



# Honister Slate Mine

## Health and Safety Product Data Sheet

### Natural Aggregates

#### 1. Identification of substance

Product Name: 'All Westmorland green slate aggregates' covering:  
Chippings – 20-30mm chipped aggregate Westmorland green slate  
Dust – 6mm crushed Westmorland green slate  
Paddle stones – 40 – 80mm rounded and crushed Westmorland green slate  
Shards – 80 – 150mm stone offcut shards

Company name: Honister Slate Mine, Honister Pass, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5XN

Tel: 017687 77230

#### 2. Composition

General: Natural aggregates are produced from naturally occurring Slate, which consists of a variety of other minerals, including Silica.

Hazardous Ingredients: Contains Free Crystalline Silica in the range of 30% to 100%

#### 3. Hazardous Identification

Eyes: May cause irritation if in contact with the eyes

Skin: No Hazard

Inhalation: Prolonged exposure to silica dust in the respirable size range causes progressive irreversible lung disease (silicosis).

Ingestion: Not a toxic hazard, but an ingestion of a significant amount could block the airways or gullet.

#### 4. First Aid Measures

Eyes: Irrigate or flood the eye(s) with copious amounts of clean water. Seek medical advice if the particles cannot be removed from the eye.

Skin: Wash with clean water.

Inhalation: Remove from the contaminated area and allow time in fresh air.



## 5. Fire Fighting Measures

As the aggregates are fire resistant, no firefighting measures are required.

## 6. Accidental Release Measures

- Personal precautions: In the event of a spillage or leakage, wear eye protection. Avoid breathing dust by wearing respiratory protective equipment.
- Environmental Measures: No Hazard. Aggregates should be disposed of in accordance with the local authority regulations.
- Method of Cleaning: Use methods which will minimise generation of dust. Avoid dry sweeping. If possible, spray the material with water to prevent airborne dust. If a vacuum system is used to clear up dry material, please ensure that it is fitted with a high-efficiency filter suitable for harmful dusts.

## 7. Handling and Storage

The product should be handled and stored to minimise generation of dust. Avoid dry sweeping. If possible, spray the material with water to prevent airborne dust. If a vacuum system is used to clear up the dry material, please ensure that it is fitted with a high-efficiency filter suitable for harmful dusts.

## 8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Occupational exposure limits

Free Crystalline Silica. Maximum Exposure Limit – 4mg/cubic metre respirable dust 8 hour time weighted average.

Recommended short term exposure limit – 1.2mg/cubic metre respirable dust (15 minutes reference period).

All types of dust have an occupational exposure standard of 10mg/cubic metre inhalable dust 8 hour time weighted average. Recommended Short term exposure limit 30mg/cubic metre. (15 minutes reference period).

- Engineering Control Measures: See section 7, Handling and Storage.
- Personal Protection: Respiratory Protection to HSE approved Standard.
- Hand Protection: Abrasive resistant gloves.
- Eye protection: To HSE Approved standard for dust goggles.

## 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Natural aggregates are particulate solids with extremely high melting points, odourless and various colours. Density range up to 2500kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

## 10. Stability and Reactivity

Not Applicable to our Aggregates.

## 11. Toxicology Information

Health Effects:

On eyes: May cause irritation if in contact with the eye.



On Skin:	Unlikely to cause harm on brief or occasional contact.
By inhalation:	Inhalation of large quantities of respirable silica may lead to progressive lung damage. This may cause permanent disability and, in extreme cases, death.
By ingestion:	Unlikely to cause harm unless ingested in copious amounts.
Chronic Exposure:	High level exposure to silica may cause progressive silicosis.
Others:	None known.

#### 12. Ecological Information

Environmental Assessment: When used and disposed of as intended, no adverse environmental effects are known.

#### 13. Disposal Considerations

It is not classified as hazardous for disposal purposes. Please dispose following local authority procedures.

#### 14. Transport Information

Classification for conveyance not required.

#### 15. Regulatory Information

Hazard Label Data:	This product is not classified as dangerous for supply in the UK.
Statutory Instruments:	Health and Safety Work Act 1974. Consumer Protection Act 1987 COSHH 1994 Environmental Protection Act 1990
Guidance Notes:	Occupational Exposure Limits (EH40) Local Exhaust Ventilation (HS(G)37) Crystalline Silica (EH59) Dust, General Principles of Protection (EH44) Control of Respirable Crystalline Silica in Quarries (HS(G)73) Waste Management – The Duty of Care <i>The above publications are available from HMSO of HSE</i>

#### 16. Other Information

The dry dust from Natural Aggregates is a substance hazardous to health and as such the employer of persons who may be exposed to it at work must carry out an assessment under the 'Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994'.

The presence of free silica dust of respirable size (having a Maximum Exposure Limit) means that it is a legal requirement to reduce exposure to it at all times to the lowest level reasonably practicable and in no circumstances to exceed the Maximum Exposure Limit.

**NB: Possession of this Health and Safety Data Sheet does not constitute an assessment.**

The use of personal protective equipment (PPE) is subject to the 'Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992'. All new PPE must carry the CE mark of 'Conformity to European Standards'.

Where exposure to respirable crystalline silica is such that there is a reasonable likelihood of Silicosis, then health surveillance for this condition will be required under COSHH regulations.

The COSHH regulations prohibit the use of any substance containing free silica as an abrasive for blasting articles in any blasting apparatus.

Substances containing free silica are not recommended for the sand blasting of buildings.



**Honister Slate Mine, Honister Pass, Borrowdale, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5XN**