

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure
Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Our ref: WX/2019/133441/01-L06
Your ref: TRO40011
Date: 23 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

**METROWEST PHASE 1 DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER (DCO) APPLICATION
EXAMINATION DEADLINE 2 – RESPONSE TO FIRST WRITTEN QUESTIONS
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REFERENCE 20025331**

Please find hereunder the Agency's responses to the pertinent Examining Authority's First Written Questions:

FRD.1.3

The Agency would advise that its Written Representations provide a detailed response in respect of the issues raised in this question.

FRD.1.6

Although this is essentially an issue for the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), the Agency would comment that the use of outdated climate change allowances during the pre-application stage was unacceptable. Current allowances are viewed as essential and must be maintained.

DCO.1.7

Land drainage in this area is normally the responsibility of the Internal Drainage Board Drainage however, the Agency also maintains a number of culverts within the proposed development area. It is anticipated the current arrangements will continue. The LLFA should advise in respect of surface water drainage issues

DCO.1.38

The Agency would expect all relevant works to be undertaken in accordance with approved details, following consultation with the parties detailed. In the event of unforeseen circumstances that prevent compliance with the approved details, the Agency would need to be fully consulted regarding any proposed revised arrangements.

Environment Agency
Rivers House, East Quay, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4YS.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

GC.1.20

The Master Construction Environment Plan (App – 211) indicates the key materials listed in 9.2.10 are capable of being re-used or recyclable in the event of decommissioning using current practices. 9.12.12 states the contractor should minimise the use of hazardous materials in the DCO Scheme, that have the potential to harm human health or the environment; and may in turn make it difficult to maintain, deconstruct or recycle DCO Scheme structures or elements at the end of their life (i.e. substitute hazardous materials for non-hazardous equivalents).

2.3.1 advises: 'objectives and targets may be put in place to minimise the environmental impact of the works'.

The Environment Agency considers that the objectives and targets listed in 2.3.1 should be put in place (rather than may be put in place) and by implementing these objectives and targets, should reduce the likelihood of long term contamination issues impacting on the decommissioning of the development.

The Environment Agency would not have concerns regarding the extent to which decommissioning had been considered in Chapter 5 of the Environmental Statement, provided the CEMP is implemented as highlighted and recommended in this response.

Should you wish to discuss any specific aspects detailed above please contact the undersigned

Yours faithfully

Dave Pring
Planning Specialist

Direct e-mail nwx.sp@environment-agency.gov.uk