: [Andy Williams](#)

Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 10:54 AM

To: Illsley, Sarah

Subject: RE: Maendy / xxxxxxxx/ xxxxxxxx

Rhybudd: E-bost allanol yw hwn - sy wedi dod o sefydliad/unigolyn y tu allan i'r Cyngor. Byddwch yn wylidwrus wrth glicio ar ddolenni neu agor atodiadau.

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REDACTED -No captured by request

To provide some addition context I'm feeding into the response to this question; .
'.....outline how many of these sites were used for the disposal of PCBs, whether the Welsh Government is able to locate them, and what is their current status.'

Thanks
Andy

From: Illsley, Sarah

Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 10:00 AM

To: Williams, Andy (CCRA - ES - Environmental Protection) [Andy Williams](#)

Subject: RE: Maendy / xxxxxx / xxxxxxxx

Hi Andy,

Nice to hear from you.

REDACTED – Not captured by request

Thanks
Sarah

From: [Andy.Williams](#) >

Sent: Monday, July 1, 2024 3:50 PM

To: Illsley, Sarah RCT

Subject: Maendy / xxxxxxxx / xxxxxxxx

Rhybudd: E-bost allanol yw hwn - sy wedi dod o sefydliad/unigolyn y tu allan i'r Cyngor. Byddwch yn wylriadwrus wrth glicio ar ddolenni neu agor atodiadau.

Caution: This is an external email and did not originate from within the Council. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Hi Sarah

Hope all's well with you.

I'm feeding into a response to some Senedd Questions which were asked last week relating to the Maendy and-XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX. This was in relation to the BBC Radio 4 podcast 'Buried'.

Grateful if you could provide a regulatory update relating to these sites which I could include within the briefing I am preparing?

Many thanks

Andy

Andy Williams

Diogeli'r Amgylchedd / Environmental Protection

Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

Parc Cathays / Cathays Park

Caerdydd / Cardiff CF10 3NQ

RE: Maendy and Brofiscin Quarries

Thu 18/08/2022 15:48

Williams, Andrew (CCRA - ERA - Environmental Protection) Pilliner, Neil <
Davies, Louise RCT

Hi Andy,

Neil is on leave at present but there is no further update to the LA position in respect of Maendy. I am also not aware that we have had any further information regarding the investigations planned by the site owner, Veolia.

REDACTED – Not captured by request

It would be helpful to us to understand the questions that have been tabled and the MS/s that have tabled them. Are you able to share that information please? You will be aware of local and media interest in the sites to date and the LA is keen to understand where interest is arising.

Many thanks,

Louise

Mrs Louise Davies

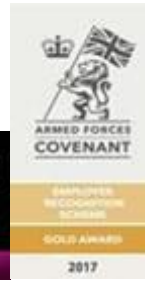
*Cyfarwyddwr – Gwasanaethau Iechyd a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, a'r Gymuned
Director - Public Health, Protection & Community Services*

Cyngor Fwrdeistref Siriol Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council

*Ty Elai, Dinas Isaf Dwyrain/ Dinas Isaf East,
Williamstown, Tonypany, CF40 1NY*

Ffon/Tel: XXXXXXXXXXX

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From: Andrew Williams

Sent: 17 August 2022 18:08

To: Pilliner, Neil <>

Cc: Davies, Louise <>; Illsley, Sarah <>; Wilkins, Andrew (Legal) <> **Subject:** Maendy and Brofiscin Quarries

Hi Neil

I'm pulling together some current information relating to the status of Maendy Quarry and XXXXXX following two Ministerial Questions that have been tabled, and I wondered whether there was any further update since your last email in June? Particularly in relation to any investigation / remediation proposals that you mentioned the operator may have been planning at Maendy?

REDACTED - Not captured by request

Many thanks in advance
Andy

From: Pilliner, Neil

Sent: 15 June 2022 14:37

To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - Environmental Protection Division) <> **Cc:** Davies, Louise <>; Illsley, Sarah <> Wilkins, Andrew (Legal) >

Subject: RE: Maendy Quarry, Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Hi Andy,

There is no key change to the Council's position detailed below. With regard to the current status for the site, there is ongoing remediation work/investigation/assessment being undertaken by site owner's Veolia and we are awaiting the outcome of the work, which will inform the future plan for the site.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Thanks Neil

Neil Pilliner
Rheolwr Diogelu'r
Amygylchedd a Safonau
Tai,
Rhondda Cynon Tâf,
Iechyd a Diogelwch y
Cyhoedd,
Tŷ Elai,
Dinas Isaf Dwyrain,
Williamstown,
Tonypany
CF40 1NY

Neil Pilliner
Environmental Protection &
Housing Standards Manager,
Rhondda Cynon Taf,
Public Health and Protection,
Tŷ Elai,
Dinas Isaf East,
Williamstown,
Tonypany
CF40 1NY

Tel no: xxxxxxxxxx



From: Andrew Williams>
Sent: 15 June 2022 13:40
To: Illsley, Sarah
Cc: Davies, Louise < Pilliner, Neil >
Subject: RE: Maendy Quarry, Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Hi Sarah

Hope you're well.

I'm dealing with some media interest around this site again.

Grateful if you could confirm if the email below still accurately reflects RCTs position on this site? If not I'd be grateful for a brief update.

I've got to provide a response before the end of the day so a reply this afternoon would be really helpful.

Many thanks in advance
Andy

From: Illsley, Sarah
Sent: 21 August 2020 10:52
To: Williams, Andrew (ESNR - ERA - People & Environment) <
Cc: Davies, Louise < >; Pilliner, Neil <
Subject: Maendy Quarry, Rhondda Cynon Taf.

Dear Andrew,

I can confirm the following information which is an amalgamation of responses to recent FOI requests:-

The Local Authority recognises Maendy Quarry has a previous land use that could support the possible need for future investigation under Part 2A, Environmental Protection Act, 1990. However, there are numerous potential contaminated land sites in Rhondda Cynon Taf and alongside the site at Maendy Quarry, they are subject to prioritisation in accordance with the Council's Contaminated Land Strategy (CLIS) which was last reviewed and revised in 2016. Any decision to investigate a potential contaminated land site would be in accordance with Statutory Guidance, the Council's CLIS and the availability of appropriate funding.

Kind Regards,
Sarah

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,