

The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House Temple Quay  
Bristol  
Avon  
BS1 6PN

**Our ref:** NA/2022/115883/05-L01  
**Your ref:** NET ZERO NSIP  
**Date:** 01 September 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**EN010103: THE NET ZERO TEESSIDE NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT  
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT. DEADLINE 6 SUBMISSIONS. LAND IN THE  
VICINITY OF THE SSI STEEL WORKS SITE, REDCAR, TEESSIDE, TS10 5QW**

Please find enclosed our representations for Deadline 6 for this Development Consent Order (DCO) on behalf of the Environment Agency (EA). Please note that our comments relate to groundwater and contaminated land matters only.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Yours faithfully

**Lucy Mo**  
**Planning Technical Specialist - Sustainable Places**

Direct dial 020847 46524  
Direct e-mail [lucy.mo@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.mo@environment-agency.gov.uk)



**Deadline 6 Submission - 2.1 - Draft DCO (Comparison with (D5) August 2022) - August 2022 [REP6-003] & Deadline 6 Submission - 2.1 - Draft DCO (Comparison with (D5) August 2022) - August 2022 [RREP6-003]**

It is noted that these documents do not fully reflect the updates outlined in 'Deadline 6 Submission - 9.28 - Applicants' Responses to Deadline 5 Submissions August 2022' [REP6-122] with respect to Requirements 13, 16, 23 and 25. Our comments to the updated requirements are outlined below.

**Deadline 6 Submission - 9.28 - Applicants' Responses to Deadline 5 Submissions August 2022 [REP6-122]**

*Section 4.2*

We welcome the changes made to Requirement 13 (contaminated land and groundwater). However, the proposed changes do not fully address our comments provided as part of the Deadline 6 [REP6-133]. Therefore, the current wording of Requirement 13 is not acceptable. It should be noted that in accordance with our Land Contamination Risk Management Guidance, a preliminary risk assessment would be considered to be a Desk Study, and that following ground investigation a risk assessment may be generic quantitative or detailed quantitative.

With regards to Requirement 23 (piling and penetrative foundation design), the proposed amendment refers to an approved ground monitoring plan. This should be amended to state 'groundwater monitoring plan'.

We are satisfied with the proposed amendments to Requirements 16 (construction environment management plan) and 25 (restoration of land used temporarily for construction).

*Section 4.3*

We welcome the amendments to the Hydrogeological Impact Assessment (HIA) and framework Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). It should be noted that the HIA should contain a schematic site conceptual model (pre development) and schematic site conceptual model (post remediation / construction of the proposed development).

**Deadline 6 Submission - 9.30 - ISH 4 Action 9 Contaminated Land Timeline August 2022 [REP6-124]**

With respect to section 2.1.3, it is stated that following completion of the supplementary ground investigation works, a ground investigation report will be produced. The ground investigation report should also include an appropriate controlled waters risk assessment. As detailed, the works will also require an update to the HIA. It should be noted that a controlled waters risk assessment as contained in the ground investigation report and HIA are different documents.



A validation ground investigation will be undertaken during and after remedial works to demonstrate that the site has been remediated in accordance with the agreed strategy. It should be noted that the agreed remediation strategy (works to be undertaken by Teesworks) was approved by the Local Planning Authority, not the Environment Agency. We assume that once remediation and intrusive ground investigation validation works have been completed, such areas would remain segregated from other parts of the site where remediation activities may still be continuing. This would avoid any potential for cross contamination post validation assessment.

With regards to Figure 1, it would be beneficial for the timeline to include details of additional ground investigation, and reporting of such works, in connection with the various corridors associated with the proposed development, any intrusive construction works at the tunnel entries on the north and south bank. It should also include any ground / groundwater sampling requirement for any dewatering.

In relation to the various corridors, it is anticipated that ground investigation would only be undertaken in areas where pre existing infrastructure for use is not present, and where new transportation pipework (i.e. intrusive construction works) would be required.

**Deadline 6 Submission - 6.3.23 - ES Vol II Figure 9-2 Groundwater Features and Attributes August 2022 [REP6-068]**

We welcome the inclusion of this drawing. However, we wish to highlight the following for the attention of the Applicant;

1. The shallow groundwater in the made ground and superficial deposits in connectivity with the estuary is not designated as a Water Framework Directive (WFD) Groundwater Body (GWB) and should be considered a risk to the surface waterbody Tees Estuary and coastal waterbody.
2. The Tees Mercia Mudstone and Redcar Mudstone GWB is at poor status due to localised pollution associated with anthropogenic ironstone mining activity
3. There is no evidence that the Tees Sherwood sandstone is polluted by anthropogenic activity which is why it is good status. However, the groundwater is naturally poor quality.

