

Written Representation to the Relevant Representation from Friends of Little Eaton Canal

Question by Examining Authority to FLEC in document Draft Consent Order and other consents permits and licences.

Non designated sites of interest: Question as per page 57, 8.13:

FLEC Response: Reference 6.3 vol 6 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 section 8.9.

Outline Environmental Management Plan Vol 6 MW Bio5 ecological mitigation

We note the responses of the applicant Highways England and the effects of the temporary access across the Old Derby Canal and acknowledge that this now appears under the Environmental Statement and the OEMP under headings of water environment, cultural heritage and biodiversity for preliminary and mitigation works.

It is noted that “the foundations of such a bridge will be set back from the edge of the line of the former canal to avoid impacting on the existing vegetation and the canal profile and the affected footprint area being reinstated to their former conditions”. This does address some of FLEC’s concerns.

Our outstanding concern is related to the fact that the canal is enclosed by shrubs and trees to its east and west side. So, to further minimise ecological harm we would also seek reassurances that any shrub and tree removal to accommodate the actual bridge, as opposed to just the foundations, are also included in the reinstatement of the area after the bridge is removed.

Evidence to support outstanding concern: The canal is important to the village and the group for its heritage. The local Historical Society takes an interest in the area and is supportive of FLEC’s custodian role. It is a valued green lung on the edge of the parish and is identified as a green space in the Local neighbourhood Plan. FLEC has been keeping data on flora and fauna in the area for the last two years including a butterfly transect that is part of the official monitoring for Derbyshire. Consequently, we will have high quality data to monitor the effectiveness of any mitigation works.

Brenda Shore

Chair Friends of Little Eaton Canal

4th November 2019