



Mr Gareth Leigh

sizewellc@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your ref: SZC - EN010012

Our ref: ESC - 20026200

Date: 18.05.2022

Please ask for: Naomi Goold

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Dear Mr Leigh,

Sizewell C Development Consent Order Discharging Responsibility

Suffolk County Council has shared with East Suffolk Council (ESC) a letter they have submitted to the Sizewell C examination regarding drainage matters. Within this letter they have raised concerns about ESC being identified as the discharging authority for Requirement 5 of the draft Development Consent Order. ESC is writing in response to this letter to reaffirm our position on this matter. We understand the Applicant will also be providing comments on this matter within their submissions.

ESC strongly supports the current drafting of Requirement 5 of the development Consent Order which identifies ESC as the discharging authority in respect of foul and surface water drainage. The reasons for this were explained at Issue Specific Hearing 11 and set out clearly in the Council's [REP8-140](#) (page 26) and [REP8-149](#) (pages 9/10) responses. The reasoning has been provided below for clarity.

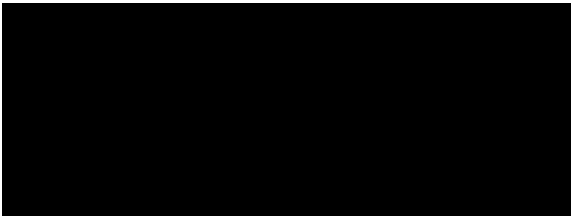
- 1. As Local Planning Authority, ESC is extremely well versed in managing technical input from a number of different bodies.*
- 2. A number of organisations have an interest in this matter, including the EA, the IDB, Natural England and SCC. ESC is best placed to 'hold the ring' and to reconcile the views of those parties together with any other relevant matters, such as landscape and ecological considerations.*
- 3. Requirement 5 addresses both foul and surface water drainage. ESC agrees that those matters should be considered together, rather than having separate drainage strategies approved by different authorities, to ensure that a comprehensive strategy is delivered.*
- 4. ESC is the enforcement authority responsible for securing compliance with the approved foul and surface water drainage plans and it is sensible in those circumstances for ESC to approve the detailed water drainage plans.*

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ESC acknowledges that a different approach was taken by the Examining Authority within the East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Development Consent Orders, this however should not set a precedent for Sizewell C and future nationally significant infrastructure projects. Especially considering the previous energy related Development Consent Orders granted within East Suffolk have identified the District Council as the discharging authority for drainage related matters and this has not raised any issues. In fact, this has been the generally accepted approach on most energy related Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

Yours sincerely



Philip Ridley BSc (Hons) MRTPI | Head of Planning and Coastal Management
East Suffolk Council