

Anglian Water has engaged with the Applicant throughout the pre-application period with regard to the implications of the project for our network, including water resources, foul drainage and the management of surface water. Following the submission of the Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility, and progression of the Statement of Common Ground between Anglian Water and the Applicant, the matter of water resources to meet non-domestic demand has arisen and is a matter that we now seek to bring to the attention of the Examining Authority.

At a meeting with the Applicant on 13th March we identified that through the preparation of the statutory Water Resources Management Plan 2025 – 2050 (WRMP24), there was a risk of insufficient water supplies available to meet the new and expanded water demands for non-domestic uses from planned projects in water resource zones across the Anglian Water region. As a result, we requested further detail regarding water demands for the project.

The regulatory position is that demands for water for non-domestic purposes are not permitted to jeopardise current and future supplies for domestic purposes, whether to household or non-household premises. This matter was included in the draft Statement of Common Ground between Anglian Water and Medworth CHP Limited [EN010110-001133], as a matter still to be resolved.

The Applicant provided technical information to Anglian Water on 12th April 2023, which set out the water demands needed for the operation of the Energy from Waste facility. Based on this information, our water modelling and water resource teams have confirmed that there is currently insufficient water supply available in the Fenland Water Resource Zone to meet the maximum daily demand in the range of 0.12-0.29MLD (Megalitres/day) equating to 5-12 t/hr.

We recognise that water supply was not identified as a critical issue when we engaged with the Applicant prior to the submission of the DCO, and this is a matter that has arisen through the development of the WRMP24 specifically in late 2022 and early 2023 – leading to consultation on the Draft WRMP which ended on 29th March 2023. However, the current position means that water supply is now a matter that will need to be brought to the attention of the Examining Authority, with a view to Anglian Water providing further detailed evidence on our non-domestic water supply position by Deadline 4 - 25th May 2023. We will continue to engage with the Applicant to discuss this matter and any options available.