

Submission ID: 2240

ExQ1: 21 April 2021

Responses due by Deadline 2: 2 June 2021

Bio.1.29

Stuart Checkley [RR-0997], The Applicant

In [RR-0944] Mr Checkley draws attention to effects of extracting water for concrete; SSSI crossing; dewatering of 30 m deep trench for foundations; cumulative Minsmere/Sizewell Marshes effects; - and questions whether they have been adequately assessed, or at all, especially in regard to water levels; he also says there is a current insufficiency of marsh harrier hunting grounds. Please will the Applicant comment.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for asking for clarification on the above points that I raised in my Relevant Representation.

The main point was a question. What is the Applicant's estimate of the net effect of the proposed development on the water levels in the Minsmere and Sizewell Marshes over the entire construction period? I realise that there will be no simple answer to this question but the issue is obviously important. As a regular visitor to Minsmere over the last 50 years I know how sensitive to water levels are the bird populations on the marshes. I believe that I asked this question in my first response to the First Round of Consultations.

My second point is also a question. I know from their Relevant Representation that the Environment Authority has concerns about the adequacy of the compensatory habitats for Marsh Harriers. My second question is whether there have been population surveys of the prey species of the Marsh Harrier on Aldhurst Farm? If there are enough small mammals and small birds on Aldhurst Farm to feed a family of Marsh Harriers, then that would be a measure of the extent to which the Aldhurst Farm habitat provides adequate compensation.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Checkley