Non-technical Summary

Site activities and permitting requirements

The Mondelez Sheffield site, operational on this site since the 1930s, is located to the northwest of Sheffield city centre in an area predominantly industrial / commercial in nature. The site sits either side of the River Don and comprises a series of production buildings, warehousing/storage (raw materials and finished product), offices and car parking. There are four process departments on site, which produce a range of confectionery products. These are:

- Hard mints;
- Soft mints;
- Jellies; and
- Continuous Liquorice Process (CLP).

In addition to manufacturing processes operating on site, there are a number of associated ancillary and utility activities including: steam raising boilers, air compressors, operation of refrigeration and cooling equipment, effluent pre-treatment plant operations, cleaning activities, waste storage and handling and raw materials storage and handling.

Site activities fall within Schedule 1, Section 6.8 Part A(1) (d)(iii) of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 (as amended). Products are primarily manufactured from vegetable raw materials, however gelatine, which is classified as an animal raw material, is a constituent of certain products in varying amounts.

Process effluent generated from site activities is discharged for treatment at Yorkshire Water (YW) Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). Prior to sewer discharge, most process effluent is conveyed to an on-site effluent treatment plant (ETP) for effluent pre-treatment comprising effluent balancing and pH correction. This effluent pre-treatment activity falls within Schedule 1, Section 5.4 (a)(ii) of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 (as amended).

This environmental permit will also incorporate the existing boiler plant permit, which is regulated as a standalone Medium Combustion Plant by the Environment Agency (EA) (permit reference: EPR/CP3126SW).

The Mondelez Sheffield site holds three consents to discharge to the River Don related to previously operated process outfalls. These consents exist for historic purposes and are no longer required due to changes on site; Mondelez requests that these are surrendered as part of this application.

Impact assessment

An assessment of emissions from the process and their potential effects on the environment, including local human and ecological sensitive receptors has been carried out. This is reported in this permit application and concludes that there are no significant negative environmental impacts predicted to arise as a result of activities within the scope of this permit application.

The potential effect of releases of effluent to sewer on the River Don have been assessed using the H1 software tool, taking account of the treatment provided on site and at YW WwTW. The results of the H1 assessment indicates that, for the parameters considered, the discharge of effluent from the Mondelez Sheffield site has been assessed to have no significant impact on the water quality of the River Don.

An assessment of emissions to air from steam raising boilers has been carried out using atmospheric dispersion modelling. The detailed assessment concluded that for all potential pollutants considered, the effects can be considered either as 'insignificant' or 'not significant'.

As part of pre-application discussion, the EA carried out a qualitative noise screening assessment for the Mondelez Sheffield site. This concluded that a noise impact assessment does not need to be provided with this permit application. However, noise should still be considered qualitatively in the risk assessment and Mondelez must meet the requirements of Best Available Techniques (BAT). A qualitative assessment of noise and vibration risks is provided, which concludes that, for all principal noise sources on site, the overall risk is low.

An accident management plan is provided, which includes identification of potential incidents which could result in pollution and/or not being able to comply with permit conditions. A qualitative risk assessment is undertaken for these incidents, taking into account measures in place to manage and mitigate accident risks. For all identified incidents the overall risk was assessed to be moderate/low risk or less.

Site Operational Controls

Mondelez has an established environmental management system (EMS) which comprises a series of corporate-level documented 'standards' (common to all Mondelez sites) supplemented by site-specific documented procedures which describe how the Mondelez standards are implemented at a site level. The EMS forms part of an integrated Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) Management System. The site has a certified ISO 50001 Energy Management System. A planned maintenance and inspection programme is in place to optimise the operation of the plant.

A review of compliance with BAT requirements has been undertaken. Where it has been identified that BAT is applicable and is not fully met, improvements are proposed, as listed in the Proposed Improvement Programme.