Appendix E - Is a recycled aggregate delivered to a construction site still a waste?

Good procurement practice helps ensure that recycled aggregates received at a construction site are not still classed as a waste under Environmental Permitting Regulations.

Quality managed recycled aggregates, produced and tested to a suitable documented quality management scheme (QMS), and demonstrating compliance to the construction site's required aggregate product Specification(s) are most likely to have met 'end of waste' requirements.

Where these criteria are not met the recycled aggregate will remain waste and the receiving site will require an environmental permit or exemption for the use of waste in construction.

Key 'on site' requirements for establishing an aggregate has met 'end of waste'.

1.	The construction site has an approved supplier list for defined aggregate products for on-site construction applications. E.g. 0/31.5 Type 1 subbase, 0/80 Class 6F5 capping layer, 0/20 pipe bedding.
2.	Approved suppliers have provided comprehensive documentation to show compliance with specification performance requirements per product, including operating to a suitable QMS e.g. 'the Guidance Document for aggregates from inert waste[1]'.
3.	Recycled aggregates delivery documentation is retained on site and shows for each load a minimum of: ▪ Details of the product supplied, e.g. 0/31.5 Type 1 subbase ▪ The supplying recycling facility i.e. listed approved supplier facility ▪ Vehicle registration number ▪ Quantity of aggregate delivered ▪ Confirmation that the aggregate was produced to a suitable QMS, e.g. conforming to the requirements of this guidance document (See Appendix G)

Which materials are not recycled aggregates meeting 'end of waste'?

	Status
Materials delivered with a waste transfer note and waste code	Waste
Materials supplied with no delivery documentation	Waste
Materials without an Aggregate Product Standard/specification product description on delivery documentation, i.e. materials are still waste if just described as 'hardcore', 'crushed concrete', 'crushed brick', 'crusher run', 'soil', 'subsoil', 'clay' or no description.	Waste
Cohesive fills to Specification for Highway Works (SHW) Series 600 e.g. Classes 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 7A, 7C, 7D. (New 2025 SHW CC601 Class 2, Class 7)	Waste
SHW Series 600/CC201 Clause 6.4 Granular fills Classes 6F1 and 6F2 (These products do not conform to a harmonized Aggregate Product Standard and Construction Products Regulations. SHW prohibits importation of these classes onto a construction site)	Waste
The only product testing results are a grading certificate (particle size distribution)	Waste

When in doubt

Visit the supplying recycled aggregate facility and use the 'Recycled aggregate end of waste checklist'. (Appendix F)

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Testing option for identifying non-compliant materials.
Contamination from unsuitable wastes is a common problem resulting from the inadequate processing of recycled aggregates and the inclusion of clay or soils.

Where circumstances permit it, and materials delivered to site can be sampled and tested, two tests can be used to determine if this contamination has caused non-compliance with the Aggregate Product Standard and the end use application specification. This non-compliance will also result in the material remaining waste.

Recycled material range	**Test**	**Limits**
0/80mm	BS EN 933-11 Classification of constituents of coarse recycled aggregates	Floating material (FL) ≤ 10cm3/kg or for SHW types 1,2 & 4 unbound subbase ≤ 5cm^3/kg
		Non-floating wood, glass, plastic, metal, clay and soil (Class X) ≤ 1% by mass
0/80mm and 0/4mm	BS 1377-2 Soils in Civil Engineering. Plastic Index	Must be non-plastic to be an aggregate. Plastic materials are cohesive fills, not aggregates.

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