

IPPC Documents

Deflagration Management Plan

Waste recycling facility and baling plant

Hal Far, l/o Birżebbuġa

Variation of IP0004/12/A

Dr. Joe A Doublet PhD (Wales)

Applicant

Damian Whitehead

Architect

Perit Joe Grech B.E.& A. (Hons), A.& C.E.

July 2021

Updated April 2023

The material which is shredded consists mainly of light steel. This originates mainly from End of Life Vehicles which would have been decontaminated on site or other carcasses of vehicles which would have been brought on site dismantled. Other light steel fractions could also be brought to the site from other sources. Material which could have any radioactive sources such as material originating from industries is also checked to ensure that radioactive material doesn't enter the site. If such material reaches the site driver is asked to wait and Radiation Protection Commission is contacted. Material will not be unloaded at site.

All material entering the site is visually inspected and materials or parts thereof for which the site is not licenced to accept are turned away. Contaminated material is not accepted either as already stated above. Vehicles which go through the ELV decontamination process would have any oils or fuels which are removed prior to the shredding process. Soft furnishings and other removable material is manually removed prior to shredding. All this reduces the possibility of deflagration during the shredding process. Water is continuously sprayed on the material which is being shredded. This is done to attenuate dust emissions but also reduces the possibility of deflagration during the shredding process. Most of the water evaporates when it comes into contact with the hot metal. Any remaining liquid water falls at the bottom of the shredder. Any runoff from the hardstanding area of the site is conducted through a sump and an oil/water separator and collected in a large underground well.

There is no historical record on site of any deflagration taking place in the shredder.

In case of deflagration and a start of a fire, emergency procedures kick in, primarily one would try to extinguish the fire using the available equipment i.e. water and fire extinguishers on site. If this seems to be possible and the fire becomes unmanageable, then an emergency call to the Civil Protection Department (CPD). There are two large water reservoirs on site which are also available for use by the CPD.