

Cerys Jones

From: Philip Forster
Sent: 23 February 2017 14:26
To: planning_admin
Subject: FW: Five Fords AAD: GCN Method Statement (Planning Application Ref: P/2016/0709)

NRW response

From: Ellis, Matthew [mailto:Matthew.Ellis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk]
Sent: 22 February 2017 17:05
To: Howard Jones; Philip Forster
Cc: Emma Broad; Buxton, Daniel P (Daniel.Buxton@mottmac.com)
Subject: RE: Five Fords AAD: GCN Method Statement (Planning Application Ref: P/2016/0709)

Dear Howard and Philip

RE NRW Position re Protected Species

Firstly Howard, thank you very much for your below email in respect of the above planning application.

We wish to confirm that we now consider the applicant to have satisfactorily addressed issues associated with the planning application.

We therefore have no objection to the application being determined for approval.

We trust this email will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Matt

Matt Ellis

Swyddog Rhywogaethau Rhanbarthol/Senior Species Officer

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru/Natural Resources Wales
Ffordd Caer/Chester Road
Bwcle/Buckley
Sir Y Fflint/Flintshire
CH7 3AJ

Ffôn/Tel: 03000 653881

E-Bost/E-mail:

matthew.ellis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk
matthew.ellis@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Gwefan/Website:

www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk / www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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yn awr ac i'r dyfodol.

Our purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably managed, used and enhanced, now and for the future.

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From: Howard Jones [<mailto:HowardJones@caulmert.com>]

Sent: 22 February 2017 16:54

To: Philip Forster <Philip.Forster@wrexham.gov.uk>

Cc: Ellis, Matthew <Matthew.Ellis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>; Emma Broad <Emma.Broad@wrexham.gov.uk>; Buxton, Daniel P (Daniel.Buxton@mottmac.com) <Daniel.Buxton@mottmac.com>

Subject: Five Fords AAD: GCN Method Statement (Planning Application Ref: P/2016/0709)

Importance: High

Philip,

I refer to Matthew Ellis' e-mail dated 20th February (see below) and very much appreciate his prompt response.

I have forwarded Matthew's e-mail to MMB (DCWW's environmental and engineering consultants) and have requested their comments.

MMB have confirmed that they can agree to the 10 year monitoring period of the existing pond and the proposed pond in the compensation area.

However, MMB (who will be the licence holder for the GCN licence application) will not be able to commit to the ongoing monitoring or the "programme of works" licence, as this will need to be agreed and held by DCWW. This is a separate matter, which will need to be discussed with DCWW. MMB have undertaken to raise this matter with the appropriate DCWW staff when they return from annual leave; however, it is likely to take some time to come to an agreement and to arrange for the licence to be put in place. As you are aware the programme for the construction of the AAD plant is now very tight and further delay, whilst such measures are agreed and put in place, is likely to have significant implications for the delivery of the overall project.

MMB have confirmed that KPI's (a), (b) and (c) are acceptable and achievable with management. However, the GCN target identified in KPI (d) is not a direct indicator of favourable conservation status. MMB propose, as an alternative, that KPI (d) should seek to achieve an increasing GCN population in each pond over time, as reflected in the results of the torch light surveys, which would be a better indicator of the changing conservation status of the species.

I note that Matthew now has no objections to the proposals from a European Protected Species perspective and I conclude that this should now enable you to determine the current planning application.

In addition I trust that this response reasonably and appropriately addresses the other matters that Matthew has raised.

Regards, Howard

Howard Jones
Director of Planning

Caulmert Ltd
8 St Georges Court, Altrincham Business Park, Dairyhouse Lane, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 5UA

T: 0161-928-6886
M: 07909-578823
W: <http://www.caulmert.com/>

From: Ellis, Matthew [<mailto:Matthew.Ellis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>]
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 12:10 PM
To: Howard Jones <HowardJones@caulmert.com>; Philip Forster <Philip.Forster@wrexham.gov.uk>
Cc: Emma Broad <Emma.Broad@wrexham.gov.uk>; Read, Meryl <Meryl.Read@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Five Fords AAD: GCN Method Statement (Planning Application Ref: P/2016/0709)

Hi Howard

Firstly thank you for your email.

- i. Based on this updated submission, we wish to confirm that we have no objection to the proposals from an EPS perspective.
- ii. I note the proposed amendments in respect of post construction surveillance. I advise that F2 is amended to accord with the below:

F.2 Population monitoring

Monitoring the GCN populations within all water bodies present with the GCN conservation area shall be monitored for a 10-year period under this licence as requested by NRW.. After this time period, regular surveillance will aim to be subsequently carried out under a 'programme of works' licence covering all DCWW assets. Population surveys are to be undertaken for the purposes of:

- (i) Evidencing restoration of the population
- (ii) Reporting on the outcomes of previous and current derogation activities;
- (iii) Informing site management; and
- (iv) Assessing and reporting on the current conservation status of the GCN population

Surveys will be undertaken by licenced and accredited or capable GCN ecologists. Population surveys will follow the online Wales Great Crested Newt Monitoring Methodology. This shall include 'head count data, habitat suitability index scores and factor information. This online database shall be used for annual reporting purposes.

Monitoring key performance indicators (KPI's) are to be defined to evidence restoration. KPI's are set as follows:

- (a) No (0) ponds supporting fish
- (b) No (0) ponds supporting invasive non-native species
- (c) Mean Habitat Suitability Index Scores shall be not less than 0.7 for the site
- (d) Number of adult great crested newt counted during torch light surveys = 15 per pond.

Thanks

Matt

From: Howard Jones [<mailto:HowardJones@caulmert.com>]
Sent: 20 February 2017 11:02
To: Philip Forster <Philip.Forster@wrexham.gov.uk>
Cc: Ellis, Matthew <Matthew.Ellis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>; Emma Broad <Emma.Broad@wrexham.gov.uk>

Subject: Five Fords AAD: GCN Method Statement (Planning Application Ref: P/2016/0709)

Importance: High

Philip,

I refer to the planning application that we have submitted on behalf of Dwr Cymru Welsh Water for the construction of an Advanced Anaerobic Digestion Plant at Five Fords Wastewater Treatment Work, Cefn Road, Wrexham (Application Ref: P/2016/0709).

We are pleased to enclose a Great Crested Newt Method Statement (Document reference: DCWW-4791-S-201-MMB-06-XX-RP-NX-19150 Rev P02, dated 15th February 2017) which should be added to the submitted planning application.

The Report addresses all of the matters raised by Matthew Ellis of NRW, at our recent meeting and in his subsequent e-mail. I understand that Emma Broad endorses the comments made by Matthew.

Subject to any further comments from either Matthew or Emma, I trust that this additional information will now enable you to determine the submitted planning application.

As you are aware the programme for the construction of the proposed AAD plant is now very tight and I should be pleased if you could give this matter your urgent attention. In the interests of expediency, I have sent a copy of this e-mail and attachment to both Matthew and Emma and I trust they will respond promptly to you.

If you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me

Regards, Howard

Howard Jones

Director of Planning

Caulmert Ltd

8 St Georges Court, Altrincham Business Park, Dairyhouse Lane, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 5UA

T: 0161-928-6886

M: 07909-578823

W: <http://www.caulmert.com/>