

Ein cyf/Our ref: CAS-235868-L6G9
Eich cyf/Your ref: P/2023/0449

Wrexham County Borough Council
The Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Dyddiad/Date: 08 September 2023

Annwyl Syr/Madam/Dear Sir/Madam,

BWRIAD/PROPOSAL: Erection of covered manure store and all associated works.

LLEOLIAD/LOCATION: Ridleywood Farm, Ridleywood, Wrexham, LL13 9US.

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (CNC)/Natural Resources Wales (NRW) about the above, which we received on 25 August 2023.

We have no objection to the proposed development as submitted and provide the following advice.

Protected Sites

Phosphates

We note the application site is within the catchment of the River Dee and Bala Lake Special Area of Conservation (SAC). As you are aware, on the 21st January 2021, we published an evidence package outlining phosphorus levels for all river SACs across Wales. In line with our [Planning Advice](#) (August 2023), under the Habitats Regulations, Planning Authorities must consider the phosphorus impact of proposed developments on water quality within SAC river catchments. We therefore advise you to consider whether the proposals, as submitted, would increase the volume of foul discharge from the site in planning terms.

We note from the information submitted a new covered manure store to comply with storage requirements as laid down in the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021. Provided the structure is not linked to an increase in livestock numbers, as confirmed in section 4.3 of the Planning Statement, and would not provide the capacity for an increase in livestock numbers in the future, and is designed and built by a suitably qualified engineer, to meet the standards set in the Regulations and BS 5502 (Building and Structures for Agriculture Code of Practice for Design, Construction and Loading), it is unlikely to increase the amount of phosphorus entering the catchment and therefore, it is not likely to have a significant effect on the River Dee and Bala Lake SAC.

The manure should be applied to land in accordance with a suitable manure management plan (MMP) based on an underlying nutrient management plan (NMP).

We refer you to our Planning Advice. Provided this guidance is followed and you are able to conclude that the development is not likely to have a significant effect on the SAC, we have no objection to the proposal. However, should you conclude that the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the SAC, please consult us on your Appropriate Assessment under Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

Ammonia

Where there is no change to the existing background ammonia emissions and the proposal reduces the risk of pollution, we do not require an atmospheric ammonia impact screening report in relation to the protected sites. This is in line with our published advice which can be viewed on our website [Natural Resources Wales / Ammonia assessments](#).

We advise that the applicant follow the Code of Good Agricultural Practice guidance on reducing ammonia emissions from agriculture in Wales published in 2019 which can be found [here](#).

Protected Species

We note the ecology report submitted in support of the above application (by Arbor Vitae dated March 2023) has identified bats and great crested newts were not using the application site. We therefore have no adverse comments to make on the application as submitted.

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters included on our checklist, *Development Planning Advisory Service: Consultation Topics* (September 2018), which is published on our [website](#). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our [website](#) for further details.

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

Rhys Evans

Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu/Advisor - Development Planning
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.