

Philip Forster
Planning Officer
Wrexham County Borough Council
Guildhall
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Date: 5th September 2017

Dear Mr Forster,

EMERGENCY STANDBY SUB-STATION GENERATION FACILITY COMPRISING: NATURAL GAS GENERATOR UNIT (UP TO 10 IN TOTAL), TRANSFORMERS, BOUNDARY TREATMENT INCLUDING ACOUSTIC SCREENING, ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS AND ASSOCIATED WORKS LAND SOUTH OF EXISTING SUBSTATION, PLAS BENNION ROAD, PENYCAE, WREXHAM, LL14 6RN

Thank you for consulting us on the above application, which we received on the 22nd August 2017.

We have no objection to the application but have the following comments:

Protected sites

The proposal is within 2 kilometres of the Johnstown Newt sites Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

We advise that the proposal may have implications for the SAC listed above and you should carry out a test of likely significant effects under Regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). We can help you reach a conclusion on likely significant effects. If that assessment concludes there is likely to be a significant effect, we can also advise on the further, appropriate assessment that would be required under the Regulations.

We remind you that, as a competent authority for the purposes of the 2010 Regulations, your authority must not normally agree to any plan or project unless you are sure beyond reasonable scientific doubt that it will not adversely affect the integrity of a SAC, SPA or Ramsar site.

Air Quality

Based on advice NRW provided for the original diesel development (09/10/2015), we did not think that the original development was likely to have adverse effects on Johnstone Newt Sites SAC. No Air Quality assessment on the Newts Sites SAC has been provided from the new proposal, presumably due to our original advice. The new development using gas engines will be cleaner. Having assessed the impacts on the non-designated sites, the emission of nitrogen oxides and nitrogen deposition, we do not believe the air quality impacts will be significant.

Environmental Permit

The applicants have separately confirmed (Jonathan Sebbage, 4th September 2017) that the installation will be below the 50MWth limit for a Part A1 installation permit and therefore regulation will fall to the Local Authority under Part B of The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2015 (as amended). You are advised to consult your Environmental Health/Public Protected Department in this regard.

Protected Species

Bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended).

Care should be taken in the type and location of any external lighting within the new development, to ensure that the hedgerows and trees identified on the site are not illuminated. We advise that a light spillage scheme from the development should be agreed to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority.

Waste

The activity of importing waste into the site for use as, for example hardcore, must be registered by the Natural Resources Wales as an exempt activity under Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010. The developer should contact Natural Resources Wales to discuss the necessity for an exemption permit for any material imported to and exported from the site. No material is to be deposited within 10m of any watercourse without discussion with Natural Resources Wales. Should any contaminated water or materials enter or pollute any nearby watercourse or groundwater, Natural Resources Wales must be notified on 0800 807060.

Fuel Storage

The applicants shall ensure that where relevant, the Oil Storage Regulations (Wales) 2016 are adhered to.

Any facilities for the storage of oils, fuels or chemicals shall be sited on impervious bases and surrounded by impervious bund walls. The volume of the bunded compound should be 110% of the capacity of the tank, all filling points, gauges, vents and sight glasses must be located within the bund. Associated pipe-work should be located above ground and protected from accidental damage. All filling points and tank overflow pipe outlets should be detailed to discharge downwards into the bund, refuelling should be supervised at all times - and preferably done on an impermeable surface.

Contaminated Material

If during construction/excavation works any contaminated material is revealed, then the movement of such material either on or off site should be done in consultation with Natural Resources Wales. Any waste excavation material or building waste generated in the course of the development must be disposed of satisfactorily and in accordance with Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Carriers transporting waste from the site must be registered waste carriers and movement of any Hazardous Waste from the site must be accompanied by Hazardous waste consignment notes.

Our comments only relate specifically to matters that are included on our checklist "Natural Resources Wales and Planning Consultations" (March 2015) which is published on our website: (<https://naturalresources.wales/media/5271/150302-natural-resources-wales-and-planning-consultations-final-eng.pdf>). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance. Any site owner/developer should be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure that they secure all other permits/consents relevant to their development.

If you have any queries concerning the above, please contact me on the details below.

Yn gywir / Yours' faithfully,



Mr. GARETH THOMAS

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